

**Van Eck Merk Gold Trust**  
2015 Grantor Trust Tax Reporting Statement  
EIN: 466582016  
CUSIP: 921078101  
Ticker: OUNZ

The following information is being provided to assist Shareholders of the Van Eck Merk Gold Trust with reporting of their taxable income and expenses for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.671-5. Under this regulation, the Van Eck Merk Gold Trust is considered a "non-mortgage widely held fixed investment trust."

**TAXATION OF THE TRUST**

The Van Eck Merk Gold Trust is a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, the Trust itself is not subject to U.S. federal income tax. Instead, the Trust's income and expenses "flow through" to the Shareholders.

**TAXATION OF U.S. INDIVIDUAL SHAREHOLDERS**

Shareholders generally will be treated, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, as if they directly owned a pro rata share of the underlying assets held in the Trust. Shareholders also will be treated as if they directly received their respective pro rata shares of the Trust's income and proceeds, and directly incurred their pro rata share of the Trust's expenses. Most state and local tax authorities follow U.S. Income tax rules in this regard. However, Shareholders should contact their own tax advisors as to the state and local tax consequences of ownership of OUNZ shares.

The Trust holds only gold bullion and, accordingly, received no income during the year.

The Trust issues and allocates shares to the Sponsor in lieu of paying the fee to compensate the Sponsor (Sponsor's Fee) in cash, eliminating the need for the Trust to sell gold to raise cash to pay the Sponsor's Fee. In 2015, all of the Trust's expenses were paid by the Sponsor. However, for tax reporting purposes, the Trust will treat the issuance of shares to the Sponsor as payment of the Sponsor's Fee and/or reimbursement of the Trust's expenses and/or liabilities as a taxable exchange by the Trust of the portion of the underlying gold represented by those shares and thus will also constitute a taxable event for investors. As a result, the tax information below refers to gold sold by the Trust.

Because the Trust sold only a de minimis amount of gold for payment of Trust expenses during the year and made no distributions of sale proceeds to its Shareholders, under Treas. Reg. Sec. 1.671-5(c)(2)(iv)(B) neither the Trust nor brokers are required to report the gross proceeds of Trust sales to Shareholders on Form 1099B. Certain brokers may nevertheless elect to report these proceeds to their customers on a composite Form 1099B. For those Shareholders who have not received this information on Form 1099B, it is contained in the attached 2015 Gross Proceeds File together with an example illustrating how a Shareholder should calculate gain or loss.

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 EXPENSE FILE

Date	Expenses Per Share
January	0.00399728
February	0.00380725
March	0.00386599
April	0.00398676
May	0.00405092
June	0.00376345
July	0.00360978
August	0.00349358
September	0.00361256
October	0.00390443
November	0.00345135
December	0.00394682
Total for year	0.04549017

### How to Calculate the Shareholder's Investment Expenses

Identify in the table above the months (full and partial) in which the Shareholder held shares in the Van Eck Merk Gold Trust (OUNZ). The amount in the column labeled "Expenses Per Share," represents the amount of investment expense paid per share for a full month. For any month in which the shares were not held on each day in such month, the expenses should be pro-rated based on the number of days held.

### Example illustrating calculation of a Shareholder's 2015 Van Eck Merk Gold Trust Investment Expenses

Assume that a Shareholder purchased 200 shares on June 16, 2015 and sold them on November 17, 2015. For the month of June, Shareholder's expenses are  $\$0.00376345 \times (16/30) = \$0.00200717$  per share. For the months of July through October, the expenses per share are as shown. For the month of November Shareholder's expenses are  $\$0.00195576$  per share ( $0.00345135 \times (17/30)$ ). The total expenses for Shareholder are therefore  $\$0.01858329$  per share, or  $\$3.72$ .

