

# **BASTION ENERGY ETF**

**Ticker Symbol: BESF**

*Listed on Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.*

**(a series of EA Series Trust)**

## **Prospectus**

February 18, 2025

*These securities have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission nor has the Securities and Exchange Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.*

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## BASTION ENERGY ETF

### Fund Summary

#### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Bastion Energy ETF (the “Fund”) seeks to achieve long-term capital appreciation.

#### FEES AND EXPENSES

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Fund (“Shares”). **You may also pay brokerage commissions on the purchase and sale of Shares, which are not reflected in the table or example.**

##### **Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)**

Management Fee	0.80%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.00%
Other Expenses <sup>1</sup>	0.00%
<b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses</b>	<b>0.80%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Other Expenses are estimated for the current fiscal year.

#### EXAMPLE

The following example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 for the time periods indicated and then hold or sell all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that the Fund provides a return of 5% a year and that operating expenses remain the same. You may also pay brokerage commissions on the purchase and sale of Shares, which are not reflected in the example. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

<b>One Year:</b>	<b>Three Years:</b>
\$82	\$255

#### PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

The Fund may pay transaction costs, including commissions when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. As of the date of this Prospectus, the Fund has not yet commenced operations and portfolio turnover data therefore is not available.

#### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) that seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing in U.S.-listed equity securities of companies engaged in energy-related industries. Equity securities include common and preferred stock, depositary receipts issued on such common stock, and master limited partnerships (“MLPs”). MLPs are partnerships that are publicly traded on a securities exchange. Typical limited partnerships considered for investment by the Fund are in real estate, oil and gas and equipment leasing. The Fund’s ability to make investments in MLPs is limited by the Fund’s intention to qualify as a regulated investment company (RIC), and if the Fund does not appropriately limit such investments, the Fund’s status as a RIC may be jeopardized. As a result, the Fund will invest no more than 25% of the value of its total assets in qualified publicly traded partnerships, including MLPs.

Companies in energy-related industries are defined as (i) companies that generate a majority of its revenue from one or more of the following business activities: exploration, production, refining, marketing, storage, and transportation of oil, gas, coal, and consumable fuels, and manufacturing and providing oil and gas equipment and services (“Energy Companies”); or (ii) companies principally engaged in development, construction, manufacturing, or distribution of technology or capital goods for the generation, efficient use, or transition of energy. Under normal circumstances, at least 80% of the Fund’s net assets, plus borrowings for investment purposes, will be invested in Energy Companies. The Fund expects to have significant exposure to the energy and industrials sectors, although such exposure may vary.

In selecting securities for the Fund, Bastion Fiduciary, LLC, the Fund’s sub-adviser (the “Sub-Adviser”), seeks to invest in well-managed, undervalued companies in industries that, in the Sub-Adviser’s belief, are out of favor with investors and/or institutional capital.

The Sub-Adviser will deploy a fundamental value investing approach that combines both qualitative and quantitative screens to identify, in the Sub-Adviser’s view, undervalued companies that could increase in value over time. The quantitative screens used by the Sub-Adviser may include, among others, an assessment of a company’s price-to-book ratio, debt-to-equity ratio, price-to-

earnings ratio, free cash flow, return on equity, and the stability or volatility of earnings per share. The qualitative screening process will consider such things as the experience and success of a company's management team, industry specific analysis, including barriers to entry, brand value, company reputation with employees and customers, intellectual property, and regulatory environment. When assessing a company's management team, the Sub-Adviser evaluates the team's and company's prior track record of success, insider ownership, company reputation with employees and customers, and history of meeting or exceeding earnings guidance. The Sub-Adviser also seeks out companies with resilient business models that have the potential to benefit from both industry trends (e.g., technological advancements, regulatory changes, shifts in energy demand) and macro-economic trends (e.g., global economic growth, future commodity price changes, climate change policies). In addition, the Sub-Adviser looks for companies that, in its assessment, have competitive advantages with regards to cost structure, technology, and/or proprietary assets compared to other Energy Companies.

The Fund may hold its cash and cash equivalent investments for extended periods, until the Sub-Adviser has identified investments in accordance with its investment process.

Upon the completion of the investment process, the Sub-Adviser will generally select 20-30 U.S.-listed equity securities that the Sub-Adviser believes offer the most attractive internal economics and the lowest risk-adjusted valuations. The Fund may invest in small-, mid-, and large- capitalization companies, but will generally exclude companies with a market capitalization of less than \$500 million.

The Sub-Adviser continually evaluates the Fund's portfolio, with securities bought and sold as market conditions warrant. Generally, the Fund's portfolio is weighted most heavily towards those stocks that are priced at the largest discount to the Sub-Adviser's assessment of value.

The Fund concentrates its investments (i.e., invests more than 25% of its total assets) in the equity securities of Energy Companies.

The Fund is considered to be non-diversified, which means that it may invest more of its assets in the securities of a single issuer or a smaller number of issuers than if it were a diversified fund. This may result in the Fund investing a significant percentage of its assets in one or more Energy Companies.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT RISKS

An investment in the Fund involves risk, including those described below. *There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.* An investor may lose money by investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any government agency. More complete risk descriptions are set forth below under the heading "*Additional Information About the Fund's Principal Investment Risks.*"

**Sector Risk.** To the extent the Fund invests more heavily in particular sectors of the economy, its performance will be especially sensitive to developments that significantly affect those sectors. The Fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in the following sectors and, therefore, the performance of the Fund could be negatively impacted by events affecting each of these sectors.

*Energy Sector Risk.* The market value of securities in the energy sector may decline for many reasons including, fluctuations in energy prices and supply and demand of energy fuels caused by geopolitical events, the success of exploration projects, weather or meteorological events, taxes, increased governmental or environmental regulation, resource depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events that result in injury, loss of life or property, pollution or other environmental damage claims, terrorist threats or attacks, among other factors. Markets for various energy-related commodities can have significant volatility and are subject to control or manipulation by large producers or purchasers. Companies in the energy sector may need to make substantial expenditures, and may incur significant amounts of debt, to maintain or expand their reserves through exploration of new sources of supply, through the development of existing sources, through acquisitions, or through long-term contracts to acquire reserves. Factors adversely affecting producers, refiners, distributors, or others in the energy sector may adversely affect companies that service or supply those entities, either because demand for those services or products is curtailed, or those services or products come under price pressure. Issuers in the energy sector may also be impacted by changing investor and consumer preferences arising from the sector's potential exposure to sustainability and environmental concerns.

*Oil and Gas Concentration Risk.* The profitability of oil and gas companies is related to worldwide energy prices, exploration costs, and production spending. Oil and gas companies may be at risk for environmental damage claims and other types of litigation, as well as negative publicity and perception. Oil and gas companies may be adversely affected by natural disasters or other catastrophes, changes in exchange rates, interest rates, changes in prices for competitive energy services, economic conditions, tax treatment, government regulation and intervention, and unfavorable events in the regions where companies operate (e.g., expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and repatriation of capital, military coups, social unrest, violence or labor unrest). As a result, the value of these companies may fluctuate widely. Oil and gas companies may have significant capital investments in, or engage in transactions

involving, emerging market countries, which may heighten these risks. Any of these factors could result in a material adverse impact on the Fund's securities and the performance of the Fund.

**Industrial Sector Risk.** Industrial companies are affected by supply and demand both for their specific product or service and for industrial sector products in general. Government regulation, world events, exchange rates and economic conditions, technological developments and liabilities for environmental damage and general civil liabilities will likewise affect the performance of these companies. Transportation securities, a component of the industrial sector, are cyclical and have occasional sharp price movements which may result from changes in the economy, fuel prices, labor agreements and insurance costs.

