

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**Amendment No. 1**

to

**FORM S-3**  
**REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

*UNDER*

*THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

**Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC)**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

c/o Grayscale Investments, LLC  
290 Harbor Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Stamford, Connecticut 06902  
(212) 668-1427

**46-7019388**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

**Michael Sonnenshein**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Grayscale Investments, LLC  
290 Harbor Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Stamford, Connecticut 06902  
(212) 668-1427

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

*Copy to:*

**Joseph A. Hall**  
**Hillary A. Coleman**  
**Dan Gibbons**  
Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP  
450 Lexington Avenue  
New York, New York 10017  
(212) 450-4000

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer   
Smaller reporting company   
Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the Registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

**The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.**

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

On October 19, 2021, NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”) filed an application with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, to list the Shares of Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) (the “Trust”) on NYSE Arca. In addition the Trust intends to rely on an exemption or other relief from the SEC under 17 CFR §§ 242.101 and 102 (“Regulation M”) to operate a redemption program.

As of the date of this filing, the NYSE Arca 19b-4 application has not been approved by the SEC and an exemption or other relief from Regulation M is not available. The Trust makes no representation as to when or if such approval will be obtained and when such an exemption or relief will be available. The Trust will not seek effectiveness of this registration statement and no offering of Shares hereunder will take place unless and until such approval is obtained and such an exemption or relief is available.

This prospectus has been prepared on the basis that the NYSE Arca 19b-4 application has been approved by the SEC and that the Trust is able to rely on an exemption or has obtained other relief under Regulation M.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2023

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

# GRAYSCALE<sup>®</sup>

## GRAYSCALE BITCOIN TRUST (BTC)

Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) (the “Trust”) issues common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest (“Shares”), which represent ownership in the Trust. The Trust’s purpose is to hold Bitcoins, which are digital assets that are created and transmitted through the operations of the peer-to-peer Bitcoin Network, a decentralized network of computers that operates on cryptographic protocols. The Trust’s investment objective is for the value of the Shares (based on Bitcoin per Share) to reflect the value of Bitcoins held by the Trust, as determined by reference to the Index Price (as defined herein), less the Trust’s expenses and other liabilities. While an investment in the Shares is not a direct investment in Bitcoin, the Shares are designed to provide investors with a cost-effective and convenient way to gain investment exposure to Bitcoin. Grayscale Investments, LLC is the sponsor of the Trust (the “Sponsor”), Delaware Trust Company is the trustee of the Trust (the “Trustee”), The Bank of New York Mellon is the transfer agent of the Trust (in such capacity, the “Transfer Agent”) and the administrator of the Trust (in such capacity, the “Administrator”) and Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC is the custodian of the Trust (the “Custodian”).

The Trust intends to list the shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”) under the symbol “GBTC.” It is expected that the Shares will be sold to the public at varying prices to be determined by reference to, among other considerations, the price of Bitcoin and the trading price of the Shares on the NYSE Arca at the time of each sale.

The Shares may be purchased from the Trust only in one or more blocks of 100 Shares (a block of 100 Shares is called a “Basket”). The Trust issues Baskets of Shares to certain authorized participants (“Authorized Participants”) on an ongoing basis as described in “Plan of Distribution.” In addition, the Trust redeems Shares in Baskets on an ongoing basis from Authorized Participants. See “Creation and Redemption of Shares.” Some of the activities of the Authorized Participants will result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which would render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus-delivery and liability provisions under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”). See “Plan of Distribution.” Although the Trust issues and redeems Shares in increments of a Basket, or 100 Shares, at this time the Trust is only accepting creation and redemption orders from Authorized Participants in increments of 100 Baskets, or 10,000 Shares. As of November 21, 2023, the number of Bitcoins required to create a Basket of Shares is approximately 0.08967535 Bitcoins, which equates to approximately 8.967535 Bitcoins to create 100 Baskets, or 10,000 Shares.

**Investing in the Shares involves significant risks. You should carefully consider the risk factors described in “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors” beginning on page 44 in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, in “Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors” beginning on page 19 in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2023, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein before you invest in the Shares.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the securities offered in this prospectus, or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The Shares are neither interests in nor obligations of the Sponsor or the Trustee.

The U.S. dollar value of a Basket of Shares at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order is equal to the “Basket Amount”, which is the number of Bitcoins required to create or redeem a Basket of Shares, multiplied by the “Index Price,” which is the U.S. dollar value of a Bitcoin derived from the Digital Asset Exchanges that are reflected in the CoinDesk Bitcoin Price Index (XBK) (the “Index”), calculated at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day. The Index Price is calculated using non-GAAP methodology and is not used in the Trust’s financial statements.

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

	<u>Page</u>
Forward-Looking Statements .....	ii
Prospectus Summary .....	1
The Offering .....	5
Risk Factors .....	17
Use of Proceeds .....	23
Description of Shares .....	24
Creation and Redemption of Shares .....	29
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences .....	34
ERISA and Related Considerations .....	41
Plan of Distribution .....	43
Legal Matters .....	45
Experts .....	45
Where You Can Find More Information; Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference .....	45
Glossary of Defined Terms .....	47

Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor has authorized anyone to provide you with any information other than that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of the Trust. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor takes any responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any information that others may give you. Neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is making an offer to sell any security or soliciting any offer to buy any security in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus or any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates on the front of such documents. The Trust's business, assets, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or an invitation on behalf of the Trust or the Sponsor, to subscribe to or purchase any securities, and may not be used for or in connection with an offer or solicitation by anyone, in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation.

Authorized Participants may be required to deliver a prospectus when making transactions in the Shares.

The information contained in the section captioned "The Industry" is based on information obtained from sources that the Sponsor believes are reliable. This prospectus summarizes certain documents and other information in a manner the Sponsor believes to be accurate. In making an investment decision, you must rely on your own examination of the Trust, the Bitcoin industry, the operation of the Bitcoin market and the terms of the offering and the Shares, including the merits and risks involved. Although the Sponsor believes this information to be reliable, the accuracy and completeness of this information is not guaranteed and has not been independently verified.

See "Glossary of Defined Terms" for the definition of certain capitalized terms used in this prospectus. This prospectus supplements and where applicable amends the Memorandum, as defined in the Trust's Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (as amended, the "Trust Agreement"), for general purposes.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain “forward-looking statements” with respect to the Trust’s financial conditions, results of operations, plans, objectives, future performance and business. Statements preceded by, followed by or that include words such as “may,” “might,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or “continue,” the negative of these terms and other similar expressions are intended to identify some of the forward-looking statements. All statements (other than statements of historical fact) included in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus that address activities, events or developments that will or may occur in the future, including such matters as changes in market prices and conditions, the Trust’s operations, the Sponsor’s plans and references to the Trust’s future success and other similar matters are forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions. Actual events or results may differ materially from such statements. These statements are based upon certain assumptions and analyses the Sponsor made based on its perception of historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments, as well as other factors appropriate in the circumstances. You should specifically consider the numerous risks described in “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022 (the “Annual Report”), in “Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2023 (the “Q2 2023 Quarterly Report”), in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein. Whether or not actual results and developments will conform to the Sponsor’s expectations and predictions, however, is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including:

- recent developments in the digital asset economy which have led to extreme volatility and disruption in digital asset markets, a loss of confidence in participants of the digital asset ecosystem, significant negative publicity surrounding digital assets broadly and market-wide declines in liquidity;
- the extreme volatility of trading prices that many digital assets, including Bitcoin, have experienced in recent periods and may continue to experience, which could cause the value of the Shares to be volatile and/or have a material adverse effect on the value of the Shares;
- the recentness of the development of digital assets and the uncertain medium-to-long term value of the Shares due to a number of factors relating to the capabilities and development of blockchain technologies and to the fundamental investment characteristics of digital assets;
- the value of the Shares depending on the acceptance of digital assets, such as Bitcoin, which represent a new and rapidly evolving industry;
- the value of the Shares relating directly to the value of Bitcoin then held by the Trust, the value of which may be highly volatile and subject to fluctuations due to a number of factors;
- a temporary or permanent “fork” or a “clone”, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares;
- the unregulated nature and lack of transparency surrounding the operations of Digital Asset Exchanges, which may adversely affect the value of digital assets and, consequently, the value of the Shares;
- the limited history of the Index;
- competition from the emergence or growth of other digital assets or methods of investing in Bitcoin could have a negative impact on the price of Bitcoin and adversely affect the value of the Shares;
- the liquidity of the Shares may be affected if Authorized Participants cease to perform their obligations under the Participant Agreements or the Liquidity Engager is unable to engage Liquidity Providers;
- the commencement of a redemption program, in conjunction with the listing of the Shares on the NYSE Arca, may impact whether the Shares trade at a discount or premium to the Digital Asset Holdings per Share;
- the possibility that the Shares may trade at a price that is at, above or below the Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings per Share as a result of the non-current trading hours between NYSE Arca and the Digital Asset Exchange Market;

- regulatory changes or actions by the U.S. Congress or any U.S. federal or state agencies that may affect the value of the Shares or restrict the use of one or more digital assets, mining activity or the operation of their networks or the Digital Asset Exchange Market in a manner that adversely affects the value of the Shares;
- a determination that Bitcoin or any other digital asset is a “security” may adversely affect the value of Bitcoin and the value of the Shares and result in potentially extraordinary, nonrecurring expenses to, or termination of, the Trust;
- changes in the policies of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) that could adversely impact the value of the Shares;
- regulatory changes or other events in foreign jurisdictions that may affect the value of the Shares or restrict the use of one or more digital assets, mining activity or the operation of their networks or the Digital Asset Exchange Market in a manner that adversely affects the value of the Shares;
- the possibility that an Authorized Participant, the Trust or the Sponsor could be subject to regulation as a money service business or money transmitter, which could result in extraordinary expenses to such Authorized Participant, the Trust or the Sponsor and also result in decreased liquidity for the Shares;
- regulatory changes or interpretations that could obligate the Trust or the Sponsor to register and comply with new regulations, resulting in potentially extraordinary, nonrecurring expenses to the Trust;
- potential conflicts of interest that may arise among the Sponsor or its affiliates and the Trust;
- the potential discontinuance of the Sponsor’s continued services, which could be detrimental to the Trust;
- the Trust’s reliance on third party service providers to perform certain functions essential to the affairs of the Trust and the challenges replacement of such service providers could pose to the safekeeping of the Trust’s Bitcoin and to the operations of the Trust; and
- the Custodian’s possible resignation or removal by the Sponsor or otherwise, without replacement, which could trigger early termination of the Trust.

Consequently, all forward-looking statements made in this prospectus are qualified by these cautionary statements, and there can be no assurance that the actual results or developments the Sponsor anticipates will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will result in the expected consequences to, or have the expected effects on, the Trust’s operations or the value of the Shares. Should one or more of these risks discussed in “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Annual Report, in “Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Q2 2023 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein, or other uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those described in forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are made based on the Sponsor’s beliefs, estimates and opinions on the date the statements are made and neither the Trust nor the Sponsor is under a duty or undertakes an obligation to update forward-looking statements if these beliefs, estimates and opinions or other circumstances should change, other than as required by applicable laws. Moreover, neither the Trust, the Sponsor, nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of any of these forward-looking statements. Investors are therefore cautioned against relying on forward-looking statements.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*You should read this entire prospectus and the material incorporated by reference herein, including “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Annual Report, “Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Q2 2023 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment decision about the Shares.*

### Trust Overview

Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) (the “Trust”) is a Delaware Statutory Trust that was formed on September 13, 2013 by the filing of the Certificate of Trust with the Delaware Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of the Delaware Statutory Trust Act. The Trust’s purpose is to hold Bitcoins, which are digital assets that are created and transmitted through the operations of the peer-to-peer Bitcoin Network, a decentralized network of computers that operates on cryptographic protocols. There are several key features of the Bitcoin Network, including the maximum block size used by the network. Bitcoin uses the SHA-256 algorithm, which is preferred for parallel processing, but is also easily used to build application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs) to mine the network more efficiently. Bitcoin has a current block size of 1MB and, on average blocks are generated every ten minutes. Bitcoin’s halvings take place approximately every four years, occurring every 210,000 blocks. The next halving is forecasted to take place in the first half of 2024. Additionally, Bitcoin has a maximum supply of 21 million. As of September 30, 2023, Bitcoin’s circulating supply was 19.5 million coins. As of September 30, 2023, the 24-hour trading volume of Bitcoin was approximately \$1.4 billion. As of September 30, 2023, the aggregate market value of Bitcoin was \$525.9 billion.

As of September 30, 2023, the Trust holds approximately 3.2% of the Bitcoin in circulation. The size of the Trust’s position does not itself enable the Sponsor or the Trust to participate in or otherwise influence the development of the Bitcoin Network. As a decentralized digital asset network, the Bitcoin Network consists of several stakeholders, including core developers of Bitcoin, users, services, businesses, miners and other constituencies, of which the Trust is only one constituent. Furthermore, in contrast to other protocols in which token holders participate in the governance of the network, ownership of Bitcoin confers no such rights.

The Trust’s investment objective is for the value of the Shares (based on Bitcoin per Share) to reflect the value of the Bitcoin held by the Trust, determined by reference to the Index Price, less the Trust’s expenses and other liabilities. There can be no assurance that the Trust will be able to achieve its investment objective. Historically, the Trust has not met its investment objective and the Shares quoted on OTCQX have not reflected the value of Bitcoin held by the Trust, less the Trust’s expenses and other liabilities, but instead have traded at both premiums and discounts to such value, which at times have been substantial. The Trust historically issued common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest (“Shares”), which represent ownership in the Trust, on a periodic basis to certain “accredited investors” within the meaning of Rule 501(a) of Regulation D under the Securities Act in exchange for deposits of Bitcoin. The Shares were quoted on OTC Markets Group Inc.’s OTCQX® Best Marketplace (“OTCQX”) under the ticker symbol “GBTC.” From and after the date of this prospectus, the Trust intends to issue Shares on an ongoing basis pursuant to this registration statement, intends to rely on an exemption or other relief from the SEC under Regulation M to operate a redemption program, and intends to list the Shares on NYSE Arca under the symbol “GBTC.” The Shares will be distributed by Authorized Participants who will be able to take advantage of arbitrage opportunities to keep the value of the Shares closely linked to the Index Price (referred to as the “arbitrage mechanism”). Immediately prior to listing on NYSE Arca, it is expected that the market price of the Shares will be at, or approximate to, a value that aligns with Digital Asset Holdings per Share. Upon listing on NYSE Arca, the Sponsor expects the market price of the Shares and the Digital Asset Holdings per Share to converge, thus closing the current discount to Digital Asset Holdings per Share. Subsequent to the first day of trading, the Sponsor expects there to be a net creation of

Shares if the Shares trade at a premium to Digital Asset Holdings per Share and a net redemption of Shares if the Shares trade at a discount to Digital Asset Holdings per Share, representing the effective functioning of the arbitrage mechanism.

