

VanEck Merk Gold Trust  
Form FWP  
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**Free Writing Prospectus**

**VanEck Merk Gold Trust**

**Gold: A High Bar for Digital Currencies:**

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Gold Monthly Commentary

Gold: A High Bar for Digital Currencies

Joe Foster, Portfolio Manager/Strategist

Key Takeaways

Gold bullion rallied 2.25% in July despite heavy gold bullion ETP redemptions, while gold stocks moved slightly higher.

We see \$1,200 as a resilient floor for gold, with prices yet to trend through \$1,300. The most obvious catalyst is likely to be U.S. economic weakness, which might persuade the Fed to turn cautious.

Investors are eager to understand digital currencies like bitcoin. We evaluate this “fad” in the context of time-tested gold investing.

The most significant development that has come out of the digital currency craze is validation of distributed ledger technology.



## Investing in Gold with VanEck

### VanEck International Investors Gold Fund (INIVX)

An actively managed portfolio with a over 40 year track record of investing in gold mining companies. Geologist Joe Foster has been a part of the investment team since 1996.

VanEck Vectors<sup>®</sup> Gold Miners ETF (GDX<sup>®</sup>) and VanEck Vectors<sup>®</sup> Junior Gold Miners ETF (GDXJ<sup>®</sup>) offer convenient and cost-effective access to gold mining companies.

VanEck Merk<sup>®</sup> Gold Trust (OUNZ) offers investors exposure to gold with the ability to take physical delivery of gold if desired.

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Index returns are not Fund returns and do not reflect any management fees or brokerage expenses. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

**About VanEck International Investors Gold Fund (INIVX):** You can lose money by investing in the Fund. Any investment in the Fund should be part of an overall investment program, not a complete program. The Fund is subject to the risks associated with concentrating its assets in the gold industry, which can be significantly affected by international economic, monetary, and political developments. The Fund's overall portfolio may decline in value due to developments specific to the gold industry. The Fund's investments in foreign securities involve risks related to adverse political and economic developments unique to a country or a region, currency fluctuations or controls, and the possibility of arbitrary action by foreign governments or political, economic, or social instability. The Fund is subject to risks associated with investments in debt securities, derivatives, commodity-linked instruments, illiquid securities, asset-backed securities, and small- or mid-cap companies. The Fund is also subject to inflation risk, short-sales risk, market risk, non-diversification risk, leverage risk, credit risk, and counterparty risk.

**About VanEck Vectors® Gold Miners ETF (GDX®) and VanEck Vectors® Junior Gold Miners ETF (GDXJ®):** An investment in the Funds may be subject to risks which include, among others, competitive pressures, dependency on the price of gold and silver bullion which may fluctuate substantially over short periods of time which may impact smaller companies more so than larger companies, periods of outperformance and underperformance of traditional investments such as bonds and stocks, natural disasters, and elevated risks associated with early stage mining companies such as major expenditures, properties that may not ultimately produce gold or silver and dependency on securing financing and potentially operating at a loss, all of which may adversely affect the Funds. Foreign investments are subject to risks, which include changes in economic and political conditions, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in foreign regulations, and changes in currency exchange rates which may negatively impact the Fund's return. Small- and micro-capitalization companies may be subject to elevated risks. The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector and may be subject to more risk than investments in a diverse group of sectors.

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Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. The Trust is not an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or a commodity pool for the purposes of the Commodity Exchange Act. Shares of the Trust are not subject to the same regulatory requirements as mutual funds. Because shares of the Trust are intended to reflect the price of the gold held in the Trust, the market price of the shares is subject to fluctuations similar to those affecting gold prices. Additionally, shares of the Trust are bought and sold at market price, not at net asset value ("NAV"). Brokerage commissions will reduce returns.

The sponsor of the VanEck Merk Gold Trust is Merk Investments LLC (the "Sponsor"). Van Eck Securities Corporation and Foreside Fund Services, LLC, provide marketing services to the Trust.

Trust shares trade like stocks, are subject to investment risk and will fluctuate in market value. The value of trust shares relates directly to the value of the gold held by the Trust (less its expenses) and fluctuations in the price of gold could materially and adversely affect an investment in the shares. The price received upon the sale of the shares, which trade at market price, may be more or less than the value of the gold represented by them. The Trust does not generate any income, and as the Trust regularly issues shares to pay for the Sponsor's ongoing expenses, the amount of gold represented by each Share will decline over time. Investing involves risk, and you could lose money on an investment in the Trust. For a more complete discussion of the risk factors relative to the Trust, carefully read the prospectus.

ETF shares are not individually redeemable and will be issued and redeemed at their NAV only through certain authorized broker-dealers in large, specified blocks of shares called "creation units" and otherwise can be bought and sold only through exchange trading. Shares may trade at a premium or discount to their NAV in the secondary market. You will incur brokerage expenses when trading Fund shares in the secondary market.

Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss.

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