**Industry Concentration Risk.** Any fund that concentrates in a particular industry will generally be more volatile than a fund that invests more broadly. Because the Fund normally invests at least 80% of its assets in Energy Companies, the Fund's performance largely depends—for better or for worse—on the overall condition of the energy industry. The energy industry could be adversely affected by energy prices, supply-and-demand for energy resources, including oil and gas, and various political, regulatory, and economic factors. Additionally, commodity prices may have a significant impact on the stock prices of energy companies.

**Large-Capitalization Companies Risk.** Large-capitalization companies may trail the returns of the overall stock market. Large-capitalization stocks tend to go through cycles of doing better - or worse - than the stock market in general. These periods have, in the past, lasted for as long as several years.

**Mid-Capitalization Companies Risk.** Investing in securities of mid-capitalization companies involves greater risk than customarily is associated with investing in larger, more established companies. These companies' securities may be more volatile and less liquid than those of more established companies. Often mid-capitalization companies and the industries in which they focus are still evolving and, as a result, they may be more sensitive to changing market conditions.

**Small-Capitalization Companies Risk.** Investing in securities of small-capitalization companies involves greater risk than customarily is associated with investing in larger, more established companies. Small-capitalization companies often have less predictable earnings, more limited product lines, markets, distribution channels and financial resources, and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or few people. Price movements of small-capitalization companies may be more volatile than mid-capitalization and large-capitalization companies.

**Investment Risk.** When you sell your Shares, they could be worth less than what you paid for them. The Fund could lose money due to short-term market movements and over longer periods during market downturns. Securities may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular asset classes or industries represented in the markets. The value of a security may decline due to general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security. Geopolitical and other risks, including war, terrorism, trade disputes, political or economic dysfunction within some nations, public health crises, and environmental disasters such as earthquakes, fire, and floods, may add to instability in world economies and volatility in markets generally. Changes in trade policies and international trade agreements could affect the economies of many countries in unpredictable ways. The value of a security may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or group of industries. During a general downturn in the securities markets, multiple asset classes may be negatively affected. Therefore, you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

**Non-Diversification Risk.** Because the Fund is non-diversified, it may be more sensitive to economic, business, political or other changes affecting individual issuers or investments than a diversified fund, which may result in greater fluctuation in the value of the Shares and greater risk of loss. This may increase the Fund's volatility and cause the performance of a relatively smaller number of issuers to have a greater impact on the Fund's performance.

**Equity Investing Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund holding equity securities, such as market fluctuations, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in stock prices. The values of equity securities could decline generally or could underperform other investments. In addition, securities may decline in value due to factors affecting a specific issuer, market or securities markets generally.

**Depository Receipts.** Depository receipts are generally subject to the same risks as the foreign securities that they evidence or into which they may be converted. In addition, the underlying issuers of certain depository receipts, particularly unsponsored or unregistered depository receipts, are under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications to the holders of such receipts, or to pass through to them any voting rights with respect to the deposited securities. Depository receipts that are not sponsored by the issuer may be less liquid and there may be less readily available public information about the issuer. Sponsored depository receipts are established jointly by a depository and the underlying issuer, whereas unsponsored depository receipts may be established by a depository without participation by the underlying issuer. Holders of an unsponsored depository receipt generally bear all the costs associated with establishing the unsponsored depository receipt. In addition, the issuers of the securities underlying unsponsored depository receipts are not obligated to disclose material information in the United States and, therefore, there may be less information available regarding those issuers and there may not be a correlation between that information and the market value of the depository receipts.

**Preferred Stock Risk.** Preferred stock is subject to issuer-specific and overall market risks that are generally applicable to equity securities as a whole; however, there are special risks associated with investing in preferred stock. Preferred stock may be less liquid than many other types of securities, such as common stock, and generally provides no voting rights with respect to the issuer. Preferred stock also faces greater risks of non-payment, as it may be subordinated to bonds or other debt instruments in an issuer's capital structure, meaning that an issuer's preferred stock generally pays dividends only after the issuer makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. Because of the subordinated position of preferred stock in an issuer's capital structure, its quality and value depends heavily on an issuer's profitability and cash flows rather than on any legal claims to specific assets. Also, in certain circumstances, an issuer of a preferred stock may call or redeem it prior to a specified date or may convert it to common stock, all of which may negatively impact its return.

#### **ETF Risks.**

- *Authorized Participants, Market Makers and Liquidity Providers Concentration Risk.* The Fund has a limited number of financial institutions that may act as Authorized Participants ("APs"). In addition, there may be a limited number of market makers and/or liquidity providers in the marketplace. To the extent either of the following events occur, Shares may trade at a material discount to NAV and possibly face delisting: (i) APs exit the business or otherwise become unable to process creation and/or redemption orders and no other APs step forward to perform these services, or (ii) market makers and/or liquidity providers exit the business or significantly reduce their business activities and no other entities step forward to perform their functions.
- *Premium-Discount Risk.* The Shares may trade above or below their net asset value ("NAV"). The market prices of Shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the relative supply of, and demand for, Shares on Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange") or other securities exchanges. The trading price of Shares may deviate significantly from NAV during periods of market volatility or limited trading activity in Shares. In addition, you may incur the cost of the "spread," that is, any difference between the bid price and the ask price of the Shares.
- *Cost of Trading Risk.* Investors buying or selling Shares in the secondary market will pay brokerage commissions or other charges imposed by brokers as determined by that broker. Brokerage commissions are often a fixed amount and may be a significant proportional cost for investors seeking to buy or sell relatively small amounts of Shares.
- *Trading Risk.* Although the Shares are listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active or liquid trading market for them will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in Shares on the Exchange may be halted. In stressed market conditions, the liquidity of Shares may begin to mirror the liquidity of its underlying portfolio holdings, which can be less liquid than Shares, potentially causing the market price of Shares to deviate from its NAV. The spread varies over time for Shares of the Fund based on the Fund's trading volume and market liquidity and is generally lower if the Fund has high trading volume and market liquidity, and higher if the Fund has little trading volume and market liquidity (which is often the case for funds that are newly launched or small in size).

**Master Limited Partnership Risk.** The interests or "units" of an MLP are listed and traded on securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter market and their value fluctuates predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of the MLP. MLPs carry many of the risks inherent in investing in a partnership. Unit holders of an MLP may not be afforded corporate protections to the same extent as shareholders of a corporation. In addition, unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, holders of common units of an MLP may have more limited control and limited rights to vote on matters affecting the MLP and have no ability to elect directors annually. In the event of liquidation, common units have preference over subordinated units, but not over debt or preferred units, to the remaining assets of the MLP.

**MLP Tax Risk.** MLPs are generally being treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Partnerships generally do not pay U.S. federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner is allocated a share of the partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses, and takes that share into account in calculating its own U.S. federal income tax liability. A change in current tax law, or a change in the business of a given MLP, could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, reducing the distributions, after-tax returns, and value of the investment to the Fund.

Changes in tax laws or regulations could adversely affect the Fund or the MLPs in which the Fund invests and could also negatively impact the amount and tax characterization of dividends received by the Fund's shareholders. For example, Congress could take actions which would eliminate the tax benefits of depreciation, depletion and amortization deductions realized by MLPs. Alternatively, Congress could impose a tax on pass-through entities such as MLPs or eliminate the use of pass-through taxation entirely. The tax benefits of depreciation, depletion and amortization deductions realized by MLPs effectively defer the income of the MLPs and, in turn, the taxable income of the Fund. Without these benefits the Fund would be subject to current U.S. federal, state and local corporate income taxes on a greater proportion of its allocable share of the income and gains of MLPs in which it invests, and the Fund's ability to pay distributions treated as return-of-capital distributions (for tax purposes).