Thereafter, it is expected that the Shares will be sold to the public at varying prices to be determined by reference to, among other considerations, the price of the Bitcoins represented by each Share and the trading price of the Shares on NYSE Arca at the time of each sale. Shares registered hereby are of the same class and will have the same rights as any Shares distributed prior to this offering.

As previously noted, the Shares have historically traded at a substantial premium over, or a substantial discount to, the value of the Trust's Bitcoin, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. For example, from July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023, the average discount of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX below the value of the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share was 24%, with a maximum discount of 30%. As of September 29, 2023, the last business day of such period, the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX was \$19.19 and the Trust's Shares were quoted on OTCQX at a discount of 21% to the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share. As of November 21, 2023, the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX was \$29.20 and the Trust's Shares were quoted on OTCQX at a discount of 12% to the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share.

Grayscale Investments, LLC is the sponsor (the "Sponsor") of the Trust, Delaware Trust Company is the trustee (the "Trustee") of the Trust, The Bank of New York Mellon is the transfer agent (in such capacity, the "Transfer Agent") and the administrator (in such capacity, the "Administrator") of the Trust and Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC is the custodian (the "Custodian") of the Trust.

The Trust issues Shares only in one or more blocks of 100 Shares (a block of 100 Shares is called a "Basket") to certain authorized participants ("Authorized Participants") from time to time. Baskets are offered in exchange for Bitcoins. Through its redemption program, the Trust redeems Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis in exchange for Bitcoins. Although the Trust issues and redeems Shares in increments of a Basket, or 100 Shares, at this time the Trust is only accepting creation and redemption orders from Authorized Participants in increments of 100 Baskets, or 10,000 Shares.

The U.S. dollar value of a Basket of Shares at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order is equal to the Basket Amount, which is the number of Bitcoins required to create or redeem a Basket of Shares, multiplied by the "Index Price," which is the U.S. dollar value of a Bitcoin derived from the Digital Asset Exchanges that are reflected in the CoinDesk Bitcoin Price Index (XBIX) (the "Index") at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day. The Index Price is calculated using non-GAAP methodology and is not used in the Trust's financial statements. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the Bitcoin Industry and Market—Bitcoin Value—The Index and the Index Price" in the Trust's Annual Report, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

The Basket Amount on any trade date is determined by dividing (x) the number of Bitcoins owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on such trade date, after deducting the number of Bitcoins representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Bitcoin (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by 100.

The Trust creates Baskets of Shares only upon receipt of Bitcoins and redeems Shares only by distributing Bitcoins. Authorized Participants may submit orders to create or redeem Shares under one of two procedures, which are referred to as "Cash Orders" and "In-Kind Orders" in this prospectus. In connection with In-Kind

Orders, Authorized Participants, or their agents, deposit Bitcoin directly with the Trust or receive Bitcoin directly from the Trust. Cash Orders are made through the participation of a Liquidity Provider (as defined herein) and facilitated by the Transfer Agent, as described in “Creation and Redemption of Shares.” Authorized Participants must pay a Variable Fee (as defined herein) in connection with Cash Orders, which is not applicable to In-Kind Orders, and thus will result in different execution prices for Cash Orders versus In-Kind Orders.

The Shares are neither interests in nor obligations of the Sponsor or the Trustee. As provided under the Trust Agreement, the Trust’s assets will not be loaned or pledged, or serve as collateral for any loan, margin, rehypothecation, or other similar activity to which the Sponsor, the Trust or any of their respective affiliates are a party.

The Sponsor maintains an Internet website at [www.grayscale.com/crypto-products/grayscale-bitcoin-trust/](http://www.grayscale.com/crypto-products/grayscale-bitcoin-trust/), through which the Trust’s annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), are made available free of charge after they have been filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Additional information regarding the Trust may also be found on the SEC’s EDGAR database at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The contents of the websites referred to above and any websites referred to herein are not incorporated into this filing. Further, our references to the URLs for these websites are intended to be inactive textual references only.

#### **Trust Objective and Determination of NAV and Digital Asset Holdings**

The Trust’s investment objective is for the value of the Shares (based on Bitcoin per Share) to reflect the value of the Bitcoin held by the Trust, determined by reference to the Index Price, less the Trust’s expenses and other liabilities. There can be no assurance that the Trust will be able to achieve its investment objective.

While an investment in the Shares is not a direct investment in Bitcoin, the Shares are designed to provide investors with a cost-effective and convenient way to gain investment exposure to Bitcoin. A substantial direct investment in Bitcoin may require expensive and sometimes complicated arrangements in connection with the acquisition, security and safekeeping of the Bitcoin and may involve the payment of substantial fees to acquire such Bitcoin from third-party facilitators through cash payments of U.S. dollars. Because the value of the Shares is correlated with the value of Bitcoin held by the Trust, it is important to understand the investment attributes of, and the market for, Bitcoin.

The Trust’s Bitcoins are carried, for financial statement purposes, at fair value as required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”). The Trust determines the fair value of Bitcoins based on the price provided by the Digital Asset Market (defined below) that the Trust considers its principal market as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the valuation date. The net asset value of the Trust determined on a GAAP basis is referred to in this prospectus as “NAV.” Digital Asset Market” means a “Brokered Market,” “Dealer Market,” “Principal-to-Principal Market” or “Exchange Market,” as each such term is defined in the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) Master Glossary. See “Part II—Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates—Principal Market and Fair Value Determination” in the Annual Report for more information on the Trust’s principal market selection.

The Trust uses the Index Price to calculate its “Digital Asset Holdings,” which is the aggregate value, expressed in U.S. dollars, of the Trust’s assets (other than U.S. dollars, other fiat currency, Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency), less the U.S. dollar value of the Trust’s expenses and other liabilities calculated in the

manner set forth under “Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of Bitcoin and Determination of Digital Asset Holdings” in the Annual Report. “Digital Asset Holdings per Share” is calculated by dividing Digital Asset Holdings by the number of Shares then outstanding.

Digital Asset Holdings and Digital Asset Holdings per Share are not measures calculated in accordance with GAAP. Digital Asset Holdings is not intended to be a substitute for the Trust’s NAV calculated in accordance with GAAP, and Digital Asset Holdings per Share is not intended to be a substitute for the Trust’s NAV per Share calculated in accordance with GAAP.

### **Bitcoin History**

The Bitcoin Network is a recent technological innovation, and the Bitcoins that are created, transferred, used and stored by entities and individuals have certain features associated with several types of assets, most notably commodities and currencies. Several U.S. regulators, including the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the U.S. Department of the Treasury (“FinCEN”), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”), the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”), and state regulators, including the New York Department of Financial Services (“NYDFS”), have made official pronouncements or issued guidance or rules regarding the treatment of Bitcoins and other digital assets. However, other U.S. and state agencies, such as the SEC, have not made official pronouncements or issued guidance or rules regarding the treatment of Bitcoins. Similarly, the treatment of Bitcoins and other digital assets is often uncertain or contradictory in other countries. The regulatory uncertainty surrounding the treatment of Bitcoins creates risks for the Trust and its Shares. See “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Regulation of the Trust and the Shares” in the Annual Report and the risk factors set forth in our other filings with the SEC incorporated by reference herein.

Some of the notable features of the Trust and its Shares include the holding of Bitcoins in the Trust’s own accounts, the experience of the Sponsor’s management team in the Bitcoin industry and the use of the Custodian to protect the Trust’s private keys. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Activities of the Trust” in the Annual Report.

The price of Bitcoin on public Digital Asset Exchanges has a limited history, and during this history, Bitcoin prices on the Digital Asset Markets more generally, and on Digital Asset Exchanges individually, have been volatile and subject to influence by many factors, including operational interruptions. While the Index is designed to limit exposure to the interruption of individual Digital Asset Exchanges, the Index Price, and the price of Bitcoin generally, remains subject to volatility experienced by Digital Asset Exchanges, and such volatility could adversely affect the value of the Shares. For example, from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2023, the Index Price ranged from \$3,164.99 to \$67,352.59, with the average being \$23,007.03. In addition, during the twelve months ended September 30, 2023, the Index Price ranged from \$15,768.02 to \$31,664.24. See “Part II—Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in the Annual Report.

### **Principal Offices**

The offices of the Trust and the Sponsor are located at 290 Harbor Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Stamford, Connecticut 06902 and the Trust’s telephone number is 212-668-1427. The Trustee has a trust office at 2711 Centerville Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19808. The Custodian’s office is located at 548 Market Street, #23008, San Francisco, CA 94104. The Transfer Agent’s office is located at One Wall Street, New York, NY 10286.

## THE OFFERING

Shares Offered by the Trust . . . . .	Shares representing units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in, and ownership of, the Trust.
Use of Proceeds . . . . .	Proceeds received by the Trust from the issuance and sale of Baskets will consist of Bitcoins deposited with the Trust in connection with creations. Such Bitcoins will only be (i) owned by the Trust, (ii) transferred (or converted to U.S. dollars, if necessary) to pay the Trust's expenses, (iii) distributed in connection with the redemption of Baskets or (iv) liquidated in the event that the Trust terminates or as otherwise required by law or regulation.
Proposed NYSE Arca symbol . . . . .	GBTC
CUSIP . . . . .	389637109
Index Price . . . . .	The Index Price is the price of a Bitcoin at 4:00 p.m., New York time, calculated based on the price and trading volume data of the Digital Asset Exchanges included in the Index over the preceding 24-hour period. The Index Price is calculated using non-GAAP methodology and is not used in the Trust's financial statements.

The Index is a U.S. dollar-denominated composite reference rate for the price of Bitcoin. The Index is designed to (1) mitigate the effects of fraud, manipulation and other anomalous trading activity from impacting the Bitcoin reference rate, (2) provide a real-time, volume-weighted fair value of Bitcoin and (3) appropriately handle and adjust for non-market related events. The Index Provider formally re-evaluates the weighting algorithm quarterly, but maintains discretion to change the way in which an Index Price is calculated based on its periodic review or in extreme circumstances. The exact methodology to calculate the Index Price is not publicly available. Still, the Index is designed to limit exposure to trading or price distortion of any individual Digital Asset Exchange that experiences periods of unusual activity or limited liquidity by discounting, in real-time, anomalous price movements at individual Digital Asset Exchanges. The Digital Asset Exchanges that are included in the Index are selected by the Index Provider utilizing a methodology that is guided by the International Organization of Securities Commissions ("IOSCO") principles for financial benchmarks. For an exchange to become a Constituent Exchange, it must satisfy the Inclusion Criteria described in the Annual Report, as may be updated by the Index Provider from time to time. See "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—The Index Price used to calculate the value of the Trust's Bitcoin may be volatile, and purchasing activity in the Digital Asset Markets associated with Basket creations and redemptions may affect the Index Price and Share trading prices, adversely affecting the value of the Shares" in our Annual Report.

Index price data and the description of the Index are based on information publicly available at the Index Provider’s website at [www.coindesk.com/indices/](http://www.coindesk.com/indices/). None of the information on the Index Provider’s website is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

The Index Provider may change the trading venues that are used to calculate the Index Price or otherwise change the way in which the Index Price is calculated at any time. If the Index Price becomes unavailable, or if the Sponsor determines in good faith that the Index Price does not reflect an accurate Bitcoin price, then the Sponsor will, on a best efforts basis, contact the Index Provider to obtain the Index Price directly from the Index Provider. If after such contact the Index Price remains unavailable or the Sponsor continues to believe in good faith that the Index Price does not reflect an accurate Bitcoin price, then the Sponsor will employ a cascading set of rules to determine the Index Price, as described in “Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the Bitcoin Industry and Market—Bitcoin Value—The Index and the Index Price” in the Annual Report.

*Digital Asset Exchange Public Market Data*

On each online Digital Asset Exchange, Bitcoin is traded with publicly disclosed valuations for each executed trade, measured by one or more fiat currencies such as the U.S. dollar or Euro. Over-the-counter dealers or market makers do not typically disclose their trade data.

As of September 30, 2023, the Digital Asset Exchanges included in the Index are Coinbase, Bitstamp, Kraken and LMAX Digital. On October 28, 2023, the Index Provider added Crypto.com to the Index due to the exchange meeting the Index Provider’s minimum liquidity requirement, and did not remove any Constituent Exchanges as part of its scheduled quarterly review. As further described below, the Sponsor and the Trust reasonably believe each of these Digital Asset Exchanges are in material compliance with applicable U.S. federal and state licensing requirements and maintain practices and policies designed to comply with know-your-customer (“KYC”) and anti-money-laundering (“AML”) regulations.

*Coinbase:* A U.S.-based exchange registered as a money services business (“MSB”) with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (“FinCEN”) and licensed as a virtual currency business under the New York State Department of Financial Services (“NYDFS”) BitLicense as well as a money transmitter in various U.S. states.

*Bitstamp:* A U.K.-based exchange registered as an MSB with FinCen and licensed as a virtual currency business under the NYDFS BitLicense as well as a money transmitter in various U.S. states.

*Crypto.com*: A Singapore-based exchange registered as an MSB with FinCEN and licensed as a money transmitter in various U.S. states. Crypto.com does not hold a BitLicense.

*Kraken*: A U.S.-based exchange registered as an MSB with FinCEN and licensed as a money transmitter in various U.S. states. Kraken does not hold a BitLicense.

*LMAX Digital*: A U.K.-based exchange registered as a broker with FCA. LMAX Digital does not hold a BitLicense.

