

**ADVISORSHARES**<sup>™</sup>  
Actively Managed ETFs



NYSE Arca Ticker: SCAP



Sub-advised by:  
Cornerstone Investment Partners, LLC

**ADVISORSHARES TRUST**

4800 Montgomery Lane • Suite 150  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814  
www.advisorshares.com  
877.843.3831

Prospectus dated November 1, 2017

This Prospectus provides important information about the AdvisorShares Cornerstone Small Cap ETF, a series of AdvisorShares Trust. Before you invest, please read this Prospectus and the Fund's Statement of Additional Information carefully and keep them for future reference.

The shares of the Fund have not been approved or disapproved by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor has the U.S. 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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**ADVISORSHARES CORNERSTONE SMALL CAP ETF**  
**NYSE Arca Ticker: SCAP**

**FUND SUMMARY**

**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The AdvisorShares Cornerstone Small Cap ETF (the “Fund”) seeks to provide total return through long-term capital appreciation and current income.

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. Most investors will incur customary brokerage commissions when buying or selling shares of the Fund, which are not reflected in the table below.

<b>SHAREHOLDER FEES</b> <i>(fees paid directly from your investment)</i>	None
<b>ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES</b> <i>(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)</i>	
MANAGEMENT FEES	0.65%
DISTRIBUTION (12b-1) FEES	0.00%
OTHER EXPENSES	3.26%
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	3.91%
FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT*	-3.01%
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES AFTER FEE WAIVER/ EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT</b>	0.90%

\* AdvisorShares Investments, LLC (the “Advisor”) has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse expenses to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.90% of the Fund’s average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated, without payment of any penalty, (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor, for any reason, upon ninety (90) days’ prior written notice to the Trust, such termination to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the then-current one-year period.

**EXAMPLE**

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the shares of the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This Example does not take into account creation or redemption transaction fees, or the brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling shares of the Fund. If these fees and commissions were included, your costs would be higher.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	10 YEARS
<b>AdvisorShares Cornerstone Small Cap ETF</b>	\$92	\$915	\$1,756	\$3,940

## **PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

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The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. This rate excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as a result of in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund’s shares. During the most recent fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 93% of the average value of its portfolio.

## **PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

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The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a diversified group of U.S.-traded equity securities consisting of common and preferred stock, American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), and equity real estate investment trusts (“REITs”). The Fund also may invest in repurchase agreements. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in small cap securities. The Fund’s sub-advisor, Cornerstone Investment Partners, LLC (the “Sub-Advisor”), generally defines a small cap company as one having a market capitalization less than the market cap of the largest company in the Russell 2000 Index (the “Index”) at the time of acquisition. In choosing securities of publicly-traded U.S. companies with market capitalization rankings between 1000 and 2800, the Sub-Advisor creates an investable universe of 1800 companies for the Fund similar to the components of the Index, but excluding the smallest 200 market capitalization securities in the Index. At each rebalance, individual sector weights in the Fund are targeted to be within the Index sector weight plus or minus 15%. Securities are targeted to be equally weighted within the sectors, but may shift with price movements.

The Sub-Advisor’s investment philosophy is based on the view that the market often misprices fundamental improvements and is slow to recognize improving fundamentals, particularly in small cap stocks. The Sub-Advisor seeks to benefit from the volatility of small cap stocks by participating in upside volatility while reducing exposure to downside volatility. The Sub-Advisor generally intends to select stocks that satisfy three basic criteria: analysts have positively revised their forward looking estimates of the company’s profitability and the company has generated earnings in excess of analyst expectations; balance sheet strength; and financial flexibility, as determined by measuring a company’s ability to meet debt and capital expenditure requirements. The 1800 companies included in the investable universe are ranked according to these criteria, and the most attractive companies are then considered for inclusion within the strategy, subject to the sector weight limitations described above and the Fund’s investment objective.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

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The Fund is subject to a number of risks, as described below, that may affect the value of its shares, including the possible loss of money. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

**American Depositary Receipt Risk.** ADRs have the same currency and economic risks as the underlying non-U.S. shares they represent. They are affected by the risks associated with non-U.S. securities, such as changes in political or economic conditions of other countries and changes in the exchange rates of foreign currencies. In addition, investments in ADRs may be less liquid than the underlying securities in their primary trading market.

**Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual issuers, industries or the stock market as a whole. In addition, equity markets tend to move in cycles which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund’s holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund’s investment objective. However, the achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Sub-Advisor’s judgments about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment.

**Market Risk.** Due to market conditions, the value of the Fund's investments may fluctuate significantly from day to day. Price fluctuations may be temporary or may last for extended periods. This volatility may cause the value of your investment in the Fund to decrease. Because of its link to the markets, an investment in the Fund may be more suitable for long-term investors who can bear the risk of short-term principal fluctuations, which at times may be significant.