**Management Risk.** The Fund is actively-managed and may not meet its investment objective based on the Adviser's, Sub-Adviser's, or portfolio manager's success or failure to implement investment strategies for the Fund. The success of the Fund's investment program depends largely on the investment techniques and risk analyses applied by the Adviser, Sub-Adviser, and the

portfolio manager and the skill of the Adviser, Sub-Adviser, and/or portfolio manager in evaluating, selecting, and monitoring the Fund's assets. The Fund could experience losses (realized and unrealized) if the judgment of the Adviser, Sub-Adviser, or portfolio manager about markets or sectors or the attractiveness of particular investments made for the Fund's portfolio prove to be incorrect. It is possible the investment techniques and risk analyses employed on behalf of the Fund will not produce the desired results. Absent unusual circumstances the Adviser will generally follow the Sub-Adviser's investment recommendations to buy, hold, and sell securities and financial instruments.

**Value-Style Investing Risk.** Value stocks can perform differently from the market as a whole and from other types of stocks. Value stocks may be purchased based upon the Sub-Adviser's belief that the stock may be out of favor. Value investing seeks to identify stocks that have depressed valuations, based upon a number of factors which are thought to be temporary in nature, and to sell them at superior profits should their prices rise in response to resolution of the issues which caused the valuation of the stock to be depressed. While certain value stocks may increase in value more quickly during periods of anticipated economic upturn, they may also lose value more quickly in periods of anticipated economic downturn. Furthermore, there is the risk that the factors which caused the depressed valuations are longer term or even permanent in nature, and that their valuations may fall or never rise. Finally, there is the increased risk in such situations that such companies may not have sufficient resources to continue as ongoing businesses, which would result in the stock of such companies potentially becoming worthless. The market may not agree with the Sub-Adviser's assessment of a stock's intrinsic value, and value stocks may fall out of favor with investors for extended periods of time.

**New Fund Risk.** The Fund is a recently organized investment company with no operating history. As a result, prospective investors have no track record or history on which to base their investment decision. There can be no assurance that the Fund will grow to or maintain an economically viable size.

**In-Kind Contribution Risk.** At its launch, the Fund expects to acquire a material amount of assets through one or more in-kind contributions that are intended to qualify as tax-deferred transactions governed by Section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code. If one or more of the in-kind contributions were to fail to qualify for tax-deferred treatment, then the Fund would not take a carryover tax basis in the applicable contributed assets and would not benefit from a tacked holding period in those assets. This could cause the Fund to incorrectly calculate and report to shareholders the amount of gain or loss recognized and/or the character of gain or loss (e.g., as long-term or short-term) on the subsequent disposition of such assets.

## PERFORMANCE

Performance information is not provided below because the Fund has not yet been in operation for one full calendar year. When provided, the information will provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing how the Fund's average annual returns compare with a broad measure of market performance. Past performance does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information will be available at [www.bastionetfs.com](http://www.bastionetfs.com).

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

Investment Adviser: Empowered Funds, LLC dba EA Advisers ("Adviser")

Investment Sub-Adviser: Bastion Fiduciary, LLC

## PORTFOLIO MANAGER

Cale Smith, MBA, is President and Chief Investment Officer of Bastion Fiduciary, LLC and is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund since its inception.

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF SHARES

The Fund issues and redeems Shares on a continuous basis only in large blocks of Shares known as "Creation Units," and only APs (typically, broker-dealers) may purchase or redeem Creation Units. Creation Units generally are issued and redeemed 'in-kind' for securities and partially in cash. Individual Shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Once created, individual Shares generally trade in the secondary market at market prices that change throughout the day. Market prices of Shares may be greater or less than their NAV. **Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Fund's shares are not redeemable securities.**

## TAX INFORMATION

The Fund's distributions generally are taxable to you as ordinary income, capital gain, or some combination of both, unless your investment is made through an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") or other tax-advantaged account. However, subsequent withdrawals from such a tax-advantaged account may be subject to U.S. federal income tax. You should consult your own tax advisor about your specific tax situation.

**PURCHASES THROUGH BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

If you purchase Shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary, the Fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your salesperson to recommend Shares over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND

### HOW IS THE FUND DIFFERENT FROM A MUTUAL FUND?

**Redeemability.** Mutual fund shares may be bought from, and redeemed with, the issuing fund for cash at NAV typically calculated once at the end of the business day. Shares of the Fund, by contrast, cannot be purchased from or redeemed with the Fund except by or through APs (typically, broker-dealers), and then principally for an in-kind basket of securities (and a limited cash amount). In addition, the Fund issues and redeems Shares on a continuous basis only in large blocks of Shares called “Creation Units.”

**Exchange Listing.** Unlike mutual fund shares, Shares will be listed for trading on the Exchange. Investors can purchase and sell Shares on the secondary market through a broker. Investors purchasing Shares in the secondary market through a brokerage account or with the assistance of a broker may be subject to brokerage commissions and charges. Secondary-market transactions do not occur at NAV, but at market prices that change throughout the day, based on the supply of, and demand for, Shares and on changes in the prices of the Fund’s portfolio holdings. The market price of Shares may differ from the NAV of the Fund. The difference between market price of Shares and the NAV of the Fund is called a premium when the market price is above the reported NAV and called a discount when the market price is below the reported NAV, and the difference is expected to be small most of the time, though it may be significant, especially in times of extreme market volatility.

**Transparency.** The Fund’s portfolio holdings are disclosed on its website daily after the close of trading on the Exchange and prior to the opening of trading on the Exchange the following day. A description of the Fund’s policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund’s portfolio holdings is available in the Fund’s Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”).

**Premium/Discount Information.** Information about the premiums and discounts at which Shares have traded is available at [www.bastionetfs.com](http://www.bastionetfs.com).

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND’S INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund’s investment objective is a non-fundamental investment policy and may be changed without a vote of shareholders upon prior written notice to shareholders. The Fund will provide 60 days’ advance written notice prior to implementing such change.

The Fund will invest, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets, plus the amount of borrowings for investment purposes, in the equity securities of Energy Companies.

**Temporary Defensive Positions.** From time to time, the Fund may take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with its principal investment strategies in attempting to respond to adverse market, economic, political, or other conditions. In those instances, the Fund may hold up to 100% of its assets in cash; short-term U.S. government securities and government agency securities; investment grade money market instruments; money market mutual funds; investment grade fixed income securities; repurchase agreements; commercial paper; cash equivalents; and exchange-traded investment vehicles that principally invest in the foregoing instruments. As a result of engaging in these temporary measures, the Fund may not achieve its investment objective.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND’S PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT RISKS

The following information is in addition to, and should be read along with, the description of the Fund’s principal investment risks in the sections titled “Fund Summary—Principal Investment Risks” above.

**Large-Capitalization Companies Risk.** Large-capitalization companies may trail the returns of the overall stock market. Large-capitalization stocks tend to go through cycles of doing better – or worse – than the stock market in general. These periods have, in the past, lasted for as long as several years. When large capitalization companies are out of favor, these securities may lose value or may not appreciate in line with the overall market.

**Mid-Capitalization Companies Risk.** The securities of mid-capitalization companies may be more vulnerable to adverse issuer, market, political, or economic developments than securities of larger-capitalization companies. The securities of mid-capitalization companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger capitalization stocks or the stock market as a whole. Some of these companies have limited product lines, markets, and financial and managerial resources and tend to concentrate on fewer geographical markets relative to larger capitalization companies.

**Small-Capitalization Companies Risk.** Investing in securities of small-capitalization companies involves greater risk than customarily is associated with investing in larger, more established companies. Small-capitalization companies often have less predictable earnings, more limited product lines, markets, distribution channels and financial resources, and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or few people. Price movements of small-capitalization companies may be more volatile than mid-capitalization and large-capitalization companies.