Currently, there are several Digital Asset Exchanges operating worldwide, and online Digital Asset Exchanges represent a substantial percentage of Bitcoin buying and selling activity and provide the most data with respect to prevailing valuations of Bitcoins. These exchanges include established exchanges such as the Digital Asset Exchanges included in the Index, which provide a number of options for buying and selling Bitcoins. The below table reflects the trading volume in Bitcoins and market share of the BTC-U.S. dollar trading pairs of each of the Digital Asset Exchanges included in the Index as of September 30, 2023 using data reported by the Index Provider from May 1, 2015 to September 30, 2023:

<b>Digital Asset Exchanges included in the Index as of September 30, 2023 <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Volume (BTC)</b>	<b>Market Share <sup>(2)</sup></b>
Coinbase . . . . .	44,082,174	24.33%
Bitstamp . . . . .	23,391,038	12.91%
Kraken . . . . .	13,173,711	7.27%
LMAX Digital . . . . .	8,929,858	4.93%
<b>Total BTC-U.S. Dollar trading pair . . . . .</b>	<b>89,576,781</b>	<b>49.44%</b>

(1) The Index was initially launched on November 3, 2014 and included Bitfinex, Bitstamp, BTCChina, BTC-e, itBit and Kraken. The Digital Asset Exchanges chosen by the Index Provider have changed over time. On March 1, 2015, the Index Provider removed BTCChina and BTC-e and added OKCoin to the Index. On May 9, 2015, the Index Provider removed Kraken and added Coinbase to the Index. Kraken EUR (U.S. dollar equivalent) was included in the Index for the period from May 3, 2017 to October 20, 2017. On October 20, 2017, the Index Provider removed Kraken from the Index due to inconsistencies in the trade data timestamps. Effective February 17, 2017, the Index Provider removed OKCoin from the Index due to a suspension in withdrawals. Bitfinex was also previously included in the Index and was removed on May 3, 2017 due to difficulties withdrawing fiat currencies from its Taiwanese banks, and as a result, it stopped accepting incoming wires, leading to volatility in the price of Bitcoin on Bitfinex. In response to removing Bitfinex, the Index Provider added Kraken

to the Index on May 3, 2017. On October 20, 2017, the Index Provider removed Kraken from the Index due to inconsistencies in the trade data timestamps. On January 15, 2019, the Index Provider added back Kraken and also added Bittrex to the Index. On January 19, 2020, the Index Provider removed Bittrex due to a lack of trading volume and added LMAX Digital based on the exchange meeting the liquidity thresholds for inclusion in the Index. On April 19, 2020, the Index Provider removed itBit due to a lack of trading volume. On October 29, 2022, the Index Provider removed Bitstamp from the Index due to the exchange failing the minimum liquidity requirement, and added Binance.US as a Constituent Exchange due to the exchange meeting the minimum liquidity requirement as part of its scheduled quarterly review. On June 17, 2023, the Index Provider removed Binance.US from the Index, due to Binance.US's announcement that the exchange was suspending U.S. dollar deposits and withdrawals and planned to delist its U.S. dollar trading pairs. Effective July 29, 2023, the Index Provider added Bitstamp to the Index due to the exchange meeting the Index Provider's minimum liquidity requirement. On October 28, 2023, the Index Provider added Crypto.com to the Index due to the exchange meeting the Index Provider's minimum liquidity requirement.

- (2) Market share is calculated using trading volume data (in Bitcoins) for certain Digital Asset Exchanges, including Coinbase, Bitstamp, Kraken, and LMAX Digital, as well as certain other large U.S.-dollar denominated Digital Asset Exchanges that were not included in the Index as of September 30, 2023, including Binance.US (data included from April 1, 2020), Bitfinex, Bitflyer (data included from December 24, 2018), Bittrex (data included from July 31, 2018), Cboe Digital (data included from October 1, 2020), FTX.US (data included from July 1, 2021 through November 10, 2022), Gemini (data included from October 7, 2015), itBit, LakeBTC (data included from May 1, 2015 to June 1, 2018 and from January 27, 2019 to May 6, 2021), HitBTC (data included from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020) and OKCoin (data included through March 31, 2023).

Information regarding each Digital Asset Exchange may be found on the websites for such Digital Asset Exchanges, among other places. Such information is referenced for informational purposes only and is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Number of Bitcoins Represented by One

Basket . . . . . The number of whole and fractional Bitcoins represented by each Basket at any time is determined by dividing (x) the number of Bitcoin owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the relevant trade date, after deducting the number of Bitcoins representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place) by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Bitcoin (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by 100 (the “Basket Amount”).

The number of Bitcoin represented by a Share will gradually decrease over time due to the transfer of the Trust’s Bitcoin to pay the Sponsor’s Fee and the delivery or sale of the Trust’s Bitcoin to pay any Trust expenses not assumed by the Sponsor. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Activities of the Trust” in the Annual Report.

Creation and Redemption . . . . .

The Trust issues Shares on an ongoing basis, but only in one or more whole Baskets of 100 Shares each. In addition, on \_\_\_\_\_, the Trust reinstated its redemption program. Through its redemption program, the Trust redeems Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis in exchange for Bitcoins. Although the Trust issues and redeems Shares in increments of a Basket, or 100 Shares, at this time the Trust is only accepting creation and redemption orders from Authorized Participants in increments of 100 Baskets, or 10,000 Shares.

The creation and redemption of Baskets require the delivery to the Trust, or the distribution by the Trust, of the number of Bitcoins represented by the Baskets being created or redeemed, the number of which is equal to the “Basket Amount” as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed (the “Total Basket Amount”). The number of Bitcoins required to create a Basket, or to be delivered upon the redemption of a Basket, will gradually decrease over time due to the transfer of the Trust’s Bitcoins to pay the Sponsor’s Fee and the delivery or sale of the Trust’s Bitcoins to pay any Trust expenses not assumed by the Sponsor. The Trust will not accept or distribute cash in exchange for Baskets, other than upon its dissolution. See “Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares” in this prospectus and “Part I—Item 1. Business—Activities of the Trust” in the Annual Report.

Although the Trust creates Baskets only upon the receipt of Bitcoins, and redeems Baskets only by distributing Bitcoins, an Authorized Participant may choose to submit Cash Orders, pursuant to which the Authorized Participant will deposit cash with, or accept cash from, the Transfer Agent in connection with the creation and redemption of

Baskets. Cash Orders will be facilitated by the Transfer Agent and Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor, which will engage one or more eligible companies (each, a “Liquidity Provider”) to obtain or receive Bitcoin in connection with such orders. The Sponsor may in its sole discretion limit the number of Shares created pursuant to Cash Orders on any specified day without notice to the Authorized Participants and may direct the Marketing Agent to reject any Cash Orders in excess of such capped amount. The redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders will only take place if approved by the Sponsor in writing, in its sole discretion and on a case-by-case basis. See “Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares.”

The Sponsor has engaged certain unaffiliated Liquidity Providers, and intends to engage additional Liquidity Providers who are unaffiliated with the Trust in the future.

Net Asset Value . . . . . As of September 30, 2023, the Trust’s NAV was \$16,830,711,087 and the Trust’s NAV per Share was \$24.31. See “Part II—Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Selected Operating Data” in the Annual Report for additional information reconciling the Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings and Digital Asset Holdings per Share presented in the Annual Report against the GAAP metrics presented in our financial statements included hereto.

The Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings . . . . . As of September 30, 2023, the Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings were \$16,830,798,258 and the Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings per Share was \$24.31. The Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings is the aggregate value, expressed in U.S. dollars, of the Trust’s assets (other than U.S. dollars, other fiat currency, Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency), less the U.S. dollar value of the Trust’s expenses and other liabilities calculated in the manner set forth under “Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the Bitcoin Industry and Market” in the Annual Report.

The Sponsor also calculates the Digital Asset Holdings per Share, which equals the Digital Asset Holdings of the Trust divided by the number of Shares then outstanding. The Sponsor publishes the Digital Asset Holdings and Digital Asset Holdings per Share each business day as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, or as soon thereafter as practicable at the Trust’s website at [www.grayscale.com/crypto-products/grayscale-bitcoin-trust/](http://www.grayscale.com/crypto-products/grayscale-bitcoin-trust/). The contents of the website referred to above and any websites referred to herein are not incorporated into this filing. Further, our references to the URL for this website is intended to be an inactive textual reference only. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of Bitcoin and Determination of Digital Asset Holdings” in the Annual Report for a more detailed description of how the Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings and Digital Asset Holdings per Share are calculated.

Incidental Rights and IR Virtual

Currency ..... The Trust may from time to time come into possession of rights incident to its ownership of Bitcoins, which permit the Trust to acquire, or otherwise establish dominion and control over, other virtual currencies. These rights are generally expected to arise in connection with forks in the Blockchain, airdrops offered to holders of Bitcoins or other similar events and arise without any action of the Trust or of the Sponsor or Trustee on behalf of the Trust. We refer to these rights as “Incidental Rights” and any such virtual currency acquired through Incidental Rights as “IR Virtual Currency.” The Trust does not expect to take any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency it may hold into account for purposes of determining the Trust’s Digital Asset Holdings, the Digital Asset Holdings per Share, the NAV and the NAV per Share.

With respect to any fork, airdrop or similar event, the Sponsor may, in its discretion, decide to cause the Trust to distribute the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency in-kind to an agent of the shareholders for resale by such agent, or to irrevocably abandon the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. In the case of a distribution in-kind to an agent acting on behalf of the shareholders, the shareholders’ agent will attempt to sell the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, and if the agent is able to do so, will remit the cash proceeds to shareholders, net of expenses and any applicable withholding taxes. There can be no assurance as to the price or prices for any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency that the agent may realize, and the value of the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency may increase or decrease after any sale by the agent. In the case of abandonment of Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, the Trust would not receive any direct or indirect consideration for the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency and thus the value of the Shares will not reflect the value of the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency” in the Annual Report.

Trust Expenses ..... The Trust’s only ordinary recurring expense is expected to be the Sponsor’s Fee. The Sponsor’s Fee will accrue daily in U.S. dollars at an annual rate of % of the Digital Asset Holdings Fee Basis Amount of the Trust as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each day; provided that for a day that is not a business day, the calculation will be based on the Digital Asset Holdings Fee Basis Amount from the most recent business day, reduced by the accrued and unpaid Sponsor’s Fee for such most recent business day and for each day after such most recent business day and prior to the relevant calculation date. This dollar amount for each daily accrual will then be converted into Bitcoin by reference to the same Index Price used to determine such accrual. The Sponsor’s Fee is payable in Bitcoin to the Sponsor monthly in arrears.

If the Trust holds any Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency at any time, the Trust may also pay the Sponsor's Fee, in whole or in part, with such Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency by entering into an agreement with the Sponsor and transferring such Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency to the Sponsor at a value to be determined pursuant to such agreement. However, the Trust may use Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency to pay the Sponsor's Fee only if such agreement and transfer do not otherwise conflict with the terms of the Trust Agreement. If the Trust pays the Sponsor's Fee in Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency, in whole or in part, the amount of Bitcoin that would otherwise have been used to satisfy such payment will be correspondingly reduced.

To cause the Trust to pay the Sponsor's Fee, the Sponsor will instruct the Custodian to withdraw from the Trust's Digital Asset Account (as defined below) the number of Bitcoin equal to the accrued but unpaid Sponsor's Fee and transfer such Bitcoin to the Sponsor's account at such times as the Sponsor determines in its absolute discretion.

The Sponsor, from time to time, may temporarily waive all or a portion of the Sponsor's Fee in its sole discretion. Presently, the Sponsor does not intend to waive any of the Sponsor's Fee and there are no circumstances under which the Sponsor has determined it will definitely waive the fee.

After the Trust's payment of the Sponsor's Fee to the Sponsor, the Sponsor may elect to convert any Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency received as payment of the Sponsor's Fee into U.S. dollars. The rate at which the Sponsor converts such Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency to U.S. dollars may differ from the rate at which the relevant Sponsor's Fee was determined. The Trust will not be responsible for any fees and expenses incurred by the Sponsor to convert Bitcoin received in payment of the Sponsor's Fee into U.S. dollars.

As partial consideration for its receipt of the Sponsor's Fee, the Sponsor is obligated under the Trust Agreement to assume and pay all fees and other expenses incurred by the Trust in the ordinary course of its affairs, excluding taxes, but including: (i) the Marketing Fee, (ii) the Administrator Fee, (iii) the Custodian Fee and fees for any other security vendor engaged by the Trust, (iv) the Transfer Agent Fee, (v) the Trustee fee, (vi) the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including customary legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) in an amount up to \$600,000 in any given fiscal year, (vii) ordinary course, legal fees and expenses, (viii) audit fees, (ix) regulatory fees, including, if applicable, any fees relating to the registration of the Shares under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, (x) printing and mailing costs, (xi) costs of maintaining the Trust's website and (xii) applicable license fees (each, a "Sponsor-paid Expense" and

collectively, the “Sponsor-paid Expenses”), provided that any expense that qualifies as an Additional Trust Expense will be deemed to be an Additional Trust Expense and not a Sponsor-paid Expense.

The Trust may incur certain extraordinary, nonrecurring expenses that are not Sponsor-paid Expenses, including, but not limited to, taxes and governmental charges, expenses and costs of any extraordinary services performed by the Sponsor (or any other service provider) on behalf of the Trust to protect the Trust or the interests of shareholders (including in connection with any Incidental Rights and any IR Virtual Currency), any indemnification of the Custodian or other agents, service providers or counterparties of the Trust, the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) to the extent exceeding \$600,000 in any given fiscal year and extraordinary legal fees and expenses, including any legal fees and expenses incurred in connection with litigation, regulatory enforcement or investigation matters (collectively, “Additional Trust Expenses”).

In such circumstances, the Sponsor or its delegate (i) will instruct the Custodian to withdraw from the Trust’s Digital Asset Account Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency in such quantity as may be necessary to permit payment of such Additional Trust Expenses and (ii) may either (x) cause the Trust (or its delegate) to convert such Bitcoins, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency into U.S. dollars or other fiat currencies at the Actual Exchange Rate or (y) when the Sponsor incurs such expenses on behalf of the Trust, cause the Trust (or its delegate) to deliver such Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency in kind to the Sponsor in satisfaction of such Additional Trust Expenses.

