

# General Information



**The purpose of this general brochure is to fulfill the obligation to provide information in accordance with the Federal Financial Services Act (FinSA) and to provide an overview of the activities of Meridian Wealth Management SA.**

## Table of contents

- 1 Head Office
- 2 Area of activity
- 3 Legal status
- 4 Supervision
- 5 Client classification
- 6 Types of financial services offered
- 7 Verification of suitability
- 8 Risk information
- 9 Price information
- 10 Third party remuneration
- 11 Conflicts of interest
- 12 Investment universe
- 13 Order execution
- 14 Mediation body

## 1. Head Office

The Head Office of Meridian Wealth Management SA is located at :

- Rue du Midi 6, CH-1003 Lausanne (Switzerland)

Website : [www.meridian-wm.com/en](http://www.meridian-wm.com/en)

You can contact the Company in the following ways :

- by mail : Meridian Wealth Management SA, Rue du Midi 6, P.O. Box 1060, CH-1001 Lausanne (Switzerland)
- by phone : +41 21 566 55 95

## 2. Area of activity

Meridian Wealth Management SA is a company specializing in wealth management and private wealth.

The areas of activity of Meridian Wealth Management SA cover discretionary wealth management. The competence and know-how of the company are provided by professional collaborators with many years of experience in the industrial and financial sectors, in Switzerland and abroad.

## 3. Legal status

Meridian Wealth Management SA is a public limited company, registered since 2013 in the commercial register of the Canton of Vaud (Switzerland). Its capital of CHF 500'000. — is fully paid.

## 4. Supervision

Meridian Wealth Management SA is a wealth management company subject to the supervision of AOOS, Supervisory Body for Financial Intermediaries and Trustees:

AOOS - Société anonyme suisse de surveillance

Rue Du-Roveray 14

CH-1207 Geneva (Switzerland)

Phone: +41 22 343 40 00

E-Mail : [infogeneve@aos.ch](mailto:infogeneve@aos.ch)

Website : [www.aos.ch](http://www.aos.ch)

AOOS is a supervisory body authorized by the Swiss Federal Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA) for the supervision of asset managers and trustees within the meaning of Articles 43ss of the FinIA.

## 5. Client classification

In accordance with the Financial Services Act (FinSA), Meridian Wealth Management SA classifies its clients according to the following three categories:

- Private clients
- Professional clients
- Institutional clients

The extent of Meridian's obligations and the level of client protection depends on the types of financial services offered and the client's classification. The private client category offers the highest level of protection, while the institutional client category offers the lowest level of protection. The intermediate category, that of professional clients, presents a number of reductions in the information obligations for the client.

Unless otherwise specified by the Company, clients are considered private clients.

## 5.1 Classification rules

This overview explains the **rules for classifying** clients:

		Professional clients		
Private clients (default category)	← Opting-in possible for professional clients	Professional clients	← Opting-in possible for institutional clients	Institutional clients
High net worth clients *	→ Opting-out possible for high net worth clients	Private investment structures with prof. treasury operations created for high net worth clients (e.g. trusts) **		Financial intermediaries as defined in the BankA, the FinIA and the CISA
		Public entities, companies, and foundations with professional treasury operations **		Insurance companies
Retail private clients	✗ Opting-out not possible	Pension institutions with professional treasury operations **	→ Opting-out possible for some professional clients	Foreign institutions subject to prudential supervision
		Large companies ***		Central banks

\* Investors are classified as high-net-worth if they state that:

- on the basis of their training, education, and professional experience or on the basis of comparable experience in the financial sector, they possess the necessary knowledge to understand the risks associated with the investments **and** have at their disposal assets of at least CHF 500,000.--
- OR
- they have at their disposal assets of at least CHF 2 million

\*\* Treasury operations are regarded as professional where at least one professionally qualified person with experience in the financial sector has been entrusted, within or outside an entity, with the task of managing that entity's financial resources over the long term

\*\*\* A large company is a company which exceeds two of the following parameters :

- balance sheet total of CHF 20 million
- turnover of CHF 40 million
- equity of CHF 2 million

## 5.2 Decreased level of protection

If a client classified as **private** or **professional** wishes to be classified in a category with a **lower** level of protection, and that client meets the conditions provided for this purpose, he is invited to contact his advisor, who will provide him with the form to be classified in the category with a lower level of protection ("opting-out form").

In this case, the **private** client declares to have a high degree of knowledge and experience in financial matters (*failing this, he may request that the knowledge and experience of his representative be considered*) and has the possibility of investing in products presenting certain specific risks.

