

### PEAR TREE POLARIS INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND

FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2025, the Pear Tree Polaris International Opportunities Fund's Ordinary Shares (the "Fund") underperformed its benchmark, the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index (the "Index"). The Fund had a return of 11.91% at net asset value compared to 12.30% for the Index.

### **Market Conditions and Investment Strategies**

While the Fund outperformed in Materials, Industrials, Utilities and both consumer sectors, it trailed in Health Care as well as Information Technology ("IT") and Financials (among the largest Fund weightings). Top country contributions included Italy, Japan, Canada, Taiwan and the U.K., partially offset by negative returns in China, Thailand, the U.S. and Sweden.

No overarching sector themes dominated for the quarter; in fact, the majority of the top 10 holdings were all from different industries. Italy's SOL SpA gained more than 40% after reporting healthy quarterly sales, with notable gains in the technical gas and home care divisions (portable oxygen, etc.). D'leteren Group had an upbeat capital markets day, alluding to good projections in its auto glass and auto parts businesses. U.K. protein supplier Cranswick expanded capacity and processing facilities, while taking market share from competitors. Australia's Macquarie Group posted strong full-year profits, up 5% from fiscal year 2024, on business origination and underlying income growth within its various banking and asset management divisions. Two IT companies added measurably: ALSO Holding AG had a solid quarter, exceeding guidance for both revenue and EPS. Much of this was attributed to ALSO's aggressive acquisitive (Westcoast partnership) and organic (cloud platform, Al digital experiences) strategies. Tri Chemical Laboratories, which supplies semiconductor manufacturing gases, announced strong financial performance for the quarter, while offering an optimistic outlook through to 2026.

A weak local economy and rising global trade risks dampened consumer spending in China; companies catering to that demographic suffered including the likes of Alibaba Group, Zhongsheng Group and Zhejiang Supor. Even luxury goods company LVMH was down as the high-end Chinese buyer started to curtail discretionary spending. Among other detractors, French pharma Sanofi disappointed as news hit on May 30th that its COPD pipeline drug succeeded in one Phase 3 trial, but failed in a second, throwing FDA approval timeline into doubt. With cocoa prices reaching record levels, chocolatier Barry Callebaut struggled to rein in rising costs coupled with overall volume declines.

### **Portfolio Changes**

During the quarter, Games Workshop Group and Valmet Oyj were sold at a profit as each reached upper valuation limits. Capital was redeployed to purchase coffee conglomerate JDE Peets NV at an attractive valuation, mispriced due to market concerns over pricing/volume; Volution Group PLC, a U.K.-based HVAC/ventilation supplier; and beer producer Anheuser-Busch InBev, which is tapping burgeoning emerging markets. Accent Group was sold in 2024, as it reached our projected targets; when the company dropped into undervalued territory again, we decided to repurchase as Accent begins work with Frasers Group to launch Sports Direct in Australia and New Zealand.

### **Outlook**

Tariff concerns, rising U.S. debt levels, and slower growth projections are pushing investors toward attractive options in Europe and emerging markets. Add in foreign exchange impact on the back of a weak USD, and international equities become even more appealing. On this backdrop, valuation opportunities can start to narrow. Thankfully, Polaris has been investing internationally for more than 30 years, and can continue to pinpoint a diverse universe of opportunities.



### **TOTAL EXPENSE RATIOS\***

	Gross Expense Ratio*	Net Expense Ratio*
Ordinary Shares	1.57%	1.47%
Institutional Shares	1.16%	0.84%
R6 Shares	1.09%	0.96%

\* Per Prospectus dated August 1, 2024, as amended. Reflects all fee waivers and expense reimbursements currently in effect. Fee waivers and expense reimbursements may not be amended, rescinded or terminated before July 31, 2025 without the consent of the Fund's Trustees. Expense limitations with respect to Institutional Shares and R6 Shares may not be amended, rescinded or terminated before October 31, 2025 without the consent of the Fund's Trustees.

### A WORD ABOUT RISK

Investing in foreign markets, particularly emerging markets, can be more volatile than the U.S. market due to increased risks of adverse issuer, political, regulatory, market or economic developments and can perform differently than the U.S. market.

The Fund is non-diversified, meaning it may concentrate its assets in fewer individual holdings than a diversified fund. Therefore, the Fund is more exposed to individual stock volatility than diversified funds. As a result, a decline in the value of the securities of one issuer could have a significant negative effect on the Fund. The Fund may have significant investments in one or more specific industry sectors, subjecting it to risks greater than general market risk. For example, adverse news from just one or two companies in a particular industry can hurt the prices of all stocks in that industry.

**Investment Products** 

■ Not FDIC insured ■ May lose value ■ No bank guarantee

# PEAR TREE FUNDS

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## PEAR TREE POLARIS INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND PORTFOLIO HIGHLIGHTS

as of June 30, 2025 (The portfolio is actively managed. Holdings and weightings are subject to change daily.)

### **Top Ten Holdings**

Percentage of total net assets	34.3%
SOL S.p.A.	4.6%
Cranswick plc	4.5%
ALSO Holding AG	3.9%
Neurones S.A.	3.4%
D'Ieteren S.A.	3.4%
Equatorial Energia S.A.	3.0%
Sparebanken Norge	2.9%
EQB Inc.	2.9%
Chailease Holding Co., Ltd.	2.9%
Capgemini SE	2.8%

The companies mentioned in the commentary on page one have the following percentage of total net assets as of 06/30/2025:

Macquarie Group	2.7%
Alibaba Group	2.6%
Barry Callebaut	1.8%
Tri Chemical Laboratories	1.7%
Zhejiang Supor	1.4%
Zhongsheng Group	1.2%
LVMH	1.0%
JDE Peets NV	0.9%
Sanofi	0.7%
Volution Group PLC	0.5%
Anheuser-Busch InBev	0.5%
Accent Group	0.3%

### **PERFORMANCE**

as of June 30, 2025

### **Average Annual Total Returns at Net Asset Value**

_	Unannualized		Annualized					
	Q2	Calendar YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception	Inception Date
Ordinary Shares	11.91%	15.45%	12.35%	9.84%	9.63%	-	7.10%	01/30/2019
Institutional Shares	12.03%	15.76%	13.08%	10.42%	10.16%	-	7.58%	01/30/2019
R6 Shares	12.04%	15.67%	12.91%	10.42%	10.16%	-	7.59%	01/30/2019
MSCI ACWI ex USA1	12.30%	18.32%	18.38%	14.59%	10.68%	-	8.45%	-

<sup>1</sup>The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index captures large and mid-cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries (excluding the United States) and 24 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. With 1,981 constituents as of 06/30/2025, the index covers approximately 85% of the global equity opportunity set outside the United States. You cannot invest directly in an index. For comparative performance purposes, the beginning date of the Index is 01/30/2019. The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index is maintained by MSCI Inc.

Performance data quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than performance data quoted. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than original cost. For the most recent month-end performance, visit the Fund's website at www.peartreefunds.com.

For information about the Pear Tree Polaris International Opportunities Fund, obtain the Fund's prospectus by calling (800) 326-2151 or visiting www.peartreefunds.com. Before investing carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money.