**Investment Risk.** When you sell your Shares, they could be worth less than what you paid for them. The Fund could lose money due to short-term market movements and over longer periods during market downturns. Securities may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular asset classes or industries represented in the markets. The value of a security may decline due to general market conditions, economic trends or events that are not specifically related to the issuer of the security. Geopolitical and other risks, including war, terrorism, trade disputes, political or economic dysfunction within some nations, public health crises, and environmental disasters such as earthquakes, fire, and floods, may add to instability in world economies and volatility in markets generally. Changes in trade policies and international trade agreements could affect the economies of many countries in unpredictable ways. The value of a security may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or group of industries. During a general downturn in the securities markets, multiple asset classes may be negatively affected. Therefore, you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

**Non-Diversification Risk.** Because the Fund is non-diversified, it may be more sensitive to economic, business, political or other changes affecting individual issuers or investments than a diversified fund, which may result in greater fluctuation in the value of the Shares and greater risk of loss. This may increase the Fund's volatility and cause the performance of a relatively smaller number of issuers to have a greater impact on the Fund's performance.

**Equity Investing Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund holding equity securities, such as market fluctuations, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in stock prices. The values of equity securities could decline generally or could underperform other investments. Different types of equity securities tend to go through cycles of outperformance and underperformance in comparison to the general securities markets. In addition, securities may decline in value due to factors affecting a specific issuer, market or securities markets generally. Recent turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in credit and fixed income markets may negatively affect many issuers worldwide, which may have an adverse effect on the Fund.

#### **ETF Risks.**

- *Authorized Participants, Market Makers and Liquidity Providers Concentration Risk.* The Fund has a limited number of financial institutions that may act as Authorized Participants ("APs"). In addition, there may be a limited number of market makers and/or liquidity providers in the marketplace. To the extent either of the following events occur, Shares may trade at a material discount to NAV and possibly face delisting: (i) APs exit the business or otherwise become unable to process creation and/or redemption orders and no other APs step forward to perform these services, or (ii) market makers and/or liquidity providers exit the business or significantly reduce their business activities and no other entities step forward to perform their functions.
- *Premium-Discount Risk.* The Shares may trade above or below their net asset value ("NAV"). The market prices of Shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the relative supply of, and demand for, Shares on the Exchange or other securities exchanges. The trading price of Shares may deviate significantly from NAV during periods of market volatility or limited trading activity in Shares. In addition, you may incur the cost of the "spread," that is, any difference between the bid price and the ask price of the Shares.
- *Cost of Trading Risk.* Investors buying or selling Shares in the secondary market will pay brokerage commissions or other charges imposed by brokers as determined by that broker. Brokerage commissions are often a fixed amount and may be a significant proportional cost for investors seeking to buy or sell relatively small amounts of Shares. In addition, secondary market investors will also incur the cost of the difference between the price that an investor is willing to pay for Shares (the "bid" price) and the price at which an investor is willing to sell Shares (the "ask" price). This difference in bid and ask prices is often referred to as the "spread" or "bid/ask spread." The bid/ask spread varies over time for Shares based on trading volume and market liquidity, and is generally lower if Shares have more trading volume and market liquidity and higher if Shares have little trading volume and market liquidity. Further, increased market volatility may cause increased bid/ask spreads.
- *Trading Risk.* Although the Shares are listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active or liquid trading market for them will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in Shares on the Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable. When markets are stressed, Shares could suffer erratic or unpredictable trading activity, extraordinary volatility or wide bid/ask spreads, which could cause some market makers and APs to reduce their market activity or "step away" from making a market in ETF shares. This could cause the Fund's market price to deviate, materially, from the NAV, and reduce the effectiveness of the ETF arbitrage process. Further, trading in Shares on the Exchange is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to the "circuit breaker" rules, which temporarily halt trading on the Exchange when a decline in the S&P 500 Index during a single day reaches certain thresholds (e.g., 7%, 13% and 20%). There can be no assurance that the requirements of the Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged. In stressed market conditions, the liquidity of Shares may begin to mirror the liquidity of the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings, which can be significantly less liquid than Shares, and this could lead to differences between the market price of the Shares and the underlying value of those Shares.

**Sector Risk.** To the extent the Fund invests more heavily in one sector or sub-sector of the market, it thereby presents a more concentrated risk and its performance will be especially sensitive to developments that significantly affect those sectors or sub-sectors. In addition, the value of the Fund's shares may change at different rates compared to the value of shares of a fund with investments in a more diversified mix of sectors and industries. An individual sector or sub-sector of the market may have above-average performance during particular periods but may also move up and down more than the broader market. The several industries that constitute a sector may all react in the same way to economic, political or regulatory events. The Fund's performance could also be affected if the sectors or sub-sectors do not perform as expected. Alternatively, the lack of exposure to one or more sectors or sub-sectors may adversely affect performance.

*Energy Sector Risk.* The market value of securities in the energy sector may decline for many reasons including, fluctuations in energy prices and supply and demand of energy fuels caused by geopolitical events, the success of exploration projects, weather or meteorological events, taxes, increased governmental or environmental regulation, resource depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events that result in injury, loss of life or property, pollution or other environmental damage claims, terrorist threats or attacks, among other factors. Markets for various energy-related commodities can have significant volatility and are subject to control or manipulation by large producers or purchasers. Companies in the energy sector may need to make substantial expenditures, and may incur significant amounts of debt, to maintain or expand their reserves through exploration of new sources of supply, through the development of existing sources, through acquisitions, or through long-term contracts to acquire reserves. Factors adversely affecting producers, refiners, distributors, or others in the energy sector may adversely affect companies that service or supply those entities, either because demand for those services or products is curtailed, or those services or products come under price pressure. Issuers in the energy sector may also be impacted by changing investor and consumer preferences arising from the sector's potential exposure to sustainability and environmental concerns.

*Oil and Gas Concentration Risk.* The profitability of oil and gas companies is related to worldwide energy prices, exploration costs, and production spending. Oil and gas companies may be at risk for environmental damage claims and other types of litigation, as well as negative publicity and perception. Oil and gas companies may be adversely affected by natural disasters or other catastrophes, changes in exchange rates, interest rates, changes in prices for competitive energy services, economic conditions, tax treatment, government regulation and intervention, and unfavorable events in the regions where companies operate (e.g., expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and repatriation of capital, military coups, social unrest, violence or labor unrest). As a result, the value of these companies may fluctuate widely. Oil and gas companies may have significant capital investments in, or engage in transactions involving, emerging market countries, which may heighten these risks. Any of these factors could result in a material adverse impact on the Fund's securities and the performance of the Fund.

*Industrial Sector Risk.* Industrial companies are affected by supply and demand both for their specific product or service and for industrial sector products in general. Government regulation, world events, exchange rates and economic conditions, technological developments and liabilities for environmental damage and general civil liabilities will likewise affect the performance of these companies. Transportation securities, a component of the industrial sector, are cyclical and have occasional sharp price movements which may result from changes in the economy, fuel prices, labor agreements and insurance costs.

**Industry Concentration Risk.** Any fund that concentrates in a particular industry will generally be more volatile than a fund that invests more broadly. Because the Fund normally invests at least 80% of its assets in Energy Companies, the Fund's performance largely depends—for better or for worse—on the overall condition of the energy industry. The energy industry could be adversely affected by energy prices, supply-and-demand for energy resources, including oil and gas, and various political, regulatory, and economic factors. Additionally, commodity prices may have a significant impact on the stock prices of energy companies.