**Real Estate Investment Trust Risk.** The Fund's investments in REITs will be subject to the risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate. Risks commonly associated with the direct ownership of real estate include fluctuations in the value of underlying properties, defaults by borrowers or tenants, changes in interest rates and risks related to general or local economic conditions.

**Repurchase Agreement Risk.** The Fund will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties with which the Fund enters into repurchase agreements, including with respect to recovering or realizing on collateral.

**Small-Capitalization Risk.** Security prices of small cap companies may be more volatile than those of larger companies and therefore the Fund's share price may be more volatile than those of funds that invest a larger percentage of their assets in securities issued by larger-cap companies.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of the Fund may trade above or below their net asset value ("NAV"). The trading price of the Fund's shares may deviate significantly from their NAV during periods of market volatility and, in such instances, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Fund's shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of the Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange"), make trading in shares inadvisable.

## **FUND PERFORMANCE**

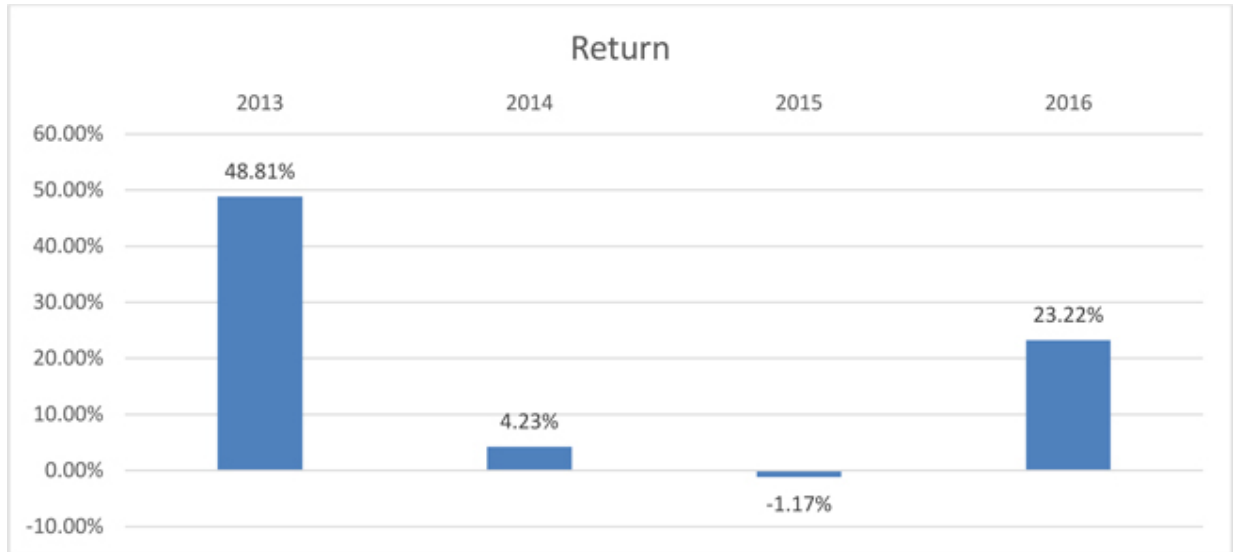
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The bar chart and table that follow show how the Fund has performed on a calendar year basis and provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table also shows how the Fund's performance compares to the Russell 2000 Index. The Russell 2000 Index is a small-cap stock market index of the smallest 2,000 stocks in the Russell 3000 Index, which is made up of the 3,000 largest U.S.-traded stocks. Both the bar chart and the table assume the reinvestment of all dividends and distributions. Past performance (before and after taxes) does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future.

On July 6, 2016, simultaneous with the commencement of the Fund's operations, a separate account (the "Predecessor Account"), which was managed by the same portfolio management team, converted into the Fund. The Predecessor Account was managed by the Sub-Advisor with investment policies, objectives, guidelines, and restrictions in all material respects equivalent to those of the Fund. The performance information shown below for the period from June 30, 2012 to July 6, 2016 is that of the Predecessor Account. The performance information of the Predecessor Account has not been restated to reflect the total annual operating expenses of the Fund, which, if reflected, would lower the returns shown for that period. The Predecessor Account was not registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act") and, therefore, was not subject to certain investment restrictions imposed by the 1940 Act. If it had been, its performance may have been adversely affected.

Updated performance information is available on the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).

**Calendar Year Total Returns**



The Fund’s year-to-date total return as of September 30, 2017 was 13.87%.

**Best and Worst Quarter Returns (for the period reflected in the bar chart above)**

	Return	Quarter/Year
Highest Return	12.43%	1Q/2013
Lowest Return	-10.01%	3Q/2015

**AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS FOR THE PERIODS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016**

AdvisorShares Cornerstone Small Cap ETF*	1 Year	Since Inception (6/30/2012)
Return Before Taxes Based on NAV	23.22%	17.25%
Return After Taxes on Distributions	23.19%	17.24%
Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares	13.17%	13.91%
Russell 2000 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes)	21.31%	14.08%

\* Returns for the period prior to July 6, 2016 are those of the Predecessor Account.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on your tax situation and may differ from those shown and are not relevant if you hold your shares through tax-advantaged arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts. In some cases the return after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares may exceed other average annual total returns due to an assumed tax benefit from any losses on a sale of shares at the end of the measurement period.