Although the Sponsor is obligated to use its commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the highest price when engaging other parties to assist with the sale of the Trust’s Bitcoin to raise proceeds for any Additional Trust Expenses, the Sponsor will have some discretion in arranging for the sale of the Trust’s Bitcoin, and may engage one or more of its affiliates to assist with any such sale. The Sponsor and its respective directors, officers, employees, affiliates, and/or parties engaged to assist with the sale of the Trust’s Bitcoin may trade in the Bitcoin, digital asset, derivative or other markets for their own accounts, and in doing so may take positions opposite to or ahead of those held by the Trust and may compete with the Trust for positions in the marketplace. For example, sales of the Trust’s Bitcoin for the satisfaction of any Additional Trust Expenses or to convert Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency may create conflicts of interest on behalf of one or more such parties in respect of their obligation to the Trust. The Sponsor has adopted and implemented policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure compliance with applicable law, including a Compliance Manual and Code of Ethics,

which address conflicts of interest. See “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—Potential conflicts of interest may arise among the Sponsor or its affiliates and the Trust. The Sponsor and its affiliates have no fiduciary duties to the Trust and its shareholders other than as provided in the Trust Agreement, which may permit them to favor their own interests to the detriment of the Trust and its shareholders” in our Annual Report.

In order to raise proceeds to pay for any Additional Trust Expenses, the Sponsor would execute the sale of Bitcoin through eligible financial institutions that are subject to federal and state licensing requirements and practices regarding AML and KYC regulations, which may include an Authorized Participant, a Liquidity Provider or one or more of their respective affiliates. The Sponsor expects that these financial institutions will generally only have access to Digital Asset Exchanges or other venues that they reasonably believe are operating in compliance with applicable law, including federal and state licensing requirements, based upon information and assurances provided to it by each venue. The Trust is not responsible for paying any costs associated with the transfer of Bitcoins to the Sponsor in connection with the payment of the Sponsor’s Fee or the sale of Bitcoins in connection with the payment of any Additional Trust Expenses.

However, the Trust may use Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency to pay Additional Trust Expenses only if doing so does not otherwise conflict with the terms of the Trust Agreement. If the Trust pays the Additional Trust Expenses in Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency, in whole or in part, the amount of Bitcoin that would otherwise have been used to satisfy such payment will be correspondingly reduced. The number of Bitcoin represented by a Share will decline each time the Trust pays the Sponsor’s Fee or any Additional Trust Expenses by transferring or selling Bitcoin. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Expenses; Sales of Bitcoins” in the Annual Report.

The quantity of Bitcoins, Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency to be delivered to the Sponsor or other relevant payee in payment of the Sponsor’s Fee or any Additional Trust Expenses, or sold to permit payment of Additional Trust Expenses, will vary from time to time depending on the level of the Trust’s expenses and the value of Bitcoins, Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency held by the Trust. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Expenses; Sales of Bitcoins” in the Annual Report. Assuming that the Trust is a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, each delivery or sale of Bitcoins, Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency by the Trust for the payment of expenses will be a taxable event to shareholders. See “Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences—Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders.”

Voting Rights .....	The shareholders take no part in the management or control of the Trust. Under the Trust Agreement, shareholders have limited voting rights. For example, in the event that the Sponsor withdraws, a majority of the shareholders may elect and appoint a successor sponsor to carry out the affairs of the Trust. In addition, no amendments to the Trust Agreement that materially adversely affect the interests of shareholders may be made without the vote of at least a majority (over 50%) of the Shares (not including any Shares held by the Sponsor or its affiliates). However, the Sponsor may make any other amendments to the Trust Agreement in its sole discretion without shareholder consent provided that the Sponsor provides 20 days' notice of any such amendment. See "Description of Shares."
Termination Events .....	Upon dissolution of the Trust and surrender of Shares by the shareholders, shareholders will receive a distribution in U.S. dollars or in Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency, at the sole discretion of the Sponsor, after the Sponsor has sold the Trust's Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency, if applicable, and has paid or made provision for the Trust's claims and obligations. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Description of the Trust Agreement—The Trustee—Termination of the Trust" in the Annual Report. In exercising its discretion, the Sponsor expects to take into consideration a number of factors including, but not limited to, the intention that the Shares offer investors an opportunity to participate in Digital Asset Markets through an investment in securities, the operational challenges of transferring Bitcoin to the Trust's shareholders via their brokers or brokerage platforms and the ability of those parties to receive Bitcoin or cash, the tax consequences of distributing cash or Bitcoin, as well as the factors considered with respect to Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency. Based on the foregoing considerations, the Sponsor currently expects such distributions to be made in cash and to execute the sales of any Bitcoin, Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency in connection with the termination of the Trust through eligible financial institutions that are subject to federal and state licensing requirements and practices regarding AML and KYC regulations, which may include an Authorized Participant, a Liquidity Provider or one or more of their respective affiliates.
Authorized Participants .....	Baskets may be created or redeemed only by Authorized Participants. Each Authorized Participant must (i) be a registered broker-dealer, (ii) have entered into a Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent and (iii) in the case of Authorized Participants creating and redeeming Shares through In-Kind Orders, own a Bitcoin wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Agent (as defined below) and maintains an account with the Custodian. The Participant Agreement provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets and for the delivery of Bitcoin required for such creations or redemptions. See "Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares."

As of the date of this prospectus, the Trust has engaged \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as Authorized Participants. Additional Authorized Participants may be added at any time, subject to the discretion of the Sponsor.

Liquidity Providers . . . . . Liquidity Providers facilitate the purchase and sale of Bitcoins in connection with Cash Orders for creations or redemptions of Baskets. Liquidity Providers are engaged by Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor (in such capacity, the “Liquidity Engager”), and are not party to Participant Agreements. See “Description of Creation and Redemption of Shares.” The Liquidity Engager’s criteria for engaging one or more Liquidity Providers includes the completion of due diligence that considers each such Liquidity Provider’s Bitcoin trading capabilities, organizational structure, operating history, lines of business, controls, and other details necessary to evaluate their ability to facilitate Cash Orders. Liquidity Providers formalize their relationship through a Liquidity Provider Agreement between the Liquidity Engager, Liquidity Provider, and Grayscale Securities, LLC, as liquidity administrator. Pursuant to such Liquidity Provider Agreements, the Liquidity Providers will be contractually obligated to receive Bitcoin in exchange for cash under certain circumstances.

As of the date of this prospectus, the Liquidity Engager has engaged \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as Liquidity Providers. Additional Liquidity Providers may be added at any time, subject to the discretion of the Liquidity Engager.

Clearance and Settlement . . . . . The Shares are evidenced by one or more global certificates that the Transfer Agent issues to DTC. The Shares are primarily available in book-entry form. Shareholders may hold their Shares through DTC if they are direct participants in DTC (“DTC Participants”), or indirectly through entities that are DTC Participants.

Risk Factors . . . . . See the risks discussed in “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Annual Report, “Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Q2 2023 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein before you invest in the Shares.

## RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Shares involves risks, including the risks described below which update the Trust's previously filed risk factors to the extent applicable, as well as those risks set forth under "Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Annual Report, "Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors" in the Q2 2023 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein. You should also refer to the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, including the Trust's financial statements and related notes thereto, before making an investment decision.

### **Risk Factors Related to the Offering**

***The liquidity of the Shares may be affected if Authorized Participants cease to perform their obligations under the Participant Agreements or the Liquidity Engager is unable to engage Liquidity Providers.***

In the event that one or more Authorized Participants having substantial interests in Shares or otherwise responsible for a significant portion of the Shares' daily trading volume on NYSE Arca terminates its Participant Agreement, the liquidity of the Shares would likely decrease, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares. In addition, if the Liquidity Engager is unable to engage one or more Liquidity Providers to obtain or receive Bitcoin in connection with Cash Orders, the Trust may have difficulty maintaining the participation of certain Authorized Participants or engaging additional Authorized Participants. Under such circumstances, the liquidity of the Shares would likely decrease, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares.

***The Shares may trade at a price that is at, above or below the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share as a result of the non-current trading hours between NYSE Arca and the Digital Asset Exchange Market.***

The Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share will fluctuate with changes in the market value of Bitcoin, and the Sponsor expects the trading price of the Shares to fluctuate in accordance with changes in the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share, as well as market supply and demand. However, the Shares may trade on NYSE Arca at a price that is at, above or below the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share for a variety of reasons. For example, NYSE Arca is open for trading in the Shares for a limited period each day, but the Digital Asset Exchange Market is a 24-hour marketplace. During periods when NYSE Arca is closed but Digital Asset Exchanges are open, significant changes in the price of Bitcoin on the Digital Asset Exchange Market could result in a difference in performance between the value of Bitcoin as measured by the Index and the most recent Digital Asset Holdings per Share or closing trading price. For example, if the price of Bitcoin on the Digital Asset Exchange Market, and the value of Bitcoin as measured by the Index, move significantly in a negative direction after the close of NYSE Arca, the trading price of the Shares may "gap" down to the full extent of such negative price shift when NYSE Arca reopens. If the price of Bitcoin on the Digital Asset Exchange Market drops significantly during hours NYSE Arca is closed, shareholders may not be able to sell their Shares until after the "gap" down has been fully realized, resulting in an inability to mitigate losses in a negative market. Even during periods when NYSE Arca is open, large Digital Asset Exchanges (or a substantial number of smaller Digital Asset Exchanges) may be lightly traded or closed for any number of reasons, which could increase trading spreads and widen any premium or discount on the Shares.

***The commencement of a redemption program, in conjunction with the listing of the Shares on NYSE Arca, may cause the Shares to trade at a discount to the Digital Asset Holdings per Share.***

Historically, the Shares have traded on OTCQX at both premiums and discounts to the Digital Asset Holdings per Share, which at times have been substantial. The Sponsor believes that the trading price of the Shares has diverged from the Digital Asset Holdings per Share in the past due, in part, to the holding period under Rule 144 for Shares purchased in the private placement and the lack of an ongoing redemption program, as a result of which Authorized Participants have been unable to take advantage of arbitrage opportunities when the market value of the Shares deviated from the Digital Asset Holdings per Share. Although the Sponsor cannot predict with certainty what effect the commencement of the Trust's redemption program, in conjunction with the listing of the Shares on NYSE Arca, will have on the trading price of the Shares, it may have the effect of

reducing any premium or discount at which the Shares have been trading on the OTCQX immediately prior to the commencement of the redemption program.

***Shareholders may suffer a loss on their investment if the Shares trade above or below the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share.***

Historically, the Shares have traded at both premiums and discounts to the Digital Asset Holdings per Share, which at times have been substantial. If the Shares trade on NYSE Arca in the future at a premium, investors who purchase Shares on NYSE Arca will pay more for their Shares than investors who purchase Shares directly from Authorized Participants. In contrast, if the Shares trade on NYSE Arca in the future at a discount, investors who purchase Shares directly from Authorized Participants will pay more for their Shares than investors who purchase Shares on NYSE Arca. The premium or discount at which the Shares have traded has fluctuated over time. For example, from May 5, 2015 to September 30, 2023, the maximum premium of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX over the value of the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share was 142% and the average premium was 37%. Moreover, the closing price of the Shares as quoted on OTCQX at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day between May 5, 2015 to September 30, 2023, has been quoted at a discount on 655 days. From May 5, 2015 to September 30, 2023, the maximum discount of the closing price of the Shares quoted on OTCQX below the value of the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share was 49% and the average discount was 26%. As of September 29, 2023, the last business day of such period, the Trust's Shares were quoted on OTCQX at a discount of 21% to the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings per Share. As a result, shareholders who purchase Shares on NYSE Arca at a premium may suffer a loss on their investment if they sell their Shares at a time when the premium has decreased from the premium at which they purchased the Shares even if the Digital Asset Holdings per Share remains the same. Likewise, shareholders that purchase Shares directly from the Trust may suffer a loss on their investment if they sell their Shares at a time when the Shares are trading at a discount on NYSE Arca. Furthermore, shareholders may suffer a loss on their investment even if the Digital Asset Holdings per Share increases because the decrease in any premium or increase in any discount may offset any increase in the Digital Asset Holdings per Share.

***There is no guarantee that an active trading market for the Shares will develop.***

Although an active market for the Shares had developed on OTCQX and the Shares have begun trading on NYSE Arca, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will develop or, to the extent an active market does develop, be maintained or continue to develop on NYSE Arca. In addition, NYSE Arca can halt the trading of the Shares at any time and for a variety of reasons. To the extent that NYSE Arca halts trading in the Shares, whether on a temporary or permanent basis, shareholders may not be able to buy or sell Shares, which could adversely affect the value of the Shares. If an active trading market for the Shares does not develop or continue to exist, the market prices and liquidity of the Shares may be adversely affected.

**Risk Factors Related to the Digital Asset Markets**

***Due to the unregulated nature and lack of transparency surrounding the operations of Digital Asset Exchanges, they may experience fraud, business failures, security failures or operational problems, which may adversely affect the value of Bitcoin and, consequently, the value of the Shares.***

Digital Asset Exchanges are relatively new and, in many ways, unregulated. While many prominent Digital Asset Exchanges provide the public with significant information regarding their ownership structure, management teams, corporate practices and regulatory compliance, many other Digital Asset Exchanges do not provide this information. Furthermore, while Digital Asset Exchanges are and may continue to be subject to federal and state licensing requirements in the United States, Digital Asset Exchanges do not currently appear to be subject to regulation in a similar manner as other regulated trading platforms, such as national securities exchanges or designated contract markets. As a result, the marketplace may lose confidence in Digital Asset Exchanges, including prominent exchanges that handle a significant volume of Bitcoin trading.