**Master Limited Partnership Risk.** The interests or "units" of an MLP are listed and traded on securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter market and their value fluctuates predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of the MLP. MLPs carry many of the risks inherent in investing in a partnership. Unit holders of an MLP may not be afforded corporate protections to the same extent as shareholders of a corporation. In addition, unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, holders of common units of an MLP may have more limited control and limited rights to vote on matters affecting the MLP and have no ability to elect directors annually. In the event of liquidation, common units have preference over subordinated units, but not over debt or preferred units, to the remaining assets of the MLP.

Certain MLP securities may trade in relatively low volumes due to their smaller capitalizations or other factors, which may cause them to have a high degree of volatility and lack sufficient market liquidity to enable the Fund to effect a sale at an advantageous time or price. Because many MLPs pay out most of their operating cash flows, the MLPs rely on capital markets for access to equity and debt financing to fund growth through organization. If market conditions limit an MLP's access to capital markets, the MLP's growth prospects could diminish and its costs of capital increase, which would decrease the value of the common units held by the Fund.

**MLP Tax Risk.** MLPs are generally being treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Partnerships generally do not pay U.S. federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner is allocated a share of the partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses, and takes that share into account in calculating its own U.S. federal income tax liability. A change in current tax law, or a change in the business of a given MLP, could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, reducing the distributions, after-tax returns, and value of the investment to the Fund.

Changes in tax laws or regulations could adversely affect the Fund or the MLPs in which the Fund invests and could also negatively impact the amount and tax characterization of dividends received by the Fund's shareholders. For example, Congress could take actions which would eliminate the tax benefits of depreciation, depletion and amortization deductions realized by MLPs. Alternatively, Congress could impose a tax on pass-through entities such as MLPs or eliminate the use of pass-through taxation entirely. The tax benefits of depreciation, depletion and amortization deductions realized by MLPs effectively defer the income of the MLPs and, in turn, the taxable income of the Fund. Without these benefits the Fund would be subject to current U.S. federal, state and local corporate income taxes on a greater proportion of its allocable share of the income and gains of MLPs in which it invests, and the Fund's ability to pay distributions treated as return-of-capital distributions (for tax purposes).

Individuals and certain other non-corporate entities are generally eligible for a 20% deduction with respect to certain taxable income from MLPs through 2025. However, the Fund (which is taxable as a regulated investment company) will not be eligible to pass through such certain taxable income, if any, from MLPs or the related 20% deduction to Fund shareholders. As a result, in comparison, investors investing directly in MLPs would be eligible for the 20% deduction for any such taxable income from these investments, while investors investing in MLPs held indirectly through the Fund would not. An MLP's distributions to the Fund generally will not be taxable unless the cash amount (or, in certain cases, the value of marketable securities) distributed exceeds the Fund's basis in its interest in the MLP. Distributions received by the Fund from an MLP will reduce the Fund's adjusted basis in its interest in the MLP, but not below zero. A reduced basis will generally result in an increase in the amount of gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that will be recognized by the Fund for tax purposes on the sale of its interest in the MLP. Cash distributions from an MLP to the Fund (and, in certain cases, the value of marketable securities distributed by an MLP to the Fund) in excess of the Fund's basis in the MLP will generally be taxable to the Fund as capital gain.

The tax treatment of all items allocated to the Fund each year by the MLPs will not be known until the Fund receives a schedule K-1 for that year with respect to each of its MLP investments.

**Management Risk.** The Fund is actively-managed and may not meet its investment objective based on the Adviser's, Sub-Adviser's, or portfolio manager's success or failure to implement investment strategies for the Fund. The success of the Fund's investment program depends largely on the investment techniques and risk analyses applied by the Sub-Adviser, and the portfolio manager and the skill of the Sub-Adviser, and/or portfolio manager in evaluating, selecting, and monitoring the Fund's assets. The Fund could experience losses (realized and unrealized) if the judgment of the Sub-Adviser, or portfolio manager about markets or sectors or the attractiveness of particular investments made for the Fund's portfolio prove to be incorrect. It is possible the investment techniques and risk analyses employed on behalf of the Fund will not produce the desired results. Absent unusual circumstances the Adviser will generally follow the Sub-Adviser's investment recommendations to buy, hold, and sell securities and financial instruments.

**Value-Style Investing Risk.** Value stocks can perform differently from the market as a whole and from other types of stocks. Value stocks may be purchased based upon the Sub-Adviser's belief that the stock may be out of favor. Value investing seeks to identify stocks that have depressed valuations, based upon a number of factors which are thought to be temporary in nature, and to sell them at superior profits should their prices rise in response to resolution of the issues which caused the valuation of the stock to be depressed. While certain value stocks may increase in value more quickly during periods of anticipated economic upturn, they may also lose value more quickly in periods of anticipated economic downturn. Furthermore, there is the risk that the factors which caused the depressed valuations are longer term or even permanent in nature, and that their valuations may fall or never rise. Finally, there is the increased risk in such situations that such companies may not have sufficient resources to continue as ongoing businesses, which would result in the stock of such companies potentially becoming worthless. The market may not agree with the Sub-Adviser's assessment of a stock's intrinsic value, and value stocks may fall out of favor with investors for extended periods of time.

**New Fund Risk.** The Fund is a recently organized investment company with no operating history. As a result, prospective investors have no track record or history on which to base their investment decision. There can be no assurance that the Fund will grow to or maintain an economically viable size.

**In-Kind Contribution Risk.** At its launch, the Fund expects to acquire a material amount of assets through one or more in-kind contributions that are intended to qualify as tax-deferred transactions governed by Section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code. If one or more of the in-kind contributions were to fail to qualify for tax-deferred treatment, then the Fund would not take a carryover tax basis in the applicable contributed assets and would not benefit from a tacked holding period in those assets. This could cause the Fund to incorrectly calculate and report to shareholders the amount of gain or loss recognized and/or the character of gain or loss (e.g., as long-term or short-term) on the subsequent disposition of such assets. Similarly, if any of the contributors in an in-kind contribution are corporations (or are partnerships or trusts with corporate beneficial owners) and a special deemed-

sale election is not made in connection with the contribution, then the Fund could become liable for an entity-level corporate tax if it disposes of the contributed assets within five years. Distributions of gain recognized on the disposition of those assets would be taxable to shareholders (as discussed above), in addition to this entity-level corporate tax. At the time this prospectus is being prepared, Fund management is not aware of corporate transferors in the in-kind contribution.

## **FUND MANAGEMENT**

### **Investment Adviser**

Empowered Funds, LLC dba EA Advisers acts as the Fund's investment adviser (the "Adviser"). The Adviser selects the Fund's sub-adviser and oversees the sub-adviser's management of the Fund. The Adviser also provides trading, execution and various other administrative services and supervises the overall daily affairs of the Fund. The Adviser is located at 19 East Eagle Road, Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083 and is wholly-owned by Alpha Architect LLC. The Adviser is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act") and provides investment advisory services solely to the Fund and other exchange-traded funds. The Adviser was founded in October 2013.

The Adviser provides trading, execution and various other administrative services and supervises the overall daily affairs of the Funds, subject to the general supervision and control of the Board. The Adviser performs its services to the Fund pursuant to the terms of an investment advisory agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") between the Trust and the Adviser. The Adviser is entitled to receive an advisory fee based the Fund's average daily net assets for the services and facilities it provides payable at the annual rate of 0.80%.

The Adviser (or an affiliate of the Adviser) bears all of the Adviser's own costs associated with providing these advisory services and all expenses of the Fund, except for the fee payment under the Advisory Agreements, payments under the Fund's Rule 12b-1 Distribution and Service Plan (the "Plan"), brokerage expenses, acquired fund fees and expenses, taxes, interest (including borrowing costs), litigation expense and other non-routine or extraordinary expenses. Additionally, the Fund shall be responsible for its non-operating expenses and fees and expenses associated with the Fund's securities lending program, if applicable.