Total Expenses per Share	\$ 0.01858329
Total Shares	200
Total Expense	<u>\$ 3.72</u>
(1040 Sch A)	

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
01/01/2015	0.00997811		
01/02/2015	0.00997467		
01/03/2015	0.00997467		
01/04/2015	0.00997467		
01/05/2015	0.00997467		
01/06/2015	0.00997467		
01/07/2015	0.00997467		
01/08/2015	0.00997467		
01/09/2015	0.00997467		
01/10/2015	0.00997467		
01/11/2015	0.00997467		
01/12/2015	0.00997467		
01/13/2015	0.00997467		
01/14/2015	0.00997467		
01/15/2015	0.00997467		
01/16/2015	0.00997462		
01/17/2015	0.00997462		
01/18/2015	0.00997462		
01/19/2015	0.00997462		
01/20/2015	0.00997462		
01/21/2015	0.00997462		
01/22/2015	0.00997462		
01/23/2015	0.00997462		
01/24/2015	0.00997462		
01/25/2015	0.00997462		
01/26/2015	0.00997462		
01/27/2015	0.00997462		
01/28/2015	0.00997462		
01/29/2015	0.00997462		
01/30/2015	0.00997144		
01/31/2015	0.00997144	0.00000318	0.00399728
02/01/2015	0.00997144		
02/02/2015	0.00997144		
02/03/2015	0.00997144		
02/04/2015	0.00997144		
02/05/2015	0.00997144		
02/06/2015	0.00997144		
02/07/2015	0.00997144		
02/08/2015	0.00997144		
02/09/2015	0.00997144		
02/10/2015	0.00997144		
02/11/2015	0.00997144		
02/12/2015	0.00997144		
02/13/2015	0.00997144		
02/14/2015	0.00997144		
02/15/2015	0.00997144		
02/16/2015	0.00997144		
02/17/2015	0.00997138		
02/18/2015	0.00997138		
02/19/2015	0.00997138		

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
02/20/2015	0.00997138		
02/21/2015	0.00997138		
02/22/2015	0.00997138		
02/23/2015	0.00997138		
02/24/2015	0.00997138		
02/25/2015	0.00997138		
02/26/2015	0.00997138		
02/27/2015	0.00997138		
02/28/2015	0.00997138	0.00000315	0.00380725
03/01/2015	0.00997138		
03/02/2015	0.00996824		
03/03/2015	0.00996824		
03/04/2015	0.00996824		
03/05/2015	0.00996824		
03/06/2015	0.00996824		
03/07/2015	0.00996824		
03/08/2015	0.00996824		
03/09/2015	0.00996824		
03/10/2015	0.00996824		
03/11/2015	0.00996824		
03/12/2015	0.00996824		
03/13/2015	0.00996824		
03/14/2015	0.00996824		
03/15/2015	0.00996824		
03/16/2015	0.00996824		
03/17/2015	0.00996824		
03/18/2015	0.00996824		
03/19/2015	0.00996824		
03/20/2015	0.00996824		
03/21/2015	0.00996824		
03/22/2015	0.00996824		
03/23/2015	0.00996824		
03/24/2015	0.00996824		
03/25/2015	0.00996824		
03/26/2015	0.00996824		
03/27/2015	0.00996824		
03/28/2015	0.00996824		
03/29/2015	0.00996824		
03/30/2015	0.00996824		
03/31/2015	0.00996824	0.00000327	0.00386599
04/01/2015	0.00996498		
04/02/2015	0.00996498		
04/03/2015	0.00996498		
04/04/2015	0.00996498		
04/05/2015	0.00996498		
04/06/2015	0.00996498		
04/07/2015	0.00996498		
04/08/2015	0.00996498		
04/09/2015	0.00996498		
04/10/2015	0.00996498		
04/11/2015	0.00996498		

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
04/12/2015	0.00996498		
04/13/2015	0.00996506		
04/14/2015	0.00996506		
04/15/2015	0.00996506		
04/16/2015	0.00996506		
04/17/2015	0.00996506		
04/18/2015	0.00996506		
04/19/2015	0.00996506		
04/20/2015	0.00996506		
04/21/2015	0.00996506		
04/22/2015	0.00996506		
04/23/2015	0.00996506		
04/24/2015	0.00996506		
04/25/2015	0.00996506		
04/26/2015	0.00996506		
04/27/2015	0.00996503		
04/28/2015	0.00996503		
04/29/2015	0.00996503		
04/30/2015	0.00996165	0.00000339	0.00398676
05/01/2015	0.00996165		
05/02/2015	0.00996165		
05/03/2015	0.00996165		
05/04/2015	0.00996165		
05/05/2015	0.00996165		
05/06/2015	0.00996165		
05/07/2015	0.00996165		
05/08/2015	0.00996165		
05/09/2015	0.00996165		
05/10/2015	0.00996165		
05/11/2015	0.00996165		
05/12/2015	0.00996165		
05/13/2015	0.00996165		
05/14/2015	0.00996165		
05/15/2015	0.00996165		
05/16/2015	0.00996165		
05/17/2015	0.00996165		
05/18/2015	0.00996165		
05/19/2015	0.00996165		
05/20/2015	0.00996165		
05/21/2015	0.00996165		
05/22/2015	0.00996165		
05/23/2015	0.00996165		
05/24/2015	0.00996165		
05/25/2015	0.00996165		
05/26/2015	0.00996165		
05/27/2015	0.00996165		
05/28/2015	0.00996165		
05/29/2015	0.00996165		
05/30/2015	0.00996165		
05/31/2015	0.00996165	0.00000341	0.00405092
06/01/2015	0.00995825		