**MANAGEMENT**

Name	Title
AdvisorShares Investments, LLC	Advisor
Cornerstone Investment Partners, LLC	Sub-Advisor

## PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

<b>Name and Title</b>	<b>Length of Service with Sub-Advisor</b>
<b>John Campbell</b> , <i>CFA, Partner, Portfolio Manager and Chief Investment Officer</i>	since 2005
<b>Dean Morris</b> , <i>CFA, Partner and Portfolio Manager</i>	since 2008
<b>Rick van Nostrand</b> , <i>CFA, Partner and Portfolio Manager</i>	since 2005

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

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The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis at their NAV only in a large specified number of shares called a “Creation Unit.” The shares of the Fund that trade on the Exchange are “created” at their NAV by market makers, large investors and institutions only in block-size Creation Units of at least 25,000 shares. A “creator” enters into an authorized participant agreement (“Participant Agreement”) with the Distributor or uses a Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) participant who has executed a Participant Agreement (an “Authorized Participant”), and deposits into the Fund a portfolio of securities closely approximating the holdings of the Fund and a specified amount of cash, together totaling the NAV of the Creation Unit(s), in exchange for at least 25,000 shares of the Fund (or multiples thereof).

Individual Fund shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. The shares of the Fund are listed on the Exchange, and because shares trade at market prices rather than at NAV, shares may trade at a value greater than or less than their NAV.

## TAX INFORMATION

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The Fund intends to make distributions that may be taxed as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gains (or a combination thereof), unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged arrangement such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account (“IRA”), which may be taxed upon withdrawal.

## PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

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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. If you purchase Fund shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund, the Advisor or the Sub-Advisor may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing broker-dealers or other intermediaries and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary’s website for more information.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRUST AND THE FUND**

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AdvisorShares Trust (the “Trust”) is a Delaware statutory trust offering a number of professionally managed investment portfolios or funds.

Creation Units of the Fund are issued and redeemed principally in-kind for portfolio securities and a specific cash payment.

**EXCEPT WHEN AGGREGATED IN CREATION UNITS, SHARES OF THE FUND ARE NOT REDEEMABLE SECURITIES.**

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND’S INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

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The investment objective of the Fund is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) without a shareholder vote.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND’S PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

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The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) and, thus, does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified passive index of securities. Instead, it uses an active investment strategy in seeking to meet its investment objective. The Sub-Advisor, subject to the oversight of the Advisor and the Board, has discretion on a daily basis to manage the Fund’s portfolio in accordance with the Fund’s investment objective and investment policies.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

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The Fund is subject to a number of risks that may affect the value of its shares. This section provides additional information about the Fund’s principal risks. The degree to which the risks described below apply to the Fund varies according to its investment allocation. Each investor should review the complete description of the principal risks before investing in the Fund. As with investing in other securities whose prices increase and decrease in market value, you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

**American Depositary Receipt Risk.** ADRs are securities traded on a local stock exchange that represent interests in securities issued by a foreign publicly listed company. Depositary receipts have the same currency and economic risks as the underlying shares they represent. They are affected by the risks associated with the underlying non-U.S. securities, such as changes in political or economic conditions of other countries and changes in the exchange rates of foreign currencies. The value of depositary receipts will rise and fall in response to the activities of the company that issued the securities represented by the depositary receipts, general market conditions and/or economic conditions. Also, if there is a rise in demand for the underlying security and it becomes less available to the market, the price of the depositary receipt may rise, causing the Fund to pay a premium in order to obtain the desired depositary receipt. Conversely, changes in foreign market conditions or access to the underlying securities could result in a decline in the value of the depositary receipt.

**Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities in which the Fund invests rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual companies, industries or the securities market as a whole. Individual companies may report poor results or be negatively affected by the industry and/or economic trends and developments. The prices of securities issued by such companies may decline in response. In addition, the equity market tends to move in cycles which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund’s holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund’s investment objective. However, the achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Sub-Advisor’s judgments about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment. In fact, no matter how good a job the Sub-Advisor does, you could lose money on your investment in the Fund, just as you could with other investments. If the Sub-Advisor is incorrect in its assessment of the income, growth or price realization potential of the Fund’s holdings or incorrect in its assessment of general market or economic conditions, then the value of the Fund’s shares may decline.