The Advisory Agreement for the Fund provides that it may be terminated at any time, without the payment of any penalty, by the Board or, with respect to the Fund, by a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund, on 60 days' written notice to the Adviser, and by the Adviser upon 60 days' written notice, and that it shall be automatically terminated if it is assigned. The Adviser retains the authority, pursuant to the terms of the investment sub-advisory agreement, to exercise its right to control the overall management of the Fund's assets.

### **Investment Sub-Adviser**

The Adviser has retained Bastion Fiduciary, LLC, an investment adviser registered with the SEC, to provide sub-advisory services for the Fund. The Sub-Adviser is organized as a Florida limited liability company with its principal office located at 209 Palm Avenue, Islamorada, Florida 33036, and was founded in 2024. The Sub-Adviser offers investment management services to individual and institutional clients, as well as the Fund. The Sub-Adviser is responsible for determining the investments for the Fund, subject to the overall supervision and oversight of the Adviser and the Board.

The Sub-Adviser is responsible for selecting the investments for the Fund in accordance with the Fund's objectives, policies and restrictions. The Sub-Adviser is not responsible for selecting brokers or placing the Fund's trades. Rather, the Sub-Adviser constructs the overall portfolio and provides trading instructions to the Adviser, and, in turn, the Adviser is responsible for selecting brokers and placing the Fund's trades.

For its services, the Adviser pays the Sub-Adviser a fee, which is calculated daily and paid monthly, at an annual rate based on the Fund's average daily net assets as follows: 0.40% (annual rate as a percentage of average daily net assets).

### **Fund Sponsor**

The Adviser has entered into a fund sponsorship agreement with the Sub-Adviser pursuant to which the Sub-Adviser is also the sponsor of the Fund ("Fund Sponsor"). Under this arrangement, the Fund Sponsor has agreed to provide financial support to the Fund (as described below) and, in turn, the Adviser has agreed to share with the Fund Sponsor a portion of profits, if any, generated by the Fund's Advisory Fee (also as described below). Every month, the Advisory Fee, which is a unitary management fee, is calculated and paid to the Adviser.

If the amount of the unitary management fee exceeds the Fund's operating expenses and the Adviser-retained amount, the Adviser pays the net total to the Fund Sponsor. The amount paid to the Fund Sponsor represents both the sub-advisory fee and any remaining profits from the Advisory Fee. During months where there are no profits or the funds are not sufficient to cover the entire sub-advisory fee, the sub-advisory fee is automatically waived.

If the amount of the unitary management fee is less than the Fund's operating expenses and the Adviser-retained amount, Fund Sponsor is obligated to reimburse the Adviser for the shortfall.

The Adviser-retained amount represents an agreed upon fee arrangement between the Adviser and Fund Sponsor. This arrangement calls for the Fund Sponsor to pay the Adviser a fee and reimburse the Adviser for certain Fund operating expenses it paid pursuant to the Advisory Agreement.

#### **APPROVAL OF ADVISORY AGREEMENT & INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENTS**

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's approval of the Advisory Agreement and the Sub-Advisory Agreement with respect to the Fund will be available in the Fund's N-CSR to shareholders, dated July 31, 2025.

#### **Manager of Managers Structure**

The Adviser and the Trust have received an exemptive order (the "Order") from the SEC that allows the Fund to operate in a "manager of managers" structure whereby the Adviser can appoint and replace unaffiliated sub-advisers, and enter into, amend and terminate sub-advisory agreements with such sub-advisers, each subject to Board approval, but without obtaining prior shareholder approval ("Manager of Managers Structure"). The Fund will, however, inform shareholders of the hiring of any new sub-adviser within 90 days after the hiring, to the extent the Fund is relying on the Order. The Order provides the Fund with greater flexibility and efficiency by preventing the Fund from incurring the expense and delays associated with obtaining shareholder approval of such sub-advisory agreements.

To the extent the Fund relies on the Order, the Fund's use of the Manager of Managers Structure is subject to certain conditions that are set forth in the Order. Under the Manager of Managers Structure, the Adviser has the ultimate responsibility, subject to oversight by the Board, to oversee sub-advisers and recommend their hiring, termination and replacement. The Adviser will also, subject to the review and approval of the Board; set the Fund's overall investment strategy; evaluate, select and recommend sub-advisers to manage all or a portion of the Fund's assets; and implement procedures reasonably designed to ensure that each sub-adviser complies with the Fund's investment goal, policies and restrictions. Subject to review by the Board, the Adviser will allocate and, when appropriate, reallocate the Fund's assets among sub-advisers and monitor and evaluate the sub-advisers' performance.

#### **PORTFOLIO MANAGER**

Cale Smith, MBA, is President and Chief Investment Officer of Bastion Fiduciary, LLC. Prior to Bastion Fiduciary, he founded Islamorada Investment Management, a Florida registered investment adviser, in 2008, and served as Managing Partner until December 2024. Mr. Smith has managed two long-only, concentrated fundamental value equity strategies since the firm's inception. Prior to founding Islamorada Investment Management, he served as the director of research at an independent equity research firm and senior equity analyst at a long-short hedge fund. Prior to becoming an equity analyst, and after serving as a Lieutenant in the United States Coast Guard, Mr. Smith was a project manager at the world's first commercial internet service provider and managed business development at a radio frequency engineering firm. He has an M.B.A. in Operations from the College of William & Mary, and graduated with honors with a B.S. in Management from the United States Coast Guard Academy. Mr. Smith holds a Series 65 registration.

The Fund's SAI provides additional information about the portfolio manager, including other accounts managed, ownership in the Fund, and compensation.

#### **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Quasar Distributors, LLC ("Distributor") serves as the distributor of Creation Units (defined above) for the Fund on an agency basis. The Distributor does not maintain a secondary market in Shares.

U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services, is the administrator, fund accountant, and transfer agent for the Fund.

U.S. Bank National Association is the custodian for the Fund.

Practus, LLP, 11300 Tomahawk Creek Parkway, Suite 310, Leawood, Kansas 66211, serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102, serves as the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the annual financial statements of the Fund.

#### **THE EXCHANGE**

Shares are not sponsored, endorsed or promoted by the Exchange. The Exchange is not responsible for, nor has it participated, in the determination of the timing of, prices of, or quantities of Shares to be issued, nor in the determination or calculation of the equation by which Shares are redeemable. The Exchange has no obligation or liability to owners of Shares in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of Shares. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall the Exchange have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential or any other damages (including lost profits) even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

## BUYING AND SELLING FUND SHARES

The Fund issues and redeems Shares at NAV only in large blocks known as “Creation Units,” which only APs (typically, broker-dealers) may purchase or redeem. Creation Units are generally issued and redeemed only in-kind for securities although a portion may be in cash.

Shares will trade on the secondary market, however, which is where most retail investors will buy and sell Shares. It is expected that only a limited number of institutional investors, called Authorized Participants or “APs,” will purchase and redeem Shares directly from the Fund. APs may acquire Shares directly from the Fund, and APs may tender their Shares for redemption directly to the Fund, at NAV per Share only in large blocks, or Creation Units. Purchases and redemptions directly with the Fund must follow the Fund’s procedures, which are described in the SAI.

**Except when aggregated in Creation Units, Shares are not redeemable with the Fund.**

## BUYING AND SELLING SHARES ON THE SECONDARY MARKET

Most investors will buy and sell Shares in secondary market transactions through brokers and, therefore, must have a brokerage account to buy and sell Shares. Shares can be bought or sold through your broker throughout the trading day like shares of any publicly traded issuer. The Trust does not impose any redemption fees or restrictions on redemptions of Shares in the secondary market. When buying or selling Shares through a broker, you will incur customary brokerage commissions and charges, and you may pay some or all of the spread between the bid and the offered prices in the secondary market for Shares. The price at which you buy or sell Shares (*i.e.*, the market price) may be more or less than the NAV of the Shares. Unless imposed by your broker, there is no minimum dollar amount you must invest in the Fund and no minimum number of Shares you must buy.