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
06/02/2015	0.00995825		
06/03/2015	0.00995825		
06/04/2015	0.00995825		
06/05/2015	0.00995825		
06/06/2015	0.00995825		
06/07/2015	0.00995825		
06/08/2015	0.00995825		
06/09/2015	0.00995825		
06/10/2015	0.00995825		
06/11/2015	0.00995825		
06/12/2015	0.00995825		
06/13/2015	0.00995825		
06/14/2015	0.00995825		
06/15/2015	0.00995825		
06/16/2015	0.00995825		
06/17/2015	0.00995825		
06/18/2015	0.00995825		
06/19/2015	0.00995825		
06/20/2015	0.00995825		
06/21/2015	0.00995825		
06/22/2015	0.00995825		
06/23/2015	0.00995825		
06/24/2015	0.00995825		
06/25/2015	0.00995825		
06/26/2015	0.00995825		
06/27/2015	0.00995825		
06/28/2015	0.00995825		
06/29/2015	0.00995816		
06/30/2015	0.00995816	0.00000323	0.00376345
07/01/2015	0.00995495		
07/02/2015	0.00995495		
07/03/2015	0.00995495		
07/04/2015	0.00995495		
07/05/2015	0.00995495		
07/06/2015	0.00995495		
07/07/2015	0.00995495		
07/08/2015	0.00995495		
07/09/2015	0.00995495		
07/10/2015	0.00995495		
07/11/2015	0.00995495		
07/12/2015	0.00995495		
07/13/2015	0.00995495		
07/14/2015	0.00995490		
07/15/2015	0.00995490		
07/16/2015	0.00995490		
07/17/2015	0.00995490		
07/18/2015	0.00995490		
07/19/2015	0.00995490		
07/20/2015	0.00995490		
07/21/2015	0.00995490		
07/22/2015	0.00995490		

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
07/23/2015	0.00995490		
07/24/2015	0.00995476		
07/25/2015	0.00995476		
07/26/2015	0.00995476		
07/27/2015	0.00995476		
07/28/2015	0.00995476		
07/29/2015	0.00995476		
07/30/2015	0.00995476		
07/31/2015	0.00995148	0.00000330	0.00360978
08/01/2015	0.00995148		
08/02/2015	0.00995148		
08/03/2015	0.00995148		
08/04/2015	0.00995148		
08/05/2015	0.00995148		
08/06/2015	0.00995148		
08/07/2015	0.00995148		
08/08/2015	0.00995148		
08/09/2015	0.00995148		
08/10/2015	0.00995148		
08/11/2015	0.00995148		
08/12/2015	0.00995142		
08/13/2015	0.00995142		
08/14/2015	0.00995142		
08/15/2015	0.00995142		
08/16/2015	0.00995142		
08/17/2015	0.00995142		
08/18/2015	0.00995142		
08/19/2015	0.00995142		
08/20/2015	0.00995142		
08/21/2015	0.00995142		
08/22/2015	0.00995142		
08/23/2015	0.00995142		
08/24/2015	0.00995142		
08/25/2015	0.00995125		
08/26/2015	0.00995125		
08/27/2015	0.00995125		
08/28/2015	0.00995125		
08/29/2015	0.00995125		
08/30/2015	0.00995125		
08/31/2015	0.00995125	0.00000309	0.00349358
09/01/2015	0.00994817		
09/02/2015	0.00994817		
09/03/2015	0.00994817		
09/04/2015	0.00994817		
09/05/2015	0.00994817		
09/06/2015	0.00994817		
09/07/2015	0.00994817		
09/08/2015	0.00994817		
09/09/2015	0.00994817		
09/10/2015	0.00994817		
09/11/2015	0.00994817		