Many Digital Asset Exchanges are unlicensed, unregulated, operate without extensive supervision by governmental authorities, and do not provide the public with significant information regarding their ownership structure, management team, corporate practices, cybersecurity, and regulatory compliance. In particular, those located outside the United States may be subject to significantly less stringent regulatory and compliance requirements in their local jurisdictions and may take the position that they are not subject to laws and regulations that would apply to a national securities exchange or designated contract market in the United States, or may, as a practical matter, be beyond the ambit of U.S. regulators. As a result, trading activity on or reported by these Digital Asset Exchanges is generally significantly less regulated than trading activity on or reported by regulated U.S. securities and commodities markets, and may reflect behavior that would be prohibited in regulated U.S. trading venues. For example, in 2022 one report claimed that trading volumes on unregulated Digital Asset Exchanges was inflated by over 70% due to false or non-economic trades, with specific focus on unlicensed exchanges located outside of the United States. Such reports may indicate that the Digital Asset Exchange Market is significantly smaller than expected and that the U.S. makes up a significantly larger percentage of the Digital Asset Exchange Market than is commonly understood. Nonetheless, any actual or perceived false trading in the Digital Asset Exchange Market, and any other fraudulent or manipulative acts and practices, could adversely affect the value of Bitcoin and/or negatively affect the market perception of Bitcoin, which could in turn adversely impact the value of the Shares.

The SEC has also identified possible sources of fraud and manipulation in the Digital Asset Markets generally, including, among others (1) “wash-trading”; (2) persons with a dominant position in Bitcoin manipulating Bitcoin pricing; (3) hacking of the Bitcoin Network and trading platforms; (4) malicious control of the Bitcoin Network; (5) trading based on material, non-public information (for example, plans of market participants to significantly increase or decrease their holdings in Bitcoin, new sources of demand for Bitcoin) or based on the dissemination of false and misleading information; (6) manipulative activity involving purported “stablecoins,” including Tether; and (7) fraud and manipulation at Digital Asset Markets. The use or presence of such acts and practices in the Digital Asset Markets could, for example, falsely inflate the volume of Bitcoin present in the Digital Asset Markets or cause distortions in the price of Bitcoin, among other things that could adversely affect the Trust or cause losses to Shareholders. Moreover, tools to detect and deter fraudulent or manipulative trading activities, such as market manipulation, front-running of trades, and wash-trading, may not be available to or employed by Digital Asset Markets, or may not exist at all. Many Digital Asset Markets also lack certain safeguards put in place by exchanges for more traditional assets to enhance the stability of trading on the exchanges and prevent “flash crashes,” such as limit-down circuit breakers. As a result, the prices of Bitcoin on Digital Asset Markets may be subject to larger and/or more frequent sudden declines than assets traded on more traditional exchanges.

In addition, over the past several years, some Digital Asset Exchanges have been closed, been subject to criminal and civil litigation and have entered into bankruptcy proceedings due to fraud and manipulative activity, business failure and/or security breaches. In many of these instances, the customers of such Digital Asset Exchanges were not compensated or made whole for the partial or complete losses of their account balances in such Digital Asset Exchanges. While smaller Digital Asset Exchanges are less likely to have the infrastructure and capitalization that make larger Digital Asset Exchanges more stable, larger Digital Asset Exchanges are more likely to be appealing targets for hackers and malware and their shortcomings or ultimate failures are more likely to have contagion effects on the digital asset ecosystem, and therefore may be more likely to be targets of regulatory enforcement action. For example, in February 2014, Mt. Gox, the largest Digital Asset Exchange at the time, halted withdrawals of Bitcoin and subsequently filed for bankruptcy protection in Japan following a hack that resulted in the loss of several hundred thousand Bitcoin. In the two weeks following the halt of Bitcoin withdrawals from Mt. Gox, the value of one Bitcoin fell on other exchanges from around \$795 to \$578. Failure and shortcomings of large Digital Asset Exchanges have since continued; in January 2015, Bitstamp announced that approximately 19,000 Bitcoin had been stolen from its operational or “hot” wallets, and in August 2016, it was reported that almost 120,000 Bitcoins worth around \$78 million were stolen from Bitfinex. The value of Bitcoin and other digital assets immediately decreased over 10% following reports of the theft at Bitfinex. Regulatory enforcement actions have followed, such as in July 2017, when FinCEN assessed a \$110 million fine

against BTC-E, a now defunct Digital Asset Exchange, for facilitating crimes such as drug sales and ransomware attacks. In addition, in December 2017, Yopian, the operator of Seoul-based digital asset exchange Yobit, suspended digital asset trading and filed for bankruptcy following a hack that resulted in a loss of 17% of Yopian's assets. In January 2018, the Japanese digital asset exchange, Coincheck, was hacked, resulting in losses of approximately \$535 million, and in February 2018, the Italian digital asset exchange Bitrail, was hacked, resulting in approximately \$170 million in losses. In May 2019, one of the world's largest Digital Asset Exchanges, Binance, was hacked, resulting in losses of approximately \$40 million. More recently, in November 2022, FTX, another of the world's largest Digital Asset Exchanges, filed for bankruptcy protection and subsequently halted customer withdrawals as well as trading on its FTX.US platform. While details and events surrounding the failure continue to develop, and it is unclear what the eventual impacts of its bankruptcy will be, it appears that fraud, security failures and operational problems all played a role in FTX's issues. Moreover, Digital Asset Exchanges have been a subject of enhanced regulatory and enforcement scrutiny, and Digital Asset Markets have experienced continued instability, following the failure of FTX. In particular, in June 2023, the SEC brought enforcement actions against Binance and Coinbase, two of the largest digital asset trading platforms, alleging that Binance and Coinbase operated unregistered securities exchanges, brokerages and clearing agencies. In addition, in November 2023, the SEC brought similar charges against Kraken, alleging that it operated as an unregistered securities exchange, brokerage and clearing agency.

Negative perception, a lack of stability and standardized regulation in the Digital Asset Markets and/or the closure or temporary shutdown of Digital Asset Exchanges due to fraud, business failure, security breaches or government mandated regulation, and associated losses by customers, may reduce confidence in the Bitcoin Network and result in greater volatility in the prices of Bitcoin. Furthermore, the closure or temporary shutdown of a Digital Asset Exchange used in calculating the Index Price may result in a loss of confidence in the Trust's ability to determine its Digital Asset Holdings on a daily basis. These potential consequences of such a Digital Asset Exchange's failure could adversely affect the value of the Shares.

***The Index Price used to calculate the value of the Trust's Bitcoin may be volatile, and purchasing and selling activity in the Digital Asset Markets associated with Basket creations and redemptions may affect the Index Price and Share trading prices, adversely affecting the value of the Shares.***

The price of Bitcoin on public Digital Asset Exchanges has a limited history, and during this history, Bitcoin prices on the Digital Asset Markets more generally, and on Digital Asset Exchanges individually, have been volatile and subject to influence by many factors, including operational interruptions. While the Index is designed to limit exposure to the interruption of individual Digital Asset Exchanges, the Index Price, and the price of Bitcoin generally, remains subject to volatility experienced by Digital Asset Exchanges, and such volatility could adversely affect the value of the Shares. For example, from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2023, the Index Price ranged from \$3,164.99 to \$67,352.59, with the straight average being \$23,007.03 through September 30, 2023. In addition, during the twelve months ended September 30, 2023, the Index Price ranged from \$15,768.02 to \$31,664.24. The Sponsor has not observed a material difference between the Index Price and average prices from the constituent Digital Asset Exchanges individually or as a group. The price of Bitcoin more generally has experienced volatility similar to the Index Price during these periods. For additional discussion quantifying the volatility of Bitcoin prices, see "Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Historical Digital Asset Holdings and Bitcoin Prices" in the Annual Report.

Furthermore, because the number of Digital Asset Exchanges is limited, the Index will necessarily be comprised of a limited number of Digital Asset Exchanges. If a Digital Asset Exchange were subjected to regulatory, volatility or other pricing issues, the Index Provider would have limited ability to remove such Digital Asset Exchange from the Index, which could skew the price of Bitcoin as represented by the Index. Trading on a limited number of Digital Asset Exchanges may result in less favorable prices and decreased liquidity of Bitcoin and, therefore, could have an adverse effect on the value of the Shares.

Purchasing activity associated with acquiring Bitcoin required for the creation of Baskets may increase the market price of Bitcoin on the Digital Asset Markets, which will result in higher prices for the Shares. Alternatively, selling activity associated with sales of Bitcoin withdrawn from the Trust in connection with the redemption of Baskets may decrease the market price of Bitcoin on the Digital Asset Markets, which will result in lower prices for the Shares. Increases or decreases in the market price of Bitcoin may also occur as a result of the purchasing or selling activity of other market participants. Other market participants may attempt to benefit from an increase or decrease in the market price of Bitcoin that may result from increased purchasing or selling activity of Bitcoin connected with the creation or redemption of Baskets. Consequently, the market price of Bitcoin may decline immediately after Baskets are created. Decreases in the market price of Bitcoin may also occur as a result of sales in Secondary Markets by other market participants. If the Index Price declines, the value of the Shares will generally also decline.

***Competition from the emergence or growth of other digital assets or methods of investing in Bitcoin could have a negative impact on the price of Bitcoin and adversely affect the value of the Shares.***

Bitcoin was the first digital asset to gain global adoption and critical mass, and as a result, it has a “first to market” advantage over other digital assets. As of September 30, 2023, Bitcoin was the largest digital asset by market capitalization, as tracked by CoinMarketCap.com, and had the largest user base and largest combined mining power. Despite this first to market advantage, as of September 30, 2023, the alternative digital assets tracked by CoinMarketCap.com had a total market capitalization of approximately \$958.3 billion (including the approximately \$525.9 billion market cap of Bitcoin), as calculated using market prices and total available supply of each digital asset, excluding tokens pegged to other assets. In addition, many consortiums and financial institutions are also researching and investing resources into private or permissioned blockchain platforms rather than open platforms like the Bitcoin Network. Competition from the emergence or growth of alternative digital assets and smart contracts platforms, such as Ethereum, Solana, Avalanche or Cardano, could have a negative impact on the demand for, and price of, Bitcoin and thereby adversely affect the value of the Shares.

In addition, some digital asset networks, including the Bitcoin Network, may be the target of ill will from users of other digital asset networks. For example, Litecoin is the result of a hard fork of Bitcoin. Some users of the Bitcoin Network may harbor ill will toward the Litecoin Network, and vice versa. These or other users may attempt to negatively impact the use or adoption of the Bitcoin Network.

Investors may also invest in Bitcoin through means other than the Shares, including through direct investments in Bitcoin and other financial vehicles, including securities backed by or linked to Bitcoin and digital asset financial vehicles similar to the Trust. While the Trust is the largest, most liquid and longest standing Bitcoin investment vehicle in the world, the Trust and the Sponsor face competition with respect to the creation of competing exchange-traded spot Bitcoin products, among other digital asset vehicles, several of which have applications pending before the SEC. Whether the Trust is successful in maintaining its scale and achieving its intended competitive position may be impacted by a range of factors, including the Trust’s timing in entering the market relative to competing spot Bitcoin exchange traded products and its fee structure relative to those competing products. For example, if the SEC were to approve many or all of the currently pending applications for such exchange-traded spot Bitcoin products, the Trust could fail to continue to acquire substantial assets. The Trust’s competitors may also charge a substantially lower fee than the Sponsor Fee in an effort to achieve initial market acceptance and scale, which could cause investors to favor such competing products over the Trust.

If the Trust fails to continue to maintain or grow sufficient scale due to competition, the Sponsor may have difficulty raising sufficient revenue to cover the costs associated with maintaining the Trust and such shortfalls could impact the Sponsor’s ability to properly invest in robust ongoing operations and controls of the Trust to minimize the risk of operating events, errors, or other forms of losses to the Shareholders. Furthermore, the Trust may fail to continue to attract adequate liquidity in the secondary market due to such competition, resulting in a small number of Authorized Participants willing to make a market in the Shares, which in turn could result in the Shares trading at a significant premium or discount for extended periods. Likewise, market and financial

conditions, among other conditions outside the Trust's control, may cause investors to find it more attractive to gain exposure to Bitcoin through other vehicles, rather than the Trust.

In addition, to the extent digital asset financial vehicles other than the Trust tracking the price of Bitcoin come to represent a significant proportion of the demand for Bitcoin, large purchases or redemptions of the securities of these digital asset financial vehicles, or private funds holding Bitcoin, could negatively affect the Index Price, the Digital Asset Holdings, the value of the Shares, the NAV and the NAV per Share. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Trust will be able to maintain its scale and achieve its intended competitive positioning relative to competitors, which could adversely affect the performance of the Trust and the value of the Shares.

### **Risk Factors Related to the Regulation of the Trust and the Shares**

#### ***The treatment of the Trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes is uncertain.***

The Trust has taken certain positions with respect to the tax consequences of Incidental Rights and its receipt of IR Virtual Currency. If the IRS were to disagree with, and successfully challenge, any of these positions the Trust might not qualify as a grantor trust. In addition, the Sponsor has delivered the Pre-Creation Abandonment Notices to the former custodian and the Custodian, stating that the Trust is irrevocably abandoning, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time or Redemption Time, all Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which it has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time. The Trust has also abandoned Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency through Affirmative Actions. There can be no complete assurance that these abandonments will be treated as effective for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Trust were treated as owning any asset other than Bitcoins as of any date on which it creates or redeems Shares, it would likely cease to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Proceeds received by the Trust from the issuance and sale of Baskets will consist of Bitcoins deposited with the Trust in connection with creations. Such Bitcoins will only be (i) owned by the Trust, (ii) transferred (or converted to U.S. dollars, if necessary) to pay the Trust's expenses, (iii) distributed in connection with the redemption of Baskets or (iv) liquidated in the event that the Trust terminates or as otherwise required by law or regulation.

## DESCRIPTION OF SHARES

The Trust is authorized under the Trust Agreement to create and issue an unlimited number of Shares. Shares are issued only in Baskets (a Basket equals a block of 100 Shares) in connection with creations. The Shares represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in and ownership of the Trust and have no par value. On January 26, 2018, the Trust completed a 91-for-1 Share split of the Trust's issued and outstanding Shares. In connection with the Share Split, shareholders of record on January 22, 2018 received ninety additional Shares of the Trust for each Share held. The number of outstanding Shares and per-Share amounts disclosed for periods prior to January 26, 2018 have been retroactively adjusted to reflect the effects of the Share Split, as applicable.

