

International Investor

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World Stockmarket Forecasts

Stockmarket	One-Year Forecast	Fundamental Indicators	Technical Indicators	Monetary Indicators	Economic Indicators	Historical Performance (in US\$)			Share Index
						3 mths	6 mths	12 mths	
Australia	53%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	-9.9%	-9.2%	-5.3%	6,173.53
Austria	51%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-15.1%	-9.6%	-10.5%	2,615.56
Belgium	40%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Neutral	-10.7%	-3.6%	-2.4%	3,435.09
Canada	51%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-6.0%	-4.0%	+1.1%	16,175.02
Denmark	53%	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	Bearish	+3.6%	+11.1%	+16.0%	1,141.62
Finland	51%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-0.8%	-0.0%	-4.1%	9,156.41
France	52%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-10.1%	-6.5%	-1.5%	3,987.21
Germany	54%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-10.5%	-3.9%	+1.2%	11,541.87
Ireland	50%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-9.9%	+4.9%	+3.5%	6,266.53
Italy	60%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-9.3%	-4.1%	+0.4%	22,526.70
Japan	49%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-8.4%	-0.7%	+4.1%	20,749.75
Netherlands	53%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-9.9%	-5.4%	+0.6%	531.29
New Zealand	54%	Neutral	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-9.1%	-3.2%	-6.3%	1,695.91
Norway	36%	Bullish	Bearish	Bearish	Bearish	-12.9%	-11.2%	-14.2%	884.87
Spain	53%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-9.0%	-5.8%	-8.9%	834.02
Sweden	62%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-4.3%	+5.8%	+10.3%	1,126.69
Switzerland	36%	Bullish	Bearish	Bearish	Neutral	-1.6%	+1.9%	+13.1%	9,736.82
Un. Kingdom	58%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-11.4%	-5.7%	-8.8%	6,462.55
USA	52%	Neutral	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-5.5%	-0.2%	+8.4%	2,972.37
Argentina	47%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Neutral	-7.6%	+29.4%	-29.6%	35,222.43
Brazil	46%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Neutral	-21.1%	-16.4%	-14.1%	97,996.80
Czech Rep.	50%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	+4.0%	-2.8%	-7.9%	962.89
Chile	47%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Neutral	-15.5%	-25.2%	-35.7%	21,165.59
China	72%	Neutral	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	+5.8%	+3.8%	-0.9%	3,034.51
Greece	56%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	-19.9%	-20.1%	-1.2%	684.74
Egypt	50%	Neutral	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-6.4%	-13.6%	-7.7%	12,347.65
Hong Kong	51%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-0.6%	-1.1%	-6.4%	26,146.67
Hungary	33%	Bearish	Bearish	Neutral	Bearish	-6.1%	+3.0%	-3.4%	41,185.29
India	55%	Neutral	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-10.5%	-1.6%	-3.1%	37,576.82
Indonesia	54%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-12.6%	-14.0%	-15.1%	5,498.54
Israel	47%	Bearish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	-7.8%	+0.9%	+9.3%	1,479.93
Korea	54%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-2.2%	+1.9%	-8.9%	2,040.22
Malaysia	54%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	-6.5%	-8.2%	-14.2%	1,483.10
Mexico	54%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-5.3%	-5.9%	-3.5%	41,388.78
Philippines	57%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Neutral	-12.8%	-12.4%	-10.2%	6,770.38
Poland	57%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-10.6%	-10.0%	-16.5%	49,326.23
Portugal	63%	Bullish	Neutral	Neutral	Bullish	+0.8%	+3.3%	+7.6%	3,264.40
Russia	57%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bearish	-19.4%	-9.9%	+3.2%	1,257.96
Singapore	51%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-8.5%	-5.6%	-8.7%	2,960.98
Sth Africa	56%	Bullish	Bearish	Neutral	Bullish	-12.1%	-11.5%	-13.5%	52,064.72
Taiwan	51%	Bullish	Neutral	Neutral	Bearish	-0.8%	+9.5%	+14.2%	11,321.81
Thailand	57%	Bullish	Bearish	Bullish	Bullish	-15.4%	-20.9%	-15.4%	1,364.57
Turkey	69%	Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	Neutral	-4.6%	+3.8%	-3.7%	109,600.50
Venezuela	82%	Bullish	Bullish	Neutral	Bullish	+52.4%	+75.0%	+999.8%	108,196.80

One Year Forecasts predict the probability that a stock-market will rise over the next year. Investors should seek to invest in markets with forecasts of 60-100%, while avoiding markets with forecasts of 0-40%. Bullish = Favourable. Bearish = Unfavourable.