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
09/12/2015	0.00994817		
09/13/2015	0.00994817		
09/14/2015	0.00994817		
09/15/2015	0.00994817		
09/16/2015	0.00994817		
09/17/2015	0.00994812		
09/18/2015	0.00994812		
09/19/2015	0.00994812		
09/20/2015	0.00994812		
09/21/2015	0.00994812		
09/22/2015	0.00994812		
09/23/2015	0.00994812		
09/24/2015	0.00994812		
09/25/2015	0.00994812		
09/26/2015	0.00994812		
09/27/2015	0.00994812		
09/28/2015	0.00994812		
09/29/2015	0.00994812		
09/30/2015	0.00994812	0.00000326	0.00361256
10/01/2015	0.00994487		
10/02/2015	0.00994487		
10/03/2015	0.00994487		
10/04/2015	0.00994487		
10/05/2015	0.00994487		
10/06/2015	0.00994487		
10/07/2015	0.00994487		
10/08/2015	0.00994487		
10/09/2015	0.00994487		
10/10/2015	0.00994487		
10/11/2015	0.00994487		
10/12/2015	0.00994487		
10/13/2015	0.00994487		
10/14/2015	0.00994487		
10/15/2015	0.00994487		
10/16/2015	0.00994487		
10/17/2015	0.00994487		
10/18/2015	0.00994487		
10/19/2015	0.00994487		
10/20/2015	0.00994487		
10/21/2015	0.00994487		
10/22/2015	0.00994487		
10/23/2015	0.00994487		
10/24/2015	0.00994487		
10/25/2015	0.00994487		
10/26/2015	0.00994487		
10/27/2015	0.00994487		
10/28/2015	0.00994487		
10/29/2015	0.00994487		
10/30/2015	0.00994145		
10/31/2015	0.00994145	0.00000344	0.00390443
11/01/2015	0.00994145		



## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

Date	Gold Ounces Per Share	Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses	Proceeds Per Share
11/02/2015	0.00994145		
11/03/2015	0.00994145		
11/04/2015	0.00994145		
11/05/2015	0.00994145		
11/06/2015	0.00994145		
11/07/2015	0.00994145		
11/08/2015	0.00994145		
11/09/2015	0.00994145		
11/10/2015	0.00994145		
11/11/2015	0.00994142		
11/12/2015	0.00994142		
11/13/2015	0.00994142		
11/14/2015	0.00994142		
11/15/2015	0.00994142		
11/16/2015	0.00994142		
11/17/2015	0.00994142		
11/18/2015	0.00994142		
11/19/2015	0.00994142		
11/20/2015	0.00994142		
11/21/2015	0.00994142		
11/22/2015	0.00994142		
11/23/2015	0.00994142		
11/24/2015	0.00994135		
11/25/2015	0.00994135		
11/26/2015	0.00994135		
11/27/2015	0.00994135		
11/28/2015	0.00994135		
11/29/2015	0.00994135		
11/30/2015	0.00994135	0.00000327	0.00345135
12/01/2015	0.00993810		
12/02/2015	0.00993810		
12/03/2015	0.00993810		
12/04/2015	0.00993810		
12/05/2015	0.00993810		
12/06/2015	0.00993810		
12/07/2015	0.00993810		
12/08/2015	0.00993810		
12/09/2015	0.00993810		
12/10/2015	0.00993810		
12/11/2015	0.00993810		
12/12/2015	0.00993810		
12/13/2015	0.00993810		
12/14/2015	0.00993810		
12/15/2015	0.00993810		
12/16/2015	0.00993810		
12/17/2015	0.00993810		
12/18/2015	0.00993810		
12/19/2015	0.00993810		
12/20/2015	0.00993810		
12/21/2015	0.00993810		
12/22/2015	0.00993810		

## Van Eck Merk Gold Trust 2015 Gross Proceeds File

<b>Date</b>	<b>Gold Ounces Per Share</b>	<b>Per Share Gold Ounces Sold To Cover Expenses</b>	<b>Proceeds Per Share</b>
12/23/2015	0.00993810		
12/24/2015	0.00993810		
12/25/2015	0.00993810		
12/26/2015	0.00993810		
12/27/2015	0.00993810		
12/28/2015	0.00993810		
12/29/2015	0.00993810		
12/30/2015	0.00993810		
12/31/2015	0.00993810	0.00000374	0.00394682
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>0.00003973</b>	<b>0.04549017</b>

Van Eck Merk Gold Trust Gross Proceeds and Expense Files show gold ounces acquired per Van Eck Merk Gold Trust (OUNZ) share purchased, gold sold (in ounces), proceeds, and expenses per Van Eck Merk Gold Trust (OUNZ) Share. You can use this information to calculate your share of OUNZ expenses, and your gain or loss on sale of gold to pay such expenses.