Shares of the Fund are listed on the Exchange under the following symbol:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Trading Symbol</b>
Bastion Energy ETF	BESF

The Exchange is generally open Monday through Friday and is closed for weekends and the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Washington’s Birthday, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

For information about buying and selling Shares on the Exchange or in the secondary markets, please contact your broker or dealer.

**Book Entry.** Shares are held in book entry form, which means that no stock certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), or its nominee, will be the registered owner of all outstanding Shares and is recognized as the owner of all Shares. Participants in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other institutions that directly or indirectly maintain a custodial relationship with DTC. As a beneficial owner of Shares, you are not entitled to receive physical delivery of stock certificates or to have Shares registered in your name, and you are not considered a registered owner of Shares. Therefore, to exercise any right as an owner of Shares, you must rely on the procedures of DTC and its participants. These procedures are the same as those that apply to any stocks that you hold in book entry or “street name” through your brokerage account. Your account information will be maintained by your broker, which will provide you with account statements, confirmations of your purchases and sales of Shares, and tax information. Your broker also will be responsible for distributing income dividends and capital gain distributions and for ensuring that you receive shareholder reports and other communications from the Fund.

**Share Trading Prices.** The trading prices of Shares may differ from the Fund’s daily NAV and can be affected by market forces of supply and demand for Shares, the prices of the Fund’s portfolio securities, economic conditions and other factors.

The Exchange through the facilities of the Consolidated Tape Association or another market information provider intends to disseminate the approximate value of the Fund’s portfolio every fifteen seconds during regular U.S. trading hours. This approximate value should not be viewed as a “real-time” update of the NAV of the Fund because the approximate value may not be calculated in the same manner as the NAV, which is computed once a day. The quotations for certain investments may not be updated during U.S. trading hours if such holdings do not trade in the U.S., except such quotations may be updated to reflect currency fluctuations. The Fund is not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of the approximate values and makes no warranty as to the accuracy of these values.

**Continuous Offering.** The method by which Creation Units of Shares are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Units of Shares are issued and sold by the Fund on an ongoing basis, a “distribution,” as such term is used in the Securities Act, may occur at any point. Broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some activities on their part may, depending on the circumstances, result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which could render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery requirements and liability provisions of the Securities Act. For example, a broker-dealer firm or its client may be deemed a statutory underwriter if it takes

Creation Units after placing an order with the Distributor, breaks them down into constituent Shares and sells the Shares directly to customers or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new Shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for Shares. A determination of whether one is an underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a characterization as an underwriter.

Broker-dealer firms should also note that dealers who are not “underwriters” but are effecting transactions in Shares, whether or not participating in the distribution of Shares, are generally required to deliver a prospectus. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Investment Company Act”). As a result, broker-dealer firms should note that dealers who are not “underwriters” but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted with engaging in ordinary secondary market transactions) and thus dealing with the Shares that are part of an overallotment within the meaning of Section 4(a)(3)(C) of the Securities Act, will be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(a)(3) of the Securities Act. For delivery of prospectuses to exchange members, the prospectus delivery mechanism of Rule 153 under the Securities Act is only available with respect to transactions on a national exchange.

### **ACTIVE INVESTORS AND MARKET TIMING**

The Board has evaluated the risks of market timing activities by the Fund’s shareholders. The Board noted that Shares can be purchased and redeemed directly from the Fund only in Creation Units by APs and that the vast majority of trading in Shares occurs on the secondary market. Because the secondary market trades do not directly involve the Fund, it is unlikely those trades would cause the harmful effects of market timing, including dilution, disruption of portfolio management, increases in the Fund’s trading costs and the realization of capital gains. With regard to the purchase or redemption of Creation Units directly with the Fund, to the extent effected in-kind (*i.e.*, for securities), the Board noted that those trades do not cause the harmful effects (as previously noted) that may result from frequent cash trades. To the extent trades are effected in whole or in part in cash, the Board noted that those trades could result in dilution to the Fund and increased transaction costs, which could negatively impact the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective, although in certain circumstances (*e.g.*, in conjunction with a reallocation of the Fund’s investments), such trades may benefit Fund shareholders by increasing the tax efficiency of the Fund. The Board also noted that direct trading by APs is critical to ensuring that Shares trade at or close to NAV. In addition, the Fund will impose transaction fees on purchases and redemptions of Shares to cover the custodial and other costs incurred by the Fund in effecting trades. Given this structure, the Board determined that it is not necessary to adopt policies and procedures to detect and deter market timing of Shares.

### **DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE PLAN**

The Fund has adopted the Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act. Under the Plan, the Fund may be authorized to pay distribution fees of up to 0.25% of its average daily net assets each year to the Distributor and other firms that provide distribution and shareholder services (“Service Providers”). As of the date of this Prospectus, the maximum amount payable under the Plan is set at 0% until further action by the Board. In the event 12b-1 fees are charged, over time they would increase the cost of an investment in the Fund because they would be paid on an ongoing basis.

### **NET ASSET VALUE**

The NAV of Shares is calculated each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”), generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time.

The Fund calculates its NAV per Share by:

- Taking the current market value of its total assets,
- Subtracting any liabilities, and
- Dividing that amount by the total number of Shares owned by shareholders.

If you buy or sell Shares on the secondary market, you will pay or receive the market price, which may be higher or lower than NAV. Your transaction will be priced at NAV only if you purchase or redeem your Shares in Creation Units.

Equity securities that are traded on a national securities exchange, except those listed on the NASDAQ Global Market<sup>®</sup> (“NASDAQ”) are valued at the last reported sale price on the exchange on which the security is principally traded. Securities traded on NASDAQ will be valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price (“NOCP”). If, on a particular day, an exchange-traded or NASDAQ security does not trade, then the most recent quoted bid for exchange traded or the mean between the most recent quoted bid and ask price for NASDAQ securities will be used.

If a market price is not readily available or is deemed not to reflect market value, the Fund will determine the price of the security held by the Fund based on a determination of the security’s fair value pursuant to policies and procedures approved by the Board.



To the extent the Fund holds securities that may trade infrequently, fair valuation may be used more frequently. Fair valuation may have the effect of reducing stale pricing arbitrage opportunities presented by the pricing of Shares. However, when the Fund uses fair valuation to price securities, it may value those securities higher or lower than another fund would have priced the security. Also, the use of fair valuation may cause the Shares' NAV performance to diverge from the Shares' market price and from the performance of various benchmarks used to compare the Fund's performance because benchmarks generally do not use fair valuation techniques. Because of the judgment involved in fair valuation decisions, there can be no assurance that the value ascribed to a particular security is accurate.

## **FUND WEBSITE AND DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS**

The Trust maintains a website for the Fund at [www.bastionetfs.com](http://www.bastionetfs.com). Among other things, the website includes this Prospectus and the SAI, and will include the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders, financial information, holdings, and proxy information. The website shows the Fund's daily NAV per share, market price, and premium or discount, each as of the prior business day. The website also shows the extent and frequency of the Fund's premiums and discounts. Further, the website includes the Fund's median bid-ask spread over the most recent thirty calendar days.

Each day the Fund is open for business, the Trust publicly disseminates the Fund's full portfolio holdings as of the close of the previous day through its website at [www.bastionetfs.com](http://www.bastionetfs.com). A description of the Trust's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings is available in the Fund's SAI.