Recommended International Investment Funds

Investor Pessimism

We don't know if this is the "time of maximum pessimism" but the discount to net asset backing of several listed UK investment trusts would indicate that investors are certainly pessimistic.

Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon shares have been trading at a *premium* to net assets over the last few years, but now trade at a 9% discount.

India Capital Growth shares trade at a 25% discount. **Herald Investment Trust** trades at a 19% discount. **Aberdeen Asia Standard Focus** and **Scottish Oriental Smaller Companies** shares both trade at an 18% discount to net asset value.

Historically listed investment trusts tend to trade at around a 10% discount, but that could vary from zero through to about 20%. So discounts are near the bottom of the range and indicate that investors are pretty pessimistic.

We are cautious about buying too early when stockmarkets are extremely volatile and subject to panic selling! It is also possible that the negative investor sentiment *could* drive markets lower over the short to medium term. Stockmarkets, however, hit their ultimate lows at the point of "maximum pessimism"!

When "things couldn't be any worse" the stockmarket will be at its low . . . with no-one left to sell . . . and nowhere for stock prices to go but up!

Fund Reports

Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc lifted net assets 26.9% over the year to 31 December 2019 - slightly ahead of its benchmark small UK companies index which rose 25.2%. The share price rose 39.8%.

The FTSE 100 Index of large companies rose only 17.3%.

A final dividend of 22.0 pence lifts the annual dividend rate 5.8% to 32.0 pence, plus a special 4.0 pence dividend. The 26.0 pence final and special dividends were paid on 6 March.

Aberforth Smaller Companies



Herald Investment Trust plc lifted net assets 27.5% over its financial year to 31 December 2019, while its share price appreciated 37.7%. The trust's two benchmark indices rose 18.8% and 29.4% (in Sterling terms).

No dividends will be paid.

Recommended Funds Geographic Portfolio Spread

Fund Name	Size (Mil)	Leverage (%debt)	Top 10 Hldgs (%)	Portfolio invested in (%):													
				Cash	HK	Australia	Malay	Taiwan	Korea	Sing.	Thail'd	Phil.	China	India	Indo	7.9	
Aberdeen Std Asian	£440	12	29.6	2.0	8.9		9.6	52	4.0	8.2	12.9	6.0	1.7	16.1	Indo 7.9		
Baring Korea	£68	Nil	44.6	4.4				95.6									
India Capital Growth	£109	Nil	47.1	5.0										95.0			
Stewart Indian Sub-Cont	£285	Nil	49.4	4.7										84.4	Bangladesh 7.7%		
Janus Hend Asian Pac Cap	£299	Nil	51.7	1.4	9.9	2.3		16.7	9.9	4.3	2.4	3.6	26.2	15.9			
Scottish Oriental Sm Coys	£323	Nil	30.9	6.5	7.2		0.6	6.8	5.5		11.7	8.3	33.2	Indo 13.6			
				Cash	USA	UK	Europe	Japan	Canada	Aust	Russia	China	Sth Afr	Sweden	Peru		
Aberforth Small Cos Trust	£1198	0	28.4			100.0											
Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon	£536	10	25.7	1.0				99.0									
Fidelity Japan Trust plc	£239	21	50.8					100.0									
Herald Investment Trust	£1127	Nil	18.8	11.2	24.5	51.3	6.2	6.8									
iShares Oil & Gas Exp	£52	Nil	61.8	0.6	54.7	0.8		2.7	13.6	10.0	9.0	6.3		1.4			
iShares S&P500 Utilities	£36	Nil	61.9		100.0												
iShares US Property Yield	£722	Nil	36.9		100.0												
Invesco Perp Japan Small	£51	Nil	39.1	4.2				95.8									
VanEck Gold Miners	£894	Nil	62.7		18.7				51.7	13.8	0.5	2.1	7.5		1.5		
VanEck Junior Gold Miners	£132	Nil	49.5		4.4				43.0	23.7		1.4	12.6		2.9		

Herald Investment Trust**Share Repurchases**

Aberdeen Asian Standard Focus made 11 on-market trades over the last four weeks to repurchase 222,500 shares for a total of £2.3 million.

Fidelity Japan Trust also made 11 on-market trades, repurchasing 462,899 for £709,574.

Herald Investment Trust has made five trades on-market, acquiring a total of 160,000 shares and returning £2.28 million to investors.