**Example: Shareholder XYZ purchases 200 OUNZ shares on 02/24/2015 at a price of \$50 per share for a total purchase price of \$10,000. Shareholder XYZ had no other purchases or sales of OUNZ shares during 2015.**

**Step 1: Identify the shareholder's pro rata ownership of gold (in ounces).**

Identify Shareholder XYZ's purchase date of 02/24/2015. In the column labeled "Gold Ounces per Share," identify the pro rata amount of gold (i.e. 0.00997138 ounces per share) each OUNZ share represents on that date.

For Shareholder XYZ, total prorated amount of gold ounces owned for its 02/24/2015 purchase is 1.99428 ounces (0.00997138 ozs per share multiplied by 200 shares purchased on 02/24/2015.) Note: This step should be completed for each date on which OUNZ shares were purchased.

**Step 2: Calculate the gold (in ounces) sold from the shareholder's account during 2015**

The gold ounces sold per share during 2015 includes the cumulative amounts of all gold sales for the period which includes the day after the purchase date of 02/24/2015 through the day of the sale date.

During 2015 the amount of gold sold after the 02/24/2015 purchase date is 0.00003655 oz per share for a total of 0.00731 oz (based on the purchase of 200 shares).

**Step 3: Calculate cost of gold sold from shareholder's account**

Total Gold ozs sold (Step 2)	0.00731 oz	
	-----	X \$ 10,000
Gold ozs acquired (Step1)	1.99428 oz	
Cost of Gold sold		\$ 36.65

**Step 4: Calculate shareholder's gain or loss on sales of gold for each lot purchased**

Identify all proceeds per share received by the Trust after Shareholder XYZ's 02/24/2015 purchase date. During 2015, there were sales at the end of every month for the period 2/25/2015 through 12/31/2015 which generated proceeds per share of \$0.04149289. Therefore, Shareholder XYZ's gain or loss is determined as follows:

Total Proceeds: \$0.04149289 per share X 200 shares	\$ 8.30
Less: Total cost of gold sold (Step 3)	<u>36.65</u>
Total Reportable Loss (1040 Sch D, Part I)	<u>\$ 28.35</u>

**Step 5: Calculate shareholder's investment expenses**

Identify all expenses per share paid by the Trust after Shareholder XYZ's 02/24/2015 purchase date. During 2015, the expenses paid were at the end of every month for the period of 02/24/2015 through 12/31/2015 which amounted to \$0.04149289 per share. Therefore, Shareholder XYZ's investment expenses are:

<b>Investment Expenses per Share</b>	\$ 0.04149289
Total Shares	<u>200</u>
Total Expense <b>(1040 Sch A)</b>	<u>\$ 8.30</u>

**Step 6: Calculate shareholder's adjusted gold held and cost basis**

<b>Gold ounces Purchased on 02/24/2015 (Step 1)</b>	1.99428 oz
Less: Gold ounces sold during 2015 (Step 2)	<u>0.00731 oz</u>
Adjusted Shareholder's Gold ounces at 12/31/2015	<u>1.98697 oz</u>
Original Purchase Cost on 02/24/2015	\$ 10,000.00
Less: Cost of Gold Sold during 2015 (Step 3)	<u>36.65</u>
Adjusted Shareholder's basis at 12/31/2015	<u>\$ 9,963.35</u>

Shareholder's adjusted gold ounces and adjusted cost calculated in Step 6 are his/her adjusted ounces of gold and adjusted basis for the 02/24/2015 purchase at the end of 12/31/2015.

Shareholders with several purchases should calculate gain, loss and adjusted basis separately for each purchased lot and then sum up the results of each lot to arrive at the net reportable gain or loss and the total investment expenses. Shareholders who purchased their shares prior to 2015, and made no other purchases, should calculate their adjusted cost basis, using the gross proceeds information for the relevant years, by following the same steps as in the example above. The adjusted cost basis at 12/31/2014 should be used as the beginning cost for 2015 instead of original purchase cost. Shareholders with an additional purchase in 2015 will have two cost lots to account for in 2015. The calculation of gains and losses will be affected by the cost basis method used to account for the sales.