**Market Risk.** Investments in securities in general are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. The Fund's investments may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions or changes in interest or currency rates, or particular countries, segments, economic sectors, industries or companies within those markets. The value of securities convertible into equity securities, such as warrants or convertible debt, is also affected by prevailing interest rates, the credit quality of the issuer and any call provision. Fluctuations in the value of securities and financial instruments in which the Fund invests will cause the NAV of the Fund to fluctuate. Historically, the markets have moved in cycles, and the value of the Fund's securities may fluctuate drastically from day to day. Because of its link to the markets, an investment in the Fund may be more suitable for long-term investors who can bear the risk of short-term principal fluctuations, which at times may be significant.

**Real Estate Investment Trust Risk.** The Fund's investments in REITs will be subject to the risks associated with the direct ownership of real estate. Risks commonly associated with the direct ownership of real estate include fluctuations in the value of underlying properties, defaults by borrowers or tenants, changes in interest rates and risks related to general or local economic conditions. REITs are more dependent upon specialized management skills, have limited diversification and are, therefore, generally dependent on their ability to generate cash flow to make distributions to shareholders. In addition, REITs have their own expenses, and the Fund will bear a proportionate share of those expenses.

**Repurchase Agreement Risk.** The Fund will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties with which the Fund enters into repurchase agreements. If a counterparty fails to meet its contractual obligations, the Fund may be unable to terminate or realize any gain on the transaction, or to recover collateral posted to the counterparty, resulting in a loss to the Fund. If the Fund holds collateral posted by its counterparty, it may be delayed or prevented from realizing on the collateral in the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding relating to the counterparty. Due to the limited number of banks handling clearing and settlement of certain repurchase agreements, parties entering into repurchase agreement transactions also could have increased exposure to risks associated with cyberattacks.

**Small-Capitalization Risk.** Security prices of small cap companies may be more volatile than those of larger companies and therefore the Fund's share price may be more volatile than those of funds that invest a larger percentage of their assets in securities issued by larger-cap companies. Security prices of small-cap companies are generally more vulnerable than those of large-cap companies to adverse business and economic developments. The securities of small-cap companies may be thinly traded, making it difficult for the Fund to buy and sell them. In addition, small-cap companies are typically less stable financially than larger, more established companies and may depend on a small number of essential personnel, making them more vulnerable to loss of personnel. Small-cap companies also normally have less diverse product lines than larger cap companies and are more susceptible to adverse developments concerning their products.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of the Fund may trade above or below their NAV. The NAV of shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's holdings. The trading prices of shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV, as well as market supply and demand. When the market price of the Fund's shares deviates significantly from NAV, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. However, given that shares can be created and redeemed only in Creation Units at NAV, the Advisor does not believe that large discounts or premiums to NAV will exist for extended periods of time. Although the Fund's shares are currently listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of the Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in shares inadvisable.

## **OTHER INVESTMENT PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES**

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**Temporary Defensive Positions.** To respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its total assets, without limitation, in high-quality, short-term debt securities and money market instruments either directly or through ETFs. The Fund may be invested in this manner for extended periods, depending on the Sub-Advisor's assessment of market conditions. Debt securities and money market instruments include shares of other mutual funds, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, U.S. government securities, repurchase agreements, and bonds that are rated BBB or higher. While the Fund is in a defensive position, the Fund may not achieve its investment objective. Furthermore, to the extent that the Fund invests in other investment companies, such as money market funds and ETFs, the Fund would bear its pro rata portion of each such investment company's advisory fees and operational expenses.

Please see the Fund's Statement of Additional Information (the "SAI") for a more complete list of portfolio investment strategies, permitted investments and related risks.

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## **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS**

A description of the Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of Fund portfolio securities is available (i) in the SAI and (ii) on the Trust's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com). The Fund's portfolio holdings will be disclosed on the Trust's website daily after the close of trading on the Exchange and prior to the opening of trading on the Exchange the following day.

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## **MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND**

### **INVESTMENT ADVISOR**

AdvisorShares Investments, LLC, located at 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, serves as investment advisor of the Fund. As of September 30, 2017, the Advisor had approximately \$1.12 billion in assets under management.

The Advisor continuously reviews, supervises, and administers the Fund's investment program. In particular, the Advisor provides investment and operational oversight of the Sub-Advisor. The Board supervises the Advisor and establishes policies that the Advisor must follow in its day-to-day management activities. Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust and the Advisor, the Advisor is entitled to receive an annual advisory fee of 0.65% based on the average daily net assets of the Fund. The Advisor pays the Sub-Advisor out of the advisory fee it receives from the Fund. For the most recent fiscal year, the Fund paid the Advisor 0% after waivers based on its average daily net assets.

The Advisor bears all of its own costs associated with providing these advisory services and the expenses of the members of the Board who are affiliated with the Advisor. The Advisor may make payments from its own resources to broker-dealers and other financial institutions in connection with the sale of Fund shares.

The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse expenses in order to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.90% of the Fund's average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated without payment of any penalty (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor, for any reason, upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the Trust, such termination to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the then-current one-year period. If at any point it becomes unnecessary for the Advisor to waive fees or make expense reimbursements, the Board may permit the Advisor to retain the difference between the Fund's total annual operating expenses and the expense limitation currently in effect, or, if lower, the expense limitation that was in effect at the time of the waiver and/or reimbursement, to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee waivers or expense reimbursements made during the immediately preceding three-year period.