### Description of Limited Rights

The Shares do not represent a traditional investment and should not be viewed as similar to "shares" of a corporation operating a business enterprise with management and a board of directors. A shareholder will not have the statutory rights normally associated with the ownership of shares of a corporation. Each Share is transferable, is fully paid and non-assessable and entitles the holder to vote on the limited matters upon which shareholders may vote under the Trust Agreement. For example, shareholders do not have the right to elect or remove directors and will not receive dividends. The Shares do not entitle their holders to any conversion or pre-emptive rights or, except as discussed below, any redemption rights or rights to distributions.

### Voting and Approvals

The shareholders take no part in the management or control of the Trust. Under the Trust Agreement, shareholders have limited voting rights. For example, in the event that the Sponsor withdraws, a majority of the shareholders may elect and appoint a successor sponsor to carry out the affairs of the Trust. In addition, no amendments to the Trust Agreement that materially adversely affect the interests of shareholders may be made without the vote of at least a majority (over 50%) of the then-outstanding Shares (not including any Shares held by the Sponsor or its affiliates); provided, however, that a shareholder shall be deemed to consent to a modification or amendment of the Trust Agreement if the Sponsor has notified such shareholder in writing of the proposed modification or amendment and such shareholder has not, within twenty (20) calendar days of such notice, notified the Sponsor in writing that such shareholder objects to such modification or amendment. Additionally, subject to certain limitations, the Sponsor may make any other amendments to the Trust Agreement which do not materially adversely affect the interests of the shareholders in its sole discretion without shareholder consent.

### Redemptions and Distributions

Through its redemption program, the Trust may redeem Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis in exchange for Bitcoins.

Pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement, the Trust may make distributions on the Shares in-cash or in-kind, including in such form as is necessary or permissible for the Trust to facilitate its shareholders' access to any Incidental Rights or to IR Virtual Currency.

In addition, if the Trust is terminated and liquidated, the Sponsor will distribute to the shareholders any amounts of the cash proceeds of the liquidation remaining after the satisfaction of all outstanding liabilities of the Trust and the establishment of reserves for applicable taxes, other governmental charges and contingent or future liabilities as the Sponsor will determine. See "Part I—Item 1. Business—Description of the Trust Agreement—The Trustee—Termination of the Trust" in the Annual Report. Shareholders of record on the record date fixed by the Transfer Agent for a distribution will be entitled to receive their pro rata portions of any distribution.

## **Appointment of Agent**

Pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement, by holding the Shares, shareholders will be deemed to agree that the Sponsor may cause the Trust to appoint an agent (any person appointed in such capacity, an “Agent”) to act on their behalf in connection with any distribution of Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency if the Sponsor has determined in good faith that such appointment is reasonably necessary or in the best interests of the Trust and the shareholders in order to facilitate the distribution of any Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency. The Sponsor may cause the Trust to appoint Grayscale Investments, LLC (acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor) or any of its affiliates to act in such capacity.

Any Agent appointed to facilitate a distribution of Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency will receive an in-kind distribution of Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency on behalf of the shareholders of record with respect to such distribution, and following receipt of such distribution, will determine, in its sole discretion and without any direction from the Trust, or the Sponsor, in its capacity as Sponsor of the Trust, whether and when to sell the distributed Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency on behalf of the record date shareholders. If the Agent is able to do so, it will remit the cash proceeds to the record date shareholders. There can be no assurance as to the price or prices for any Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency that the Agent may realize, and the value of the Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency may increase or decrease after any sale by the Agent.

Any Agent appointed pursuant to the Trust Agreement will not receive any compensation in connection with its role as agent. However, any Agent will be entitled to receive from the record-date shareholders, out of the distributed Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency, an amount of Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency with an aggregate fair market value equal to the amount of administrative and other reasonable expenses incurred by the Agent in connection with its activities as agent of the record-date shareholders, including expenses incurred by the Agent in connection with any post-distribution sale of such Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency.

The Sponsor currently expects to cause the Trust to appoint Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor, as Agent to facilitate any distribution of Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency to shareholders. The Trust has no right to receive any information about any distributed Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency or the disposition thereof from the record date shareholders, their Agent or any other person.

## **Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency**

It is possible that, in the future, the Trust will hold Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency that it receives in connection with its investment in Bitcoins. The uncertainties with respect to the treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes, described above, apply to Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency, as well as to Bitcoins. As described above, the Notice addressed only digital assets that are “convertible virtual currency,” defined as digital assets that have an equivalent value in fiat currency or that act as substitutes for fiat currency. It is conceivable that certain IR Virtual Currency the Trust may receive in the future would not be within the scope of the Notice.

In general, it is expected that the Trust would receive Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency as a consequence of a fork, an airdrop or a similar occurrence related to its ownership of Bitcoins. As described above, the Ruling & FAQs include guidance to the effect that, under certain circumstances, forks (and, presumably, airdrops) of digital assets are taxable events giving rise to ordinary income, but there continues to be uncertainty with respect to the timing and amount of the income inclusions. The Trust’s receipt of Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency may give rise to other tax issues. The possibility that the Trust will receive Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency thus increases the uncertainties and risks with respect to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in Shares.

The Trust may distribute Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, or cash from the sale of Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency, to the shareholders. Alternatively, the Trust may form a liquidating trust to which it contributes

Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency and distribute interests in the liquidating trust to the shareholders. Any such distribution will not be a taxable event for a U.S. Holder (as defined below). A U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency distributed, whether directly or through the medium of a liquidating trust, will be the same as the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the distributed assets immediately prior to the distribution, and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of the Trust's remaining assets will not include the amount of such basis. Immediately after any such distribution, the U.S. Holder's holding period with respect to the distributed Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency will be the same as the U.S. Holder's holding period with respect to the distributed assets immediately prior to the distribution. A subsequent sale of the distributed Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency will generally be a taxable event for a U.S. Holder.

On May 2, 2018 and July 29, 2019, the Sponsor delivered to the former custodian and the current Custodian, respectively, on behalf of the Trust, a notice (each, as supplemented from time to time, a "Pre-Creation Abandonment Notice," and collectively (as so supplemented), the "Pre-Creation Abandonment Notices") stating that the Trust is abandoning irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each time at which the Trust creates Shares (any such time, a "Creation Time"), all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time. On \_\_\_\_\_, the Trust delivered a supplemental notice (as supplemented from time to time, the "Pre-Redemption Abandonment Notice" and, together with the Pre-Creation Abandonment Notices, the "Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices") to the Custodian providing that the Trust also will abandon irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each time at which the Trust redeems Shares (any such time, a "Redemption Time"), all Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time. An abandonment made pursuant to a Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notice is referred to herein as a "Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment." A Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment will not apply to any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency if (i) the Trust has taken, or is taking at such time, an "Affirmative Action" to acquire or abandon such Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency at any time prior to the relevant Creation Time or Redemption Time or (ii) such Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency has been subject to a previous Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment. An Affirmative Action refers to a written notification from the Sponsor to the Custodian of the Trust's intention (i) to acquire and/or retain an Incidental Right and/or IR Virtual Currency or (ii) to abandon, with effect prior to the relevant Creation Time or Redemption Time, an Incidental Right and/or IR Virtual Currency.

In determining whether to take an Affirmative Action to acquire and/or retain an Incidental Right and/or IR Virtual Currency, the Trust takes into consideration a number of factors, including:

- the Custodian's agreement to provide access to the IR Virtual Currency;
- the availability of a safe and practical way to custody the IR Virtual Currency;
- the costs of taking possession and/or maintaining ownership of the IR Virtual Currency and whether such costs exceed the benefits of owning such IR Virtual Currency;
- whether there are any legal restrictions on, or tax implications with respect to, the ownership, sale or disposition of the Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency, regardless of whether there is a safe and practical way to custody and secure such Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency;
- the existence of a suitable market into which the Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency may be sold; and
- whether the Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency is, or may be, a security under federal securities laws.

In determining whether the IR Virtual Currency is, or may be, a security under federal securities laws, the Sponsor takes into account a number of factors, including the definition of a "security" under Section 2(a)(1) of the Securities Act and Section 3(a)(10) of the Exchange Act, *SEC v. W.J. Howey Co.*, 328 U.S. 293 (1946) and the case law interpreting it, as well as reports, orders, press releases, public statements and speeches by the SEC providing guidance on when a digital asset is a "security" for purposes of the federal securities laws.

As a result of the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices, since May 2, 2018, the Trust has irrevocably abandoned, prior to the Creation Time of any Shares (and, after \_\_\_\_\_, prior to the Redemption Time of any Shares), any Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency that it may have any right to receive at such time. The Trust has also abandoned Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency through Affirmative Actions. The Trust has no right to receive any Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency abandoned pursuant to either the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices or Affirmative Actions. Furthermore, the Custodian has no authority, pursuant to the Custodian Agreement or otherwise, to exercise, obtain or hold, as the case may be, any such abandoned Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency on behalf of the Trust or to transfer any such abandoned Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency to the Trust if the Trust terminates its custodial arrangement with the Custodian.

The Sponsor intends to evaluate each fork, airdrop or similar occurrence on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Trust's legal advisors, tax consultants, and Custodian, and may decide to abandon any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency resulting from a hard fork, airdrop or similar occurrence should the Sponsor conclude, in its discretion, that such abandonment is in the best interests of the Trust. In the event the Sponsor decides to sell any Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency, it would expect to execute the sale to or through an eligible financial institution that is subject to federal and state licensing requirements and practices regarding AML and KYC regulations, which may include an Authorized Participant, a Liquidity Provider or one or more of their respective affiliates. In any case, the Sponsor expects that such financial institutions would only be willing to transact with the Sponsor on behalf of the Trust if they considered it possible to trade the Incidental Right or IR Virtual Currency on a Digital Asset Exchange or other venue to which they have access. The Sponsor expects that these financial institutions will generally only have access to Digital Asset Exchanges or other venues that they reasonably believe are operating in compliance with applicable law, including federal and state licensing requirements, based upon information and assurances provided to it by each venue.

The Sponsor has controls in place to monitor for material hard forks or airdrops. The Sponsor will notify investors of any material change to its policy with respect to Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency by filing a current report on Form 8-K.

For purposes of the foregoing:

- **“Creation Time”**—With respect to the creation of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust creates such Shares.
- **“Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment”**—The abandonment by the Trust, irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust would otherwise be entitled, effective immediately prior to a Creation Time or a Redemption Time (as the case may be) for the Trust.
- **“Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notice”**—A notice, as supplemented from time to time, delivered by the Sponsor to the former custodian and the current Custodian, on behalf of the Trust, stating that the Trust is abandoning irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time or Redemption Time (as the case may be), all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which the Trust has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time.
- **“Redemption Time”**—With respect to the redemption of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust redeems such Shares.

### **Book-Entry Form**

Shares are held primarily in book-entry form by the Transfer Agent. The Sponsor or its delegate directs the Transfer Agent to credit or debit, as applicable, the number of Baskets to the applicable Authorized Participant. The Transfer Agent issues or cancels Baskets, as applicable. Transfers will be made in accordance with standard securities industry practice. The Sponsor may cause the Trust to issue Shares in certificated form in limited circumstances in its sole discretion.

**Share Splits**

In its discretion, the Sponsor may direct the Transfer Agent to declare a split or reverse split in the number of Shares outstanding and to make a corresponding change in the number of Shares constituting a Basket. For example, if the Sponsor believes that the per Share price in the secondary market for Shares has risen or fallen outside a desirable trading price range, it may declare such a split or reverse split.

## CREATION AND REDEMPTION OF SHARES

The following is a description of the material terms of the Trust Documents as they relate to the creation and redemption of the Trust's Shares on an ongoing basis.

### General

The Trust issues Shares to and redeems Shares from Authorized Participants on an ongoing basis, but only in one or more Baskets (with a Basket being a block of 100 Shares). The Trust will not issue fractions of a Basket. Although the Trust issues and redeems Shares in increments of a Basket, or 100 Shares, at this time the Trust is only accepting creation and redemption orders from Authorized Participants in increments of 100 Baskets, or 10,000 Shares. The Sponsor believes that the creation and redemption order size of 10,000 Shares will enable Authorized Participants to manage inventory and facilitate an effective arbitrage mechanism for the Trust. However, the Sponsor may in the future adjust of the creation and redemption order size in order to improve the effectiveness of the activities of Authorized Participants in the secondary market for the Shares if the Sponsor determines it to be necessary or advisable. As of November 21, 2023, 8.967535 Bitcoins are required to create 100 Baskets, or 10,000 Shares, or less than 0.01% of the number of Bitcoins traded each day on average. As such, the Sponsor does not expect that the size of the Baskets will have an impact on the arbitrage mechanism.

The creation and redemption of Baskets will be made only in exchange for the delivery to the Trust, or the distribution by the Trust, of the number of whole and fractional Bitcoins represented by each Basket being created or redeemed, which is determined by dividing (x) the number of Bitcoins owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the trade date of a creation or redemption order, after deducting the number of Bitcoins representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Bitcoin (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by 100 (the "Basket Amount"). The U.S. dollar value of a Basket is calculated by multiplying the Basket Amount by the Index Price as of the trade date (the "Basket NAV"). The Basket NAV multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed is referred to as the "Total Basket NAV." All questions as to the calculation of the Basket Amount will be conclusively determined by the Sponsor and will be final and binding on all persons interested in the Trust. One or more major market data vendors may provide an intra-day indicative value ("IIV") per Share updated every 15 seconds, as calculated by NYSE Arca or a third party financial data provider during NYSE Arca's Core Trading Session (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., New York time). Such IIV will be calculated using the same methodology as the Digital Asset Holdings per Share of the Trust, specifically by using the prior day's closing Digital Asset Holdings per Share as a base and updating that value during the NYSE Arca Core Trading Session to reflect changes in the value of the Trust's Digital Asset Holdings during the trading day. The IIV on a per Share basis disseminated during the Core Trading Session should not be viewed as a real-time update of the Digital Asset Holdings, which is calculated once a day. The number of Bitcoins represented by a Share will gradually decrease over time as the Trust's Bitcoins are used to pay the Trust's expenses. As of September 30, 2023 each Share represented approximately 0.0009 of one Bitcoin.