## **INVESTMENTS BY OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

For purposes of the Investment Company Act, Shares are issued by a registered investment company and purchases of such Shares by registered investment companies and companies relying on Section 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the Investment Company Act are subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 12(d)(1) of the Investment Company Act, except as permitted by Rule 6c-11, Rule 12d1-4, or an exemptive order of the SEC.

## **DIVIDENDS, DISTRIBUTIONS, AND TAXES**

As with any investment, you should consider how your investment in Shares will be taxed. The tax information in this Prospectus is provided as general information. You should consult your own tax professional about the tax consequences of an investment in Shares.

Unless your investment in Shares is made through a tax-exempt entity or tax-deferred retirement account, such as an IRA, you need to be aware of the possible tax consequences when:

- Your Fund makes distributions,
- You sell your Shares listed on the Exchange, and
- You purchase or redeem Creation Units.

### **Dividends and Distributions**

*Dividends and Distributions.* The Fund intends to elect and intends to qualify each year as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. As a regulated investment company, the Fund generally pays no U.S. federal income tax on the income and gains it distributes to you. The Fund expects to declare and to distribute its net investment income, if any, to shareholders as dividends quarterly. The Fund will distribute net realized capital gains, if any, at least annually. The Fund may distribute such income dividends and capital gains more frequently, if necessary, in order to reduce or eliminate U.S. federal excise or income taxes on the Fund. The amount of any distribution will vary, and there is no guarantee the Fund will pay either an income dividend or a capital gains distribution. Distributions may be reinvested automatically in additional whole Shares only if the broker through whom you purchased Shares makes such option available.

*Avoid "Buying a Dividend."* At the time you purchase Shares of the Fund, the Fund's NAV may reflect undistributed income, undistributed capital gains, or net unrealized appreciation in value of portfolio securities held by the Fund. For taxable investors, a subsequent distribution to you of such amounts, although constituting a return of your investment, would be taxable. Buying Shares in the Fund just before it declares an income dividend or capital gains distribution is sometimes known as "buying a dividend."

### **Taxes**

*Tax Considerations.* The Fund expects, based on its investment objective and strategies, that its distributions, if any, will be taxable as ordinary income, capital gains, or some combination of both. This is true whether you reinvest your distributions in additional Shares or receive them in cash. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, Fund distributions of short-term capital gains are taxable to you as ordinary income. Fund distributions of long-term capital gains are taxable to you as long-term capital gain no matter how long you have owned your Shares. A portion of income dividends reported by the Fund may be qualified dividend

income eligible for taxation by certain shareholders at long-term capital gain rates provided certain holding period requirements are met.

*Taxes on Sales of Shares.* A sale or exchange of Shares is a taxable event and, accordingly, a capital gain or loss will generally be recognized. Currently, any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of Shares generally is treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for more than one year and as short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for one year or less. The ability to deduct capital losses may be limited.

*Medicare Tax.* An additional 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on certain net investment income (including ordinary dividends and capital gain distributions received from the Fund and net gains from redemptions or other taxable dispositions of Shares) of U.S. individuals, estates, and trusts to the extent that such person's "modified adjusted gross income" (in the case of an individual) or "adjusted gross income" (in the case of an estate or trust) exceeds a threshold amount. This Medicare tax, if applicable, is reported by you on, and paid with, your U.S. federal income tax return.

*Backup Withholding.* By law, if you do not provide the Fund with your proper taxpayer identification number and certain required certifications, you may be subject to backup withholding on any distributions of income, capital gains or proceeds from the sale of your Shares. The Fund also must backup withhold if the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") instructs it to do so. When backup withholding is required, the amount will be 24% of any distributions or proceeds paid.

*State and Local Taxes.* Fund distributions and gains from the sale or exchange of your Shares generally are subject to applicable state and local taxes.

*Taxes on Purchase and Redemption of Creation Units.* An AP who exchanges equity securities for Creation Units generally will recognize a gain or a loss. The gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the market value of the Creation Units at the time of purchase and the exchanger's aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and the cash amount paid. A person who exchanges Creation Units for equity securities generally will recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between the exchanger's basis in the Creation Units and the aggregate market value of the securities received and the cash amount received. The IRS, however, may assert that a loss realized upon an exchange of securities for Creation Units cannot be deducted currently under the rules governing "wash sales," or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position. Persons exchanging securities should consult their own tax advisor with respect to whether the wash sale rules apply and when a loss might not be deductible.

Under current U.S. federal tax laws, any capital gain or loss realized upon redemption of Creation Units is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for more than one year and as a short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares have been held for one year or less.

If the Fund redeems Creation Units in cash, it may recognize more capital gains than it will if it redeems Creation Units in-kind.

*Non-U.S. Investors.* Non-U.S. investors may be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a 30% or lower treaty rate and are subject to special U.S. federal tax certification requirements to avoid backup withholding and claim any treaty benefits. An exemption from U.S. federal withholding tax is provided for capital gain dividends paid by the Fund from long-term capital gains, if any. However, interest-related dividends paid by the Fund from its qualified net interest income from U.S. sources and short-term capital gain dividends may be exempt from U.S. withholding provided the Fund makes certain designations and other requirements are met. Furthermore, notwithstanding such exemptions from U.S. federal withholding at the source, any such dividends and distributions of income and capital gains will be subject to U.S. federal backup withholding at a rate of 24% if you fail to properly certify that you are not a U.S. person. In addition, U.S. estate tax may apply to Shares of the Fund.

*Other Reporting and Withholding Requirements.* Under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA), the Fund will be required to withhold a 30% tax on (i) income dividends paid by the Fund, and (ii) possibly in the future, certain capital gain distributions and the proceeds arising from the sale of Shares paid by the Fund, to certain foreign entities, referred to as foreign financial institutions or non-financial foreign entities, that fail to comply (or be deemed compliant) with extensive reporting and withholding requirements designed to inform the U.S. Department of the Treasury of U.S.-owned foreign investment accounts. The Fund may disclose the information that it receives from its shareholders to the IRS, non-U.S. taxing authorities or other parties as necessary to comply with FATCA. Withholding also may be required if a foreign entity that is a shareholder of the Fund fails to provide the Fund with appropriate certifications or other documentation concerning its status under FATCA.

*Possible Tax Law Changes.* At the time that this prospectus is being prepared, various administrative and legislative changes to the U.S. federal tax laws are under consideration, but it is not possible at this time to determine whether any of these changes will be made or what the changes might entail.

**This discussion of "Dividends, Distributions and Taxes" is not intended or written to be used as tax advice. Because everyone's tax situation is unique, you should consult your tax professional about U.S. federal, state, local or foreign tax consequences before making an investment in the Fund.**

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The Fund is newly organized and therefore has not yet had any operations as of the date of this Prospectus and does not have financial highlights to present at this time.

If you would like more information about the Fund and the Trust, the following documents are available free, upon request:

#### **ANNUAL/SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS TO SHAREHOLDERS**

Additional information about the Fund will be in its annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders, when available. The annual report will explain the market conditions and investment strategies affecting the Fund's performance during the last fiscal year.

#### **STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The SAI dated February 18, 2025, which contains more details about the Fund, is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this Prospectus, which means that it is legally part of this Prospectus.

To receive a free copy of the latest annual or semi-annual report, or the SAI, or to request additional information about the Fund, please contact us as follows:

Call: (215) 330-4476

Write: 19 East Eagle Road  
Havertown, PA 19083

Visit: [www.bastionetfs.com](http://www.bastionetfs.com)

#### **INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Reports and other information about the Fund are also available:

- Free of charge from the SEC's EDGAR database on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>; or
- For a duplicating fee, by e-mail request to [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).

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