## 5.3 Increased level of protection

When a client classified as **professional** or **institutional** wishes to benefit from a **higher** level of protection, he informs his advisor, who will provide him with the form to be

classified in the category benefiting from higher protection (“opting-in form”).

## 5.4 Impacts of the classification

This overview explains the **impacts of the classification** on investor protection:

	Private clients	Professional clients	Institutional clients
<b>Duty to provide information</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> possible to waive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Checks *</b>	Assessment of appropriateness ** <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> advisory mandate on isolated transactions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Assessment of suitability *** <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> global advisory mandate or discretionary mandate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> **** global advisory mandate or discretionary mandate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Documentation and reports</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> possible to waive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Transparency and diligence in client orders</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

\* In the event of the provision of an "execution only" service, the customer is informed that no verification has been carried out

\*\* Appropriateness: the verification focuses on **knowledge** and **experience**

\*\*\* Suitability: The audit covers **financial condition**, **investment objectives**, and **knowledge** and **experience**

\*\*\*\* Professional customers, with their knowledge and experience, are deemed to be able to financially assume the risks and consequences of their investment decisions. The suitability check therefore focuses only on the **investment objectives**

## 5.5 Waiver

With the waiver, **professional** clients can release the financial service provider from its obligations to systematically document, report on the services provided and provide reasons for each recommendation.

## 6. Types of financial services offered

Meridian Wealth Management SA only offers discretionary management mandates.

By signing a management mandate, the principal authorizes Meridian Wealth Management SA to manage on a discretionary basis the assets it has entrusted. The client is informed by Meridian Wealth Management SA of the management agreed and carried out.

This management is based on the investment policy of Meridian Wealth Management SA and obeys the investment strategy chosen by the client, as well as any constraints or restrictions. Investments are made by Meridian Wealth Management SA with custodian banks in complete autonomy.

## 7. Verification of suitability

When signing the discretionary management mandate, Meridian Wealth Management SA first establishes a risk profile for the client and verifies that the investment strategy

chosen by the latter within the framework of the investment profile is adequate in relation to said profile.

The verification covers the client's financial situation, investment objectives, and knowledge and experience.

Professional clients, based on their knowledge and experience, are deemed to be able to financially assume the risks and consequences of their investment decisions. The adequacy test therefore relates only to the investment objectives.

## 8. Risk information

Any financial instrument presents risks and can generate losses.

The risks specific to the financial services offered by Meridian Wealth Management SA are indicated in the respective mandates submitted to the client.

The advisor is available to the client for any additional questions on a financial instrument or a financial service, as well as on specific risks relating to a financial instrument or a financial service.

In addition, the client will find general information on financial services as well as on the characteristics and risks of financial instruments in the brochure of the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA): "Risks Involved in Trading Financial Instruments", available free of charge at [www.swissbanking.org](http://www.swissbanking.org) or on request.

## 9. Price information

The discretionary management fees of Meridian Wealth Management SA are indicated in the management mandate. Upon request, the client advisor will be happy to provide detailed information on the costs and charges of financial transactions which will be carried out on behalf of the client and charged directly by the custodian bank.

## 10. Third party remuneration

In setting the rates applicable to its customers, Meridian Wealth Management SA takes into account the benefits they may receive or the costs they are likely to pay in the course of their activity. For this reason, the Company has provided in its mandates for its clients to accept the principle that benefits received from third parties are acquired by it, unless there is a contractual clause to the contrary.

## 11. Conflicts of interest

Meridian Wealth Management SA has put in place an internal regulatory framework to minimize possible conflicts between the interests of clients and those of the Company.

## 12. Investment universe

The investment universe taken into consideration by Meridian Wealth Management SA when selecting financial instruments consists of a wide choice of individual securities, hedging financial products and third-party financial instruments (open architecture), covering main asset classes and geographic areas. Meridian Wealth

Management SA does not currently manage any collective investment fund or certificate.

### 13. Order execution

Meridian Wealth Management SA does not directly execute the orders of its clients. It refers to the order execution policy of the respective custodian banks regarding assets deposited with these banks but managed or advised by Meridian Wealth Management SA.

In cases where the Company transmits instructions to brokers, and in order to obtain the best possible result for the client, the Company takes all reasonable measures to optimize the results in the execution of the investment decisions it has taken.

### 14. Mediation body

If necessary, the client has the option of initiating a mediation procedure with the mediation body to which Meridian Wealth Management SA is affiliated, the Swiss Financial Services Ombudsman FINSOM :

Financial Services Ombudsman (FINSOM)

Website : [www.finsom.ch/en](http://www.finsom.ch/en)

Meridian Wealth Management SA and its employees thank you for your trust and are available to answer any questions.