Current Advice	Investment Fund	EPIC Code	Initial Recommendation		Prem/ Disc to Net Assets	Recent Price		Gain or Loss %	
			--- Date ---	Offer Price		Bid-Offer or Last Sale	NZ Cents		
United States									
BUY	iShares S&P500 Utilities	IUSU	13/08/18	422.3p	819.4		536.12p	1100.9	+34
BUY	iShares US Property Yield	IUSP	13/08/18	2227.5p	4322.7		2223.5p	4565.7	+6
United Kingdom									
BUY	Aberforth Smaller Cos Trt plc	ASL	15/07/03	375.5p	1042.0	-9%	1196.0p	2455.9	+136
Gold Mining									
BUY	VanEck V. Gold Miners	GDGB	14/01/19	1731.0p	3253.8		2342.0p	4809.0	+48
BUY	VanEck V. Junior Gold Miners	GJGB	14/01/19	2011.0p	3780.1		2550.0p	5236.1	+39
Asian Regional									
BUY	Aberdeen Std Asia Focus	AAS	09/09/03	89.2p	247.8	-18%	940.0p	1930.2	+679
HOLD	Janus Hend Asia Pac Capital	*	08/08/00	342.2p	1122.6		1129.0p	2318.3	+107
HOLD	Scot Oriental Smaller Coy	SST	11/11/03	121.9p	330.5	-18%	848.0p	1741.3	+427
India									
BUY	India Capital Growth plc	IGC	07/11/16	80.5p	137.6	-25%	61.0p	125.3	-9
BUY	Stewart Investors Indian Sub-Cont	*	13/12/10	209.2p	442.0		454.15p	932.5	+111
Japan									
HOLD	Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon plc	BGS	11/01/94	31.2p	88.1	-9%	139.4p	286.2	+225
HOLD	Fidelity Japan Trust plc	FJV	10/01/06	126.0p	322.7	-11%	148.0p	303.9	-6
HOLD	Invesco Perp Japan Small Coys	*	13/07/99	61.3p	182.3		108.11p	222.0	+22
Korea									
HOLD	Baring Korea Trust	*	12/04/94	81.1p	209.4		285.6p	586.4	+180
International									
HOLD	Herald Investment Trust	HRI	12/10/04	310.8p	820.1	-19%	1282.0p	2632.4	+221
HOLD	iShares Oil & Gas Exp & Prod	SPOG	08/04/19	1287.0p	2491.8		825.12p	1694.3	-32

* United Kingdom based Unit Trust

The average Gains/Losses of all current investments from initial recommendation is +136.6%. This is equal to an average annual rate of +11.5%, based upon the length of time each position has been held. The average annual rate of gain of ALL recommendations (both the 16 current and 51 closed out) is +12.4%.

Other Shares

“Clean” unit prices are: Janus Henderson Asia Pacific Capital 1286 pence, Stewart Investors Indian Sub-Continent 250.99 pence, Invesco Perpetual Japanese Smaller Companies 380.97 pence and Baring Korea 333.5 pence.

World Stockmarket Valuations

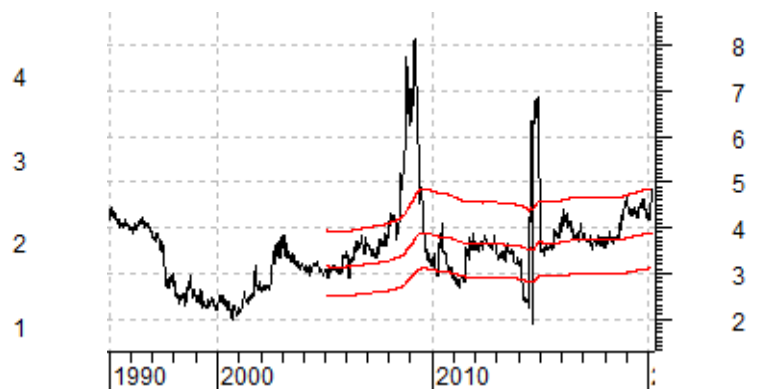
Country	Dividend Yield	Price/Earn. Ratio
Australia	4.3	16.7
Austria	4.4	9.1
Belgium	3.2	16.4
Canada	3.2	16.1
Denmark	2.0	23.4
Finland	4.3	20.2
France	3.5	15.6
Germany	3.4	17.1
Ireland	2.2	17.0
Italy	4.7	10.4
Japan	2.6	13.2
Netherlands	2.9	18.8
New Zealand	3.3	22.6
Norway	5.3	18.6
Spain	5.0	12.2
Sweden	3.9	16.0
Switzerland	3.1	20.8
Un. Kingdom	4.9	12.3
USA	2.0	21.8
Argentina	3.2	5.4
Brazil	3.7	13.1
Czech Rep.	6.6	10.9