Pursuant to an exemptive order from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Advisor, subject to certain conditions, has the right to hire a new unaffiliated sub-advisor or materially amend the terms of a sub-advisory agreement with an unaffiliated sub-advisor when the Board and the Advisor believe that a change would benefit the Fund. The Prospectus will be supplemented when there is a significant change in the Fund's sub-advisory arrangement.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's most recent approval of the Fund's investment advisory agreement will be available in the Trust's Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders dated December 31, 2017. A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's previous approval of the Fund's investment advisory agreement is available in the Trust's Annual Report to Shareholders dated June 30, 2017.

## **INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISOR**

Cornerstone Investment Partners, LLC, located at 3438 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 900, Atlanta, Georgia, 30326, serves as investment sub-advisor to the Fund. The Sub-Advisor is responsible for selecting the Fund's investments in accordance with the Fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions. Cornerstone Investment Partners, LLC was established in 2001. As of September 30, 2017, the Sub-Advisor had approximately \$2.43 billion in assets under management.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's most recent approval of the Fund's investment sub-advisory agreement will be available in the Trust's Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders dated December 31, 2017. A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's previous approval of the Fund's investment sub-advisory agreement is available in the Trust's Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders dated December 31, 2016.

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

The following portfolio managers are primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. The Fund is team-managed.

### ***John Campbell, CFA, Partner, Portfolio Manager and Chief Investment Officer***

Mr. Campbell serves as Chief Investment Officer and is a Partner of the Sub-Advisor. He is a member of the Board of Directors. Prior to joining the Sub-Advisor, Mr. Campbell had a 12-year tenure at Invesco Capital Management, where he was a Global Partner and Portfolio Manager. In his last five years at Invesco, Mr. Campbell was in charge of managing Invesco Capital Management's US Large Cap Value portfolio. He was also one of five members of the International Investment Committee, which managed over \$15 billion in assets. Prior to his time at Invesco Capital Management, Mr. Campbell was at SouthTrust Bank for 12 years, where he served as a portfolio manager and head of the investment division in Atlanta. John graduated from State University of New York at Fredonia in 1981 with a degree in business finance. In the past, he has been a CFA review course instructor, test grader, and exam writer.

### ***Dean Morris, CFA, Partner and Portfolio Manager***

Dean is a Partner of the Sub-Advisor and is responsible for research and portfolio management. Prior to joining the Sub-Advisor, Mr. Morris was a Partner and Senior Director at Invesco Capital Management for 10 years. Dean co-managed the Invesco Capital Management U.S. Large Cap Value Portfolio with John Campbell for five years, in addition to providing research on U.S. financial stocks. Prior to joining Invesco Capital Management, he was a Portfolio Manager with SunTrust Bank in Atlanta. Mr. Morris is a graduate of Williams College and holds an MBA from the University of Chicago.

### ***Rick van Nostrand, CFA, Partner and Portfolio Manager***

Mr. van Nostrand is a Partner of the Sub-Advisor and is responsible for research and portfolio management. He is a member of the Board of Directors. Prior to joining the Sub-Advisor, Mr. van Nostrand was a voting member of the investment committee at EARNEST Partners and served on the Fundamental Value product at Invesco Capital Management. Mr. van Nostrand's prior background is in management consulting. He has served clients across industries at both McKinsey & Company and Accenture (then Andersen Consulting). He earned an MBA with a concentration in Finance from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Engineering from Southern Methodist University.

Additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers, and the portfolio managers' ownership of securities in the Fund is available in the SAI.

## **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Foreside Fund Services, LLC (the "Distributor") is the principal underwriter and distributor of the Fund's shares. The Distributor's principal address is Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, Maine 04101. The Distributor will not distribute shares in less than whole Creation Units, and it does not maintain a secondary market in the shares. The Distributor is a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). The Distributor is not affiliated with the Advisor, Sub-Advisor, The Bank of New York Mellon or any of their respective affiliates.

The Bank of New York Mellon, located at 101 Barclay Street, New York, New York 10286, serves as the administrator, custodian, transfer agent and fund accounting agent for the Fund.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, located at 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, serves as legal counsel to the Fund.

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, located at 1818 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, 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.

## **SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION**

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### **CALCULATING NET ASSET VALUE**

The Fund calculates NAV by (i) taking the current market value of its total assets, (ii) subtracting any liabilities, and (iii) dividing that amount by the total number of shares owned by shareholders.

The Fund calculates NAV once each business day as of the regularly scheduled close of normal trading on the New York Stock Exchange, LLC (the "NYSE") (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time). The NYSE is typically closed on weekends and most national holidays.