Authorized Participants are the only persons that may place orders to create and redeem Baskets. Each Authorized Participant must (i) be a registered broker-dealer, (ii) enter into a Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent, and (iii) in the case of creation or redemption pursuant to In-Kind Orders, own a Bitcoin wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant and maintain an account with the Custodian. If the Authorized Participant does not itself trade in Bitcoin, a designee of such Authorized Participant (each, an "AP Agent") must own a Bitcoin wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to such AP Agent and maintain an account with the Custodian. It is the Sponsor's understanding that currently any Authorized Participant that trades in Bitcoin does so through a separate legal entity, and therefore the Sponsor currently expects that all In-Kind Orders would be conducted through an AP Agent and the

Authorized Participant would not participate directly in the acquisition, transfer or receipt of Bitcoins. An Authorized Participant may act for its own account or as agent for broker-dealers, custodians and other securities market participants that wish to create or redeem Baskets. Shareholders who are not Authorized Participants will only be able to create their Shares through an Authorized Participant.

The creation of Baskets requires the delivery to the Trust of the Total Basket Amount and the redemption of Baskets requires the distribution by the Trust of the Total Basket Amount. Although the Trust creates Baskets only upon the receipt of Bitcoins, and redeems Baskets only by distributing Bitcoins, an Authorized Participant may choose to submit Cash Orders, pursuant to which the Authorized Participant will deposit cash with, or accept cash from, the Transfer Agent in connection with the creation and redemption of Baskets.

Cash Orders will be facilitated by the Transfer Agent and Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor. On an order-by-order basis, Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting in its capacity as Liquidity Engager, will engage one or more Liquidity Providers to obtain or receive Bitcoin in exchange for cash in connection with such order, as described in more detail below.

Each Authorized Participant that submits a Cash Order to create or redeem Baskets will pay a fee based on the Total Basket NAV (the “Variable Fee”). The Variable Fee is intended to cover all of a Liquidity Provider’s expenses in connection with the creation or redemption order, including any exchange fees that the Liquidity Provider incurs in connection with buying or selling Bitcoins. The amount may be changed by the Sponsor in its sole discretion at any time.

In the case of creations, to transfer the Total Basket Amount to the Trust’s Digital Asset Account, the Authorized Participant or AP Agent, in the case of In-Kind Orders, and the Liquidity Provider, in the case of Cash Orders, will transfer Bitcoin to one of the public key addresses associated with the Digital Asset Account and as provided by the Sponsor. In the case of redemptions, the same procedure is conducted, but in reverse, using the public key addresses associated with the wallets of the Authorized Participant or AP Agent, in the case of In-Kind Orders, and the Liquidity Provider, in the case of Cash Orders, and as provided by such parties. All such transactions will be conducted on the Blockchain and parties acknowledge and agree that such transfers may be irreversible if done incorrectly. See “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors—Risk Factors Related to the Trust and the Shares—Bitcoin transactions are irrevocable and stolen or incorrectly transferred Bitcoins may be irretrievable. As a result, any incorrectly executed Bitcoin transactions could adversely affect the value of the Shares” in the Annual Report.

Authorized Participants do not pay a transaction fee to the Trust in connection with the creation or redemption of Baskets, but there may be transaction fees associated with the validation of the transfer of Bitcoins by the Bitcoin Network, which will be paid by the Custodian in the case of redemptions and the Authorized Participant, its AP Agent or the Liquidity Provider in the case of creations. Service providers may charge Authorized Participants or AP Agents administrative fees for order placement and other services related to creation of Baskets. As discussed above, Authorized Participants will also pay the Variable Fee in connection with Cash Orders. Authorized Participants will receive no fees, commissions or other form of compensation or inducement of any kind from either the Sponsor or the Trust and no such person has any obligation or responsibility to the Sponsor or the Trust to effect any sale or resale of Shares.

The Participant Agreements and the related procedures attached thereto may be amended by the Sponsor and the relevant Authorized Participant. Under the Participant Agreements, the Sponsor has agreed to indemnify each Authorized Participant against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The following description of the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets is only a summary and shareholders should refer to the relevant provisions of the Trust Agreement and the form of Participant Agreement for more detail.

**Creation Procedures**

On any business day, an Authorized Participant may place an order with the Transfer Agent to create one or more Baskets. Orders for creations may be either In-Kind Orders or Cash Orders. In-Kind Orders for creation must be placed with the Transfer Agent no later than 3:59:59 p.m., New York time, and Cash Orders for creation must be placed with the Transfer Agent no later than 10:59:59 a.m., New York time (in each case, the “Order Cutoff Time”).

The Sponsor may in its sole discretion limit the number of Shares created pursuant to Cash Orders on any specified day without notice to the Authorized Participants and may direct the Marketing Agent to reject any Cash Orders in excess of such capped amount. In exercising its discretion to limit the number of Shares created pursuant to Cash Orders, the Sponsor expects to take into consideration a number of factors, including the availability of Liquidity Providers to facilitate Cash Orders and the cost of processing Cash Orders relative to the cost of processing In-Kind Orders. If the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders and there are not otherwise a sufficient amount of In-Kind Orders to allow the arbitrage mechanism to function, or if the Trust is otherwise unable to satisfy creation and redemption orders made in cash, the Trust’s ability to create or redeem new Shares could be negatively impacted, which would impact the Shares’ liquidity, cause the Shares to trade at premiums and discounts to the Digital Asset Holdings per Share, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares.

***In-Kind Orders***

Creations under In-Kind Orders will take place as follows, where “T” is the trade date and each day in the sequence must be a business day:

T	T+1, or T+2, as established at the time of order placement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Authorized Participant places a creation order with the Transfer Agent.</li> <li>The Marketing Agent accepts (or rejects) the creation order, which is communicated to the Authorized Participant by the Transfer Agent.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Authorized Participant or AP Agent transfers the Total Basket Amount to the Trust’s Digital Asset Account.</li> <li>The Trust issues the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant and the Transfer Agent delivers such Shares by crediting the number of Baskets created to the Authorized Participant’s DTC account.</li> </ul>

***Cash Orders***

Creations under Cash Orders will take place as follows, where “T” is the trade date and each day in the sequence must be a business day:

T	T+1, or T+2, as established at the time of order placement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Authorized Participant places a creation order with the Transfer Agent.</li> <li>The Marketing Agent accepts (or rejects) the creation order, which is communicated to the Authorized Participant by the Transfer Agent.</li> <li>The Sponsor notifies the Liquidity Provider of the creation order.</li> <li>The Sponsor determines the Total Basket NAV and any Variable Fee as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m., New York time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Authorized Participant delivers the Total Basket NAV and any Variable Fee to the Cash Account.</li> <li>The Liquidity Provider transfers the Total Basket Amount to the Trust’s Digital Asset Account.</li> <li>The Trust issues the aggregate number of Shares corresponding to the Baskets ordered by the Authorized Participant and the Transfer Agent delivers such Shares by crediting the number of</li> </ul>

T

T+1, or T+2, as established at the time of order placement

Baskets created to the Authorized Participant's DTC account.

- Cash equal to the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket NAV, plus any Variable Fee, is delivered to the Liquidity Provider from the Cash Account.

### **Redemption Procedures**

The procedures by which an Authorized Participant can redeem one or more Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Baskets. On any business day, an Authorized Participant may place a redemption order specifying the number of Baskets to be redeemed. Redemption orders may be placed as either In-Kind Orders or Cash Orders, as described below.

The redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders will only take place if approved by the Sponsor in writing, in its sole discretion and on a case-by-case basis. In exercising its discretion to approve the redemption of Shares pursuant to Cash Orders, the Sponsor expects to take into consideration a number of factors, including the availability of Liquidity Providers to facilitate Cash Orders and the cost of processing Cash Orders relative to the cost of processing In-Kind Orders. If the Sponsor decides to limit Cash Orders and there are not otherwise In-Kind Orders necessary to allow the arbitrage mechanism to function, or if the Trust is unable to satisfy creation and redemption orders made in cash, the Trust's ability to create or redeem new Shares could be negatively impacted, which would impact the Shares' liquidity, cause the Shares to trade at premiums and discounts, and could have a negative impact on the value of the Shares.

Redemption orders must be placed no later than 3:59:59 p.m., New York time, for In-Kind Orders, and 10:59:59 a.m., New York time, for Cash Orders, on each business day. The Authorized Participants may only redeem Baskets and cannot redeem any Shares in an amount less than a Basket.

#### ***In-Kind Orders***

Redemptions under In-Kind Orders will take place as follows, where "T" is the trade date and each day in the sequence must be a business day:

T

T+2 (or T+1 on case-by-case basis, as approved by Sponsor)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Authorized Participant places a redemption order with the Transfer Agent.</li><li>• The Marketing Agent accepts (or rejects) the redemption order, which is communicated to the Authorized Participant by the Transfer Agent.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Authorized Participant delivers the Baskets from its DTC account to the Transfer Agent.</li><li>• The Custodian transfers the Total Basket Amount to the Authorized Participant or AP Agent and the Transfer Agent cancels the Shares.</li></ul> |
|---|--|

### **Cash Orders**

Redemptions under Cash Orders will take place as follows, where “T” is the trade date and each day in the sequence must be a business day:

<u>T</u>	<u>T+2 (or T+1 on case-by-case basis, as approved by Sponsor)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Authorized Participant places a redemption order with the Transfer Agent.</li><li>• The Marketing Agent accepts (or rejects) the redemption order, which is communicated to the Authorized Participant by the Transfer Agent.</li><li>• The Sponsor notifies the Liquidity Provider(s) of the redemption order.</li><li>• The Sponsor determines the Total Basket NAV and any Variable Fee as soon as practicable after 4:00 p.m., New York time.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Authorized Participant delivers Baskets to be redeemed from its DTC account to the Transfer Agent.</li><li>• The Liquidity Provider deposits cash equal to the U.S. dollar value of the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee to the Cash Account.</li><li>• The Transfer Agent cancels the Shares comprising the number of Baskets redeemed by the Authorized Participant.</li><li>• The Custodian sends the Liquidity Provider the Total Basket Amount and the Authorized Participant receives cash in the amount of the Total Basket NAV less any Variable Fee and any other charges and fees payable in connection with the redemption order.</li></ul>

### **Suspension or Rejection of Orders and Total Basket Amount**

The creation or redemption of Shares may be suspended generally, or refused with respect to particular requested creations or redemptions, during any period when the transfer books of the Transfer Agent are closed or if circumstances outside the control of the Sponsor or its delegates make it for all practical purposes not feasible to process creation orders or redemption orders. The Marketing Agent may reject an order or, after accepting an order, may cancel such order, if: (i) such order is not presented in proper form as described in the Participant Agreement, (ii) the transfer of the Total Basket Amount comes from an account other than a Bitcoin wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Agent or a Liquidity Provider or (iii) the fulfillment of the order, in the opinion of counsel, might be unlawful, among other reasons. None of the Sponsor or its delegates will be liable for the suspension, rejection or acceptance of any creation order or redemption order.

In particular, upon the Trust’s receipt of any Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency in connection with a fork, airdrop or similar event, the Sponsor may suspend creations and redemptions until it is able to cause the Trust to sell or distribute such Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency.

The Sponsor will notify investors of any suspension of creations or redemptions of Shares by filing a current report on Form 8-K. Suspension of the creation or redemption of Shares could negatively impact the Shares’ liquidity, cause the Shares to trade at premiums and discounts, and otherwise have a negative impact on the value of the Shares.

### **Tax Responsibility**

Authorized Participants are responsible for any transfer tax, sales or use tax, stamp tax, recording tax, value-added tax or similar tax or governmental charge applicable to the creation and redemption of Baskets, regardless of whether such tax or charge is imposed directly on the Authorized Participant, and agree to indemnify the Sponsor and the Trust if the Sponsor or the Trust is required by law to pay any such tax, together with any applicable penalties, additions to tax or interest thereon.

## MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following discussion addresses the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership of Shares. This discussion does not describe all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to a beneficial owner of Shares in light of the beneficial owner's particular circumstances, including tax consequences applicable to beneficial owners subject to special rules, such as:

- financial institutions;
- dealers in securities or commodities;
- traders in securities or commodities that have elected to apply a mark-to-market method of tax accounting in respect thereof;
- persons holding Shares as part of a hedge, "straddle," integrated transaction or similar transaction;
- Authorized Participants (as defined below);
- U.S. Holders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;
- entities or arrangements classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- real estate investment trusts;
- regulated investment companies; and
- tax-exempt entities, including individual retirement accounts.

This discussion applies only to Shares that are held as capital assets and does not address alternative minimum tax consequences or consequences of the Medicare contribution tax on net investment income.

If an entity or arrangement that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Shares, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding Shares and partners in those partnerships are urged to consult their tax advisers about the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning Shares.

This discussion is based on the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations as of the date hereof, changes to any of which subsequent to the date hereof may affect the tax consequences described herein. For the avoidance of doubt, this summary does not discuss any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers about the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to their particular situations, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction.

### **Tax Treatment of the Trust**

The Sponsor intends to take the position that the Trust is properly treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Assuming that the Trust is a grantor trust, the Trust will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax. Rather, if the Trust is a grantor trust, each beneficial owner of Shares will be treated as directly owning its pro rata share of the Trust's assets and a pro rata portion of the Trust's income, gain, losses and deductions will "flow through" to each beneficial owner of Shares.

The Trust has taken certain positions with respect to the tax consequences of Incidental Rights and its receipt of IR Virtual Currency. If the IRS were to disagree with, and successfully challenge, any of these positions, the Trust might not qualify as a grantor trust. In addition, the Sponsor has delivered the Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notices to the former custodian and the Custodian, stating that the Trust is irrevocably abandoning, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time and Redemption Time, all Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which it

has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time. The Trust has also abandoned Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency through Affirmative Actions. There can be no complete assurance that these abandonments will be treated as effective for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Trust were treated as owning any asset other than Bitcoins as of any date on which it creates or redeems Shares, it would likely cease to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Because of the evolving nature of digital assets, it is not possible to predict potential future developments that may arise with respect to digital assets, including forks, airdrops and other similar occurrences. Assuming that the Trust is currently a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, certain future developments could render it impossible, or impracticable, for the Trust to continue to be treated as a grantor trust for such purposes.