Country	Dividend Yield	Price/Earn. Ratio
Chile	4.2	13.5
China	2.0	14.3
Greece	3.3	12.9
Egypt	2.3	9.2
Hong Kong	3.0	11.5
Hungary	1.9	10.3
India	1.3	21.4
Indonesia	3.1	15.8
Israel	1.7	17.7
Korea	2.4	13.6
Malaysia	3.6	17.7
Mexico	3.4	14.6
Philippines	2.0	14.5
Poland	3.9	10.7
Portugal	4.7	19.8
Russia	8.4	5.2
Singapore	4.7	12.8
Sth Africa	3.4	15.8
Taiwan	3.7	17.6
Thailand	3.7	16.2
Turkey	3.3	8.1

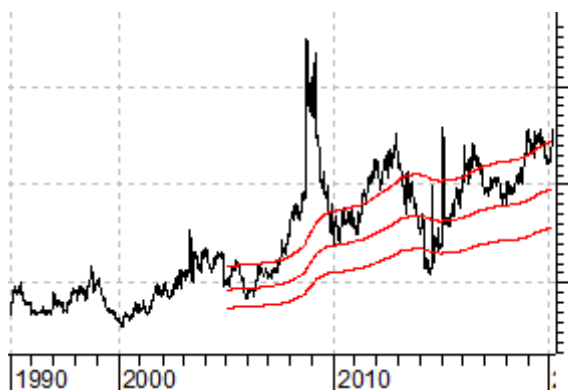
United States Dividend Yield



United Kingdom Dividend Yield



Japan Dividend Yield



Canada Dividend Yield



France Dividend Yield



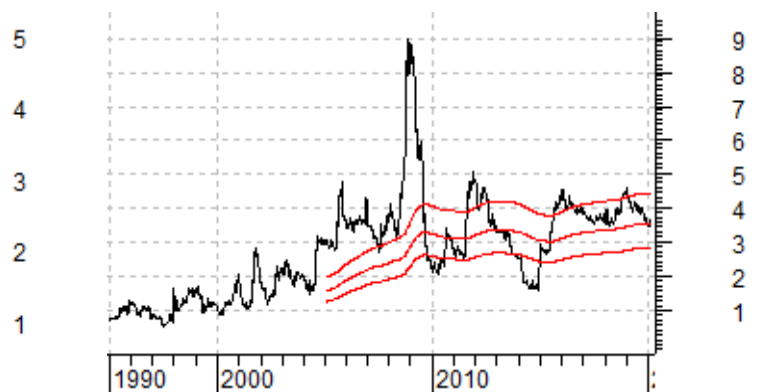
China Dividend Yield



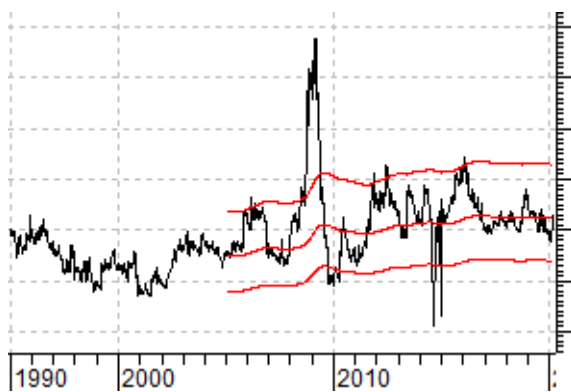
Switzerland Dividend Yield



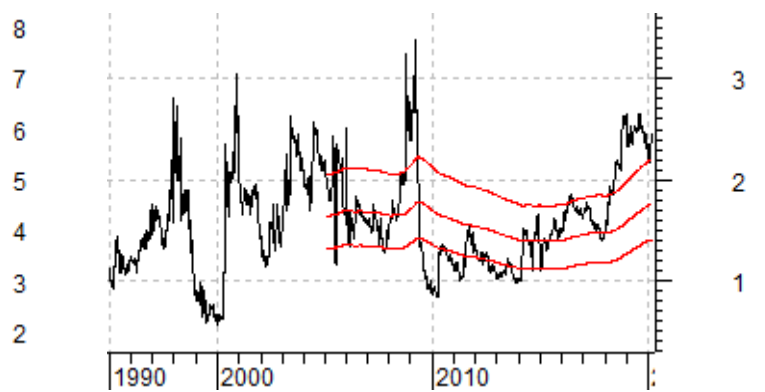
Taiwan Dividend Yield



Australia Dividend Yield



South Korea Dividend Yield



Germany Dividend Yield



India Dividend Yield