In calculating NAV, the Fund generally values its portfolio investments at market prices. If market prices are unavailable or the Fund thinks that they are unreliable, or when the value of a security has been materially affected by events occurring after the relevant market closes, the Fund will price those securities at fair value as determined in good faith using methods approved by the Board. Because the Fund invests primarily in U.S.-traded securities with readily available pricing, it is expected that there would be limited circumstances in which the Fund would use fair value pricing – for example, if the exchange on which a portfolio security is principally traded closed early or if trading in a particular security was halted during the day and did not resume prior to the time the Fund calculated its NAV.

The use of fair valuation in pricing a security involves the consideration of a number of subjective factors and, therefore, is susceptible to the unavoidable risk that the valuation may be higher or lower than the price at which the security might actually trade if a reliable market price were readily available.

More information about the valuation of the Fund's holdings can be found in the SAI.

### **SHARE TRADING PRICES**

The price of the Fund's shares is based on market price, which may differ from the Fund's daily NAV per share and can be affected by market forces of supply and demand, economic conditions and other factors. The Exchange intends to disseminate the approximate value (also known as the "indicative optimized portfolio value" or IOPV) of the portfolio underlying a share of the Fund every fifteen seconds. This approximate value should not be viewed as a "real-time" update of the NAV per share of the Fund because the approximate value may not be calculated in the same manner as the NAV per share, which is computed once per day. The approximate value generally is determined by using current market quotations, price quotations obtained from broker-dealers that may trade in the securities and instruments held by the Fund, and/or amortized cost for securities with remaining maturities of 60 days or less, based on securities and/or cash as reflected in the basket for a Creation Unit. If applicable, each approximate value also reflects changes in currency exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the applicable currency. The approximate value is based on applicable quotes or closing prices from the securities' local market and may not reflect events that occur subsequent to the local market's close. The approximate value does not necessarily reflect the precise composition of the current portfolio of securities held by the Fund at a particular point in time (*e.g.*, the securities in the basket for a Creation Unit may include securities that are not part of the Fund's portfolio) or the precise valuation of the current portfolio. The Fund is not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of such values and makes no warranty as to their accuracy.

**PREMIUM/DISCOUNT INFORMATION**

Information showing the number of days that the market price of the Fund's shares was greater than the Fund's NAV per share (*i.e.*, at a premium) and the number of days it was less than the Fund's NAV per share (*i.e.*, at a discount) for various time periods is available by visiting the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).

**DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Fund pays out dividends and distributes its net capital gains, if any, to shareholders at least annually.

**ACTIVE INVESTORS AND MARKET TIMING**

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the Exchange, which allows retail investors to purchase and sell individual shares at market prices throughout the trading day similar to other publicly traded securities. Because these secondary market trades do not involve the Fund directly, it is unlikely that secondary market trading would cause any harmful effects of market timing, such as dilution, disruption of portfolio management, increases in the Fund's trading costs or realization of capital gains. The Board has determined not to adopt policies and procedures designed to prevent or monitor for frequent purchases and redemptions of the Fund's shares because the Fund sells and redeems its shares at NAV only in Creation Units pursuant to the terms of a Participant Agreement between the Distributor and an Authorized Participant, principally in exchange for a basket of securities that mirrors the composition of the Fund's portfolio and a specified amount of cash. Direct trading by Authorized Participants is critical to ensuring that the Fund's shares trade at or close to NAV. The Fund also imposes transaction fees on such Creation Unit transactions that are designed to offset the Fund's transfer and other transaction costs associated with the issuance and redemption of the Creation Unit shares.

**BOOK-ENTRY**

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no stock certificates are issued. DTC, or its nominee, is the record owner of all outstanding shares of the Fund and is recognized as the owner of all shares.

Investors owning shares of the Fund are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. DTC serves as the securities depository for 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 upon the procedures of DTC and its participants (*e.g.*, broker-dealers, banks, trust companies, or clearing companies). 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.

**INVESTING IN THE FUND**

For more information on how to buy and sell shares of the Fund, call the Trust at 877.843.3831 or visit the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).

**DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

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The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 that allows the Fund to pay distribution fees to the Distributor and other firms that provide distribution services. The Fund will pay distribution fees to the Distributor at an annual rate not to exceed 0.25% of its average daily net assets. If a service provider provides distribution services, the Distributor will pay the service provider out of its distribution fees.

No distribution fees are currently charged to the Fund; there are no plans to impose distribution fees, and no distribution fees will be charged for at least a year from the date of this Prospectus. However, to the extent distribution fees are charged in the future, because the Fund would pay these fees out of assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees may cost you more than other types of sales charges and would increase the cost of your investment. At such time as distribution fees are charged, the Fund will notify investors by adding disclosure to the Fund's website and in the Fund's Prospectus. Any distribution fees will be approved by the Board.

## **ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION**

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The following is a summary of some important tax issues that affect the Fund and its shareholders. The summary is based on current tax law, which may be changed by legislative, judicial or administrative action. The summary is very general, and does not address investors subject to special rules, such as investors who hold shares through an IRA, 401(k) or other tax-advantaged account. More information about taxes is located in the SAI.

You are urged to consult your tax advisor regarding specific questions as to U.S. federal, state and local income taxes.

### **Tax Status of the Fund**

The Fund is treated as a separate entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes and intends to qualify for the special tax treatment afforded to regulated investment companies (“RICs”) under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Internal Revenue Code”). As long as the Fund qualifies for treatment as a RIC, it pays no federal income tax on the earnings it timely distributes to shareholders. However, the Fund’s failure to qualify as a RIC or to meet minimum distribution requirements would result (if certain relief provisions were not available) in fund-level taxation and, consequently, a reduction in income available for distribution to shareholders.

### **Tax Status of Distributions**

- The Fund intends to distribute, at least annually, substantially all of its net investment income and net capital gains income.
- The Fund’s distributions from income and net short-term capital gains will generally be taxed to you as ordinary income or qualified dividend income. For noncorporate shareholders, dividends reported by the Fund as qualified dividend income are generally eligible for reduced tax rates applicable to long-term capital gains, provided holding period and other requirements are met. Qualified dividend income generally is income derived from dividends paid by U.S. corporations or certain foreign corporations. In general, dividends received by the Fund from another fund taxable as a RIC may be distributed and reported as qualified dividend income by the Fund to the extent the dividend distributions are distributed and reported as qualified dividend income by the other fund.
- Corporate shareholders may be entitled to a dividends-received deduction for the portion of dividends they receive that are attributable to dividends received by the Fund from U.S. corporations, subject to certain limitations.
- Any distributions of net capital gain (the excess of the Fund’s net long-term capital gains over its net short-term capital losses) that you receive from the Fund generally are taxable as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your shares. Long-term capital gains are currently taxed to noncorporate shareholders at reduced tax rates.
- Dividends and distributions are generally taxable to you whether you receive them in cash or reinvest them in additional shares.
- Distributions paid in January but declared by the Fund in October, November or December of the previous year may be taxable to you in the previous year.
- Shortly after the close of each calendar year, the Fund will inform you of the amount of your ordinary income dividends, qualified dividend income, and net capital gain distributions received from the Fund.
- You may wish to avoid investing in the Fund shortly before a dividend or other distribution, because such a distribution will generally be taxable even though it may economically represent a return of a portion of your investment.

**Taxes on Exchange-Listed Share Sales**

Any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of shares is generally 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, except that any capital loss on the sale of shares held for six months or less is treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gains to the shareholder with respect to such shares.

**Medicare Tax**

U.S. individuals with income exceeding certain thresholds are subject to a 3.8% Medicare contribution tax on all or a portion of their “net investment income,” including interest, dividends, and certain capital gains (generally including capital gain distributions and capital gains realized on the sale or exchange of shares). This 3.8% tax also applies to all or a portion of the undistributed net investment income of certain shareholders that are estates and trusts.

**Non-U.S. Investors**

If you are not a citizen or permanent resident of the United States, the Fund’s ordinary income dividends will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax, unless a lower treaty rate applies or unless such income is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business. The 30% withholding tax generally will not apply to distributions of net capital gain. The Fund may, under certain circumstances, report all or a portion of a dividend as an “interest-related dividend” or a “short-term capital gain dividend,” which would generally be exempt from this 30% U.S. withholding tax, provided certain other requirements are met. Short-term capital gain dividends received by a nonresident alien individual who is present in the U.S. for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the taxable year are not exempt from this 30% withholding tax.

**Foreign Taxes**

Dividends, interest, and other income received by the Fund with respect to foreign securities may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes.

**Backup Withholding**

The Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold (as “backup withholding”) on amounts payable to any shareholder who (1) has provided the Fund either an incorrect tax identification number or no number at all, (2) is subject to backup withholding by the Internal Revenue Service for failure to properly report payments of interest or dividends, (3) has failed to certify to the Fund that such shareholder is not subject to backup withholding, or (4) has not certified that such shareholder is a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien). The backup withholding rate is 28%. Backup withholding will not, however, be applied to payments that have been subject to the 30% withholding tax applicable to shareholders who are neither citizens nor residents of the United States.

**Taxes on Creation and Redemption of Creation Units**

An Authorized Participant who purchases a Creation Unit by exchanging securities in-kind generally will recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between (a) the sum of the market value of the Creation Units at the time and any net cash received, and (b) the sum of the purchaser’s aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and any net cash paid for the Creation Units. An Authorized Participant who redeems Creation Units will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between (x) the sum of the redeemer’s basis in the Creation Units and any net cash paid, and (y) the sum of the aggregate market value of the securities received and any net cash received. The Internal Revenue Service, however, may assert that a loss that is realized upon an exchange of securities for Creation Units may not be currently deducted under the rules governing “wash sales” by an Authorized Participant that does not mark-to-market its holdings, or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position.

The Fund has the right to reject an order for Creation Units if the purchaser (or a group of purchasers) would, upon obtaining the shares so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund and if, pursuant to section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund would have a basis in the deposit securities different from the market value of such securities on the date of deposit. The Fund also has the right to require information necessary to determine beneficial share ownership for purposes of the 80% determination. If the Fund does issue Creation Units to a purchaser (or a group of purchasers) that would, upon obtaining the Creation Units so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund, the purchaser (or a group of purchasers) will not recognize gain or loss upon the exchange of securities for Creation Units.

The Fund may include cash when paying the redemption price for Creation Units in addition to, or in place of, the delivery of a basket of securities. The Fund may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds. This may cause the Fund to recognize investment income and/or capital gains or losses that it might not have recognized if it had completely satisfied the redemption in-kind. As a result, the Fund may be less tax efficient if it includes such a cash payment than if the in-kind redemption process was used.

Persons exchanging securities or non-U.S. currency for Creation Units should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax treatment of any creation or redemption transaction. If you purchase or redeem Creation Units, you will be sent a confirmation statement showing how many Fund shares you purchased or redeemed and at what price.

The foregoing discussion summarizes some of the consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in the Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your personal tax advisor about the potential tax consequences to you of an investment in the Fund under all tax laws applicable to you.



## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

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The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance since the Fund commenced operations. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost, on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). This information has been derived from the financial statements audited by Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, are included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

**Financial Highlights**

	<b>For the period July 6, 2016* to June 30, 2017</b>
<b>Selected Data for a Share of Capital Stock Outstanding</b>	
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Year/Period	\$ 25.15
<b>Investment Operations</b>	
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.03
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	6.26
Distributions of Net Realized Gains by other investment companies	—
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Investment Operations <sup>(2)</sup>	6.29
Distributions from Net Investment Income	(0.03)
Distributions from Realized Capital Gains	—
Total Distributions	(0.03)
Net Asset Value, End of Year/Period	\$ 31.41
Market Value, End of Year/Period	\$ 31.40
<b>Total Return</b>	
Total Investment Return Based on Net Asset Value <sup>(3)</sup>	25.00%
Total Investment Return Based on Market Value <sup>(3)</sup>	24.98%
<b>Ratios/ Supplemental Data</b>	
Net Assets, End of Year/Period (000's omitted)	\$ 4,286
Ratio to Average Net Assets of:	
Expenses, net of expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>	0.90%
Expenses, prior to expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>	3.91%
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(4)</sup>	0.09%
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>(5)</sup>	93%

\* Commencement of operations.

(1) Based on average shares outstanding.

(2) The amount shown for a share distribution throughout the period may not correlate with the Statement of Operations for the period due to the timing of sales and repurchases of Fund Shares in relation to income earned and/or fluctuating fair value of the investments of the Fund.

(3) Net asset value total investment return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions on ex-date, if any, at net asset value during the period, and redemption on the last day of the period. Periods less than one year are not annualized. Market value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the market value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at market value during the period on pay date, and sale at the market value on the last day of the period.

(4) Ratios of periods of less than one year have been annualized. Excludes expenses incurred by the underlying investments in other funds.

(5) Portfolio turnover rate is not annualized and excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund's capital shares.

## ADVISORSHARES CORNERSTONE SMALL CAP ETF

Advisor	<b>AdvisorShares Investments, LLC</b> 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150 Bethesda, Maryland 20814
Sub-Advisor	<b>Cornerstone Investment Partners, LLC</b> 3438 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 900 Atlanta, Georgia 30326
Distributor	<b>Foreside Fund Services, LLC</b> Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100 Portland, Maine 04101
Legal Counsel	<b>Morgan, Lewis &amp; Bockius LLP</b> 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004
Administrator, Custodian & Transfer Agent	<b>The Bank of New York Mellon</b> 101 Barclay Street New York, New York 10286

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Additional and more detailed information about the Fund is included in the Fund's SAI. The SAI has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and, therefore, legally forms a part of this Prospectus. The SEC maintains the EDGAR database on its website (<http://www.sec.gov>), which contains the SAI, material incorporated by reference, and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. You may also review and copy documents at the SEC Public Reference room in Washington, D.C. (for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room, call 202.551.8090). You may request documents from the SEC by mail, upon payment of a duplication fee, by writing to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-1520 or by emailing the SEC at [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).*

*You may obtain a copy of the SAI and the Annual and Semi-Annual Reports without charge by calling 877.843.3831, visiting the website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com), or writing to the Trust at 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. Also, in the Fund's Annual Report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during the last fiscal year.*

*No one has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Prospectus or in the SAI in connection with the offering of Fund shares. Do not rely on any such information or representations as having been authorized by the Fund. This Prospectus does not constitute an offering by the Fund in any jurisdiction where such an offering is not lawful.*

The Trust's SEC Investment Company Act File Number is 811-22110.