If the Trust is not properly classified as a grantor trust, the Trust might be classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, due to the uncertain treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes, there can be no assurance in this regard. If the Trust were classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the tax consequences of owning Shares generally would not be materially different from the tax consequences described herein, although there might be certain differences, including with respect to timing of the recognition of taxable income or loss. In addition, tax information reports provided to beneficial owners of Shares would be made in a different form. If the Trust were not classified as either a grantor trust or a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, it would be classified as a corporation for such purposes. In that event, the Trust would be subject to entity-level U.S. federal income tax (currently at the rate of 21%) on its net taxable income and certain distributions made by the Trust to shareholders would be treated as taxable dividends to the extent of the Trust's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Any such dividend distributed to a beneficial owner of Shares that is a non-U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes would be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a rate of 30% (or such lower rate as provided in an applicable tax treaty).

The remainder of this discussion is based on the assumption that the Trust will be treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

### **Uncertainty Regarding the U.S. Federal Income Tax Treatment of Digital Assets**

Each beneficial owner of Shares will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as the owner of an undivided interest in the Bitcoins (and any Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency) held in the Trust. Due to the new and evolving nature of digital assets and the absence of comprehensive guidance with respect to digital assets, many significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of digital assets are uncertain.

In 2014, the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") released a notice (the "Notice") discussing certain aspects of the treatment of "convertible virtual currency" (that is, digital assets that have an equivalent value in fiat currency or that acts as substitutes for fiat currency) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In the Notice, the IRS stated that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such digital assets (i) are "property," (ii) are not "currency" for purposes of the provisions of the Code relating to foreign currency gain or loss and (iii) may be held as a capital asset. In 2019, the IRS released a revenue ruling and a set of "Frequently Asked Questions" (the "Ruling & FAQs") that provide some additional guidance, including guidance to the effect that, under certain circumstances, hard forks of digital assets are taxable events giving rise to ordinary income and guidance with respect to the determination of the tax basis of digital assets. However, the Notice and the Ruling & FAQs do not address other significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of digital assets. Moreover, although the Ruling & FAQs address the treatment of hard forks, there continues to be significant uncertainty with respect to the timing and amount of the income inclusions. While the Ruling & FAQs do not address most situations in which airdrops occur, it is clear from the reasoning of the Ruling & FAQs that the IRS generally would treat an airdrop as a taxable event giving rise to ordinary income.

There can be no assurance that the IRS will not alter its position with respect to digital assets in the future or that a court would uphold the treatment set forth in the Notice and the Ruling & FAQs. It is also unclear what additional guidance on the treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes may be issued in the

future. Any such alteration of the current IRS positions or additional guidance could result in adverse tax consequences for shareholders and could have an adverse effect on the prices of digital assets, including the price of Bitcoin in the Digital Asset Market, and therefore could have an adverse effect on the value of Shares. Future developments that may arise with respect to digital assets may increase the uncertainty with respect to the treatment of digital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes. For example, the Notice addresses only digital assets that are “convertible virtual currency,” and it is conceivable that, as a result of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence, a Trust will hold certain types of digital assets that are not within the scope of the Notice.

The remainder of this discussion assumes that Bitcoin, and any Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency that the Trust may hold, is properly treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as property that may be held as a capital asset and that is not currency for purposes of the provisions of the Code relating to foreign currency gain and loss.

Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the Trust and in digital assets in general, including, in the case of shareholders that are generally exempt from U.S. federal income taxation, whether such shareholders may recognize “unrelated business taxable income” (“UBTI”) as a consequence of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence.

### **Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders**

As used herein, the term “U.S. Holder” means a beneficial owner of a Share for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof; or
- an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

Except as specifically noted, the discussion below assumes that each U.S. Holder will acquire all of its Shares on the same date for the same price per Share and either solely for cash or solely for Bitcoins that were originally acquired by the U.S. Holder for cash on the same date.

As discussed in the section entitled “Creation and Redemption of Shares,” a U.S. Holder may be able to acquire Shares of the Trust by contributing Bitcoins in-kind to the Trust (either directly or through an Authorized Participant acting as agent of the U.S. Holder). Assuming that the Trust is properly treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, such a contribution should not be a taxable event to the U.S. Holder.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, each U.S. Holder will be treated as owning an undivided interest in the Bitcoins held in the Trust and will be treated as directly realizing its pro rata share of the Trust’s income, gains, losses and deductions. When a U.S. Holder purchases Shares solely for cash, (i) the U.S. Holder’s initial tax basis in its pro rata share of the Bitcoins held in the Trust will be equal to the amount paid for the Shares and (ii) the U.S. Holder’s holding period for its pro rata share of such Bitcoins will begin on the date of such purchase. When a U.S. Holder acquires Shares in exchange for Bitcoins, (i) the U.S. Holder’s initial tax basis in its pro rata share of the Bitcoins held in the Trust will be equal to the U.S. Holder’s tax basis in the Bitcoins that the U.S. Holder transferred to the Trust and (ii) the U.S. Holder’s holding period for its pro rata share of such Bitcoins generally will include the period during which the U.S. Holder held the Bitcoins that the U.S. Holder transferred to the Trust. The Ruling & FAQs confirm that if a taxpayer acquires tokens of a digital asset at different times and for different prices, the taxpayer has a separate tax basis in each lot of such tokens. Under the Ruling & FAQs, if a U.S. Holder that owns more than one lot of Bitcoins contributes a portion of its Bitcoins to the Trust in exchange for Shares, the U.S. Holder may designate the lot(s) from which such contribution will be made, provided that the U.S. Holder is able to identify specifically which Bitcoins it is contributing and to substantiate its tax basis in those Bitcoins. In general, if a U.S. Holder acquires Shares (i) solely for cash at

different prices, (ii) partly for cash and partly in exchange for a contribution of Bitcoins or (iii) in exchange for a contribution of Bitcoins with different tax bases, the U.S. Holder's share of the Trust's Bitcoins will consist of separate lots with separate tax bases. In addition, in this situation, the U.S. Holder's holding period for the separate lots may be different. In addition, the IR Virtual Currency that the Trust acquires in a hard fork or airdrop that is treated as a taxable event will constitute a separate lot with a separate tax basis and holding period.

When the Trust transfers Bitcoins to the Sponsor as payment of the Sponsor's Fee, or sells Bitcoins to fund payment of any Additional Trust Expenses, each U.S. Holder will be treated as having sold its pro rata share of those Bitcoins for their fair market value at that time (which, in the case of Bitcoins sold by the Trust, generally will be equal to the cash proceeds received by the Trust in respect thereof). As a result, each U.S. Holder will recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between (i) the fair market value of the U.S. Holder's pro rata share of the Bitcoins transferred and (ii) the U.S. Holder's tax basis for its pro rata share of the Bitcoins transferred. Any such gain or loss will be short-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for its pro rata share of the Bitcoins is one year or less and long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for its pro rata share of the Bitcoins is more than one year. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of any Bitcoins transferred by the Trust generally will be determined by multiplying the tax basis of the U.S. Holder's pro rata share of all of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to the transfer by a fraction the numerator of which is the amount of Bitcoins transferred and the denominator of which is the total amount of Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to the transfer. Immediately after the transfer, the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of the Bitcoins remaining in the Trust will be equal to the tax basis of its pro rata share of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to the transfer, less the portion of that tax basis allocable to its pro rata share of the Bitcoins transferred.

As noted above, the IRS has taken the position in the Ruling & FAQs that, under certain circumstances, a hard fork of a digital asset constitutes a taxable event giving rise to ordinary income, and it is clear from the reasoning of the Ruling & FAQs that the IRS generally would treat an airdrop as a taxable event giving rise to ordinary income. Under the Ruling & FAQs, a U.S. Holder will have a basis in any IR Virtual Currency received in a fork or airdrop equal to the amount of income the U.S. Holder recognizes as a result of such fork or airdrop and the U.S. Holder's holding period for such IR Virtual Currency will begin as of the time it recognizes such income.

U.S. Holders' pro rata shares of the expenses incurred by the Trust will be treated as "miscellaneous itemized deductions" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026, a non-corporate U.S. Holder's share of these expenses will not be deductible for U.S. federal income tax purposes. For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, a non-corporate U.S. Holder's share of these expenses will be deductible for regular U.S. federal income tax purposes only to the extent that the U.S. Holder's share of the expenses, when combined with other "miscellaneous itemized deductions," exceeds 2% of the U.S. Holder's adjusted gross income for the particular year, will not be deductible for U.S. federal alternative minimum tax purposes and will be subject to certain other limitations on deductibility.

On a sale or other disposition of Shares, a U.S. Holder will be treated as having sold the Bitcoins underlying such Shares. Accordingly, the U.S. Holder generally will recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between (i) the amount realized on the sale of the Shares and (ii) the portion of the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its pro rata share of the Bitcoins held in the Trust that is attributable to the Shares that were sold or otherwise subject to a disposition. Such tax basis generally will be determined by multiplying the tax basis of the U.S. Holder's pro rata share of all of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to such sale or other disposition by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of Shares disposed of and the denominator of which is the total number of Shares held by such U.S. Holder immediately prior to such sale or other disposition (such fraction, expressed as a percentage, the "Share Percentage"). If the U.S. Holder's share of the Trust's Bitcoins consists of separate lots with separate tax bases and/or holding periods, the U.S. Holder will be treated as having sold the Share Percentage of each such lot. Gain or loss recognized by a U.S. Holder on a sale or other

disposition of Shares will generally be short-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Bitcoins underlying such Shares is one year or less and long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period for the Bitcoins underlying such Shares is more than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to significant limitations.

If the Trust redeems all or portion of a U.S. Holder's Shares in exchange for the underlying Bitcoins represented by the redeemed Shares, such redemption generally will not be a taxable event to the U.S. Holder. The U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Bitcoins received in the redemption generally will be the same as the U.S. Holder's tax basis for the portion of its pro rata share of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to the redemption that is attributable to the Shares redeemed, determined as described above, and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its remaining pro rata portion, if any, of the Bitcoins held in the Trust after the redemption will be equal to the tax basis of its pro rata share of the total amount of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to the redemption, less the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Bitcoins received in the redemption. The U.S. Holder's holding period with respect to the Bitcoins received will generally include the period during which the U.S. Holder held the Shares so redeemed. A subsequent sale of the Bitcoins received in such redemption will generally be a taxable event.

After any sale or other disposition of fewer than all of a U.S. Holder's Shares, the U.S. Holder's tax basis in its *pro rata* share of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately after the disposition will equal the tax basis in its *pro rata* share of the total amount of the Bitcoins held in the Trust immediately prior to the disposition, less the portion of that tax basis that is taken into account in determining the amount of gain or loss recognized by the U.S. Holder on the disposition (or, in the case of a redemption, that is treated as the basis of the Bitcoins received by the U.S. Holder in the redemption).

Any brokerage or other transaction fee incurred by a U.S. Holder in purchasing Shares generally will be added to the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the underlying assets of the Trust. Similarly, any brokerage fee or other transaction fee incurred by a U.S. Holder in selling Shares generally will reduce the amount realized by the U.S. Holder with respect to the sale.

In the absence of guidance to the contrary, it is possible that any income recognized by a U.S. tax-exempt shareholder as a consequence of a hard fork, airdrop or similar occurrence would constitute UBTI. A tax-exempt shareholder should consult its tax adviser regarding whether such shareholder may recognize some UBTI as a consequence of an investment in Shares.

### **Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders**

As used herein, the term "non-U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of a Share for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is not a U.S. Holder. The term "non-U.S. Holder" does not include (i) a nonresident alien individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in a taxable year, (ii) a former U.S. citizen or U.S. resident or an entity that has expatriated from the United States; (iii) a person whose income in respect of Shares is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States; or (iv) an entity that is treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Shareholders described in the preceding sentence should consult their tax advisers regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of owning Shares.

A non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to its share of any gain recognized on the Trust's transfer of Bitcoins in payment of the Sponsor's Fee or any Additional Trust Expense or on the Trust's sale or other disposition of Bitcoins. In addition, assuming that the Trust holds no asset other than Bitcoin, a non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to any gain it recognizes on a sale or other disposition of Shares. A non-U.S. Holder also will generally not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax with respect to any distribution received from the Trust, whether in cash or in-kind.

Provided that it does not constitute income that is treated as “effectively connected” with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, U.S.-source “fixed or determinable annual or periodical” (“FDAP”) income received, or treated as received, by a non-U.S. Holder will generally be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% (subject to possible reduction or elimination pursuant to an applicable tax treaty and to statutory exemptions such as the portfolio interest exemption). Although there is no guidance on point, it is likely that any ordinary income recognized by a non-U.S. Holder as a result of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence would constitute FDAP income. It is unclear, however, whether any such FDAP income would be properly treated as U.S.-source or foreign-source FDAP income. Non-U.S. Holders should assume that, in the absence of guidance, a withholding agent (including the Sponsor) is likely to withhold 30% from a non-U.S. Holder’s pro rata share of any such income, including by deducting such withheld amounts from proceeds that such non-U.S. Holder would otherwise be entitled to receive in connection with a distribution of Incidental Rights, IR Virtual Currency or proceeds from the disposition of Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. A non-U.S. Holder that is a resident of a country that maintains an income tax treaty with the United States may be eligible to claim the benefits of that treaty to reduce or eliminate, or to obtain a partial or full refund of, the 30% U.S. withholding tax on its share of any such income, but only if the non-U.S. Holder’s home country treats the Trust as “fiscally transparent,” as defined in applicable Treasury regulations.

Although the nature of the Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency that the Trust may hold in the future is uncertain, it is unlikely that any such asset would give rise to income that is treated as “effectively connected” with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States or that any income derived by a non-U.S. Holder from any such asset would otherwise be subject to U.S. income or withholding tax, except as discussed above in connection with the fork, airdrop or similar occurrence giving rise to Incidental Rights or IR Virtual Currency. There can, however, be no complete assurance in this regard.

In order to prevent the possible imposition of U.S. “backup” withholding and (if applicable) to qualify for a reduced rate of withholding tax at source under a treaty, a non-U.S. Holder must comply with certain certification requirements (generally, by delivering a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E to the relevant withholding agent).

### **U.S. Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

The Trust or the appropriate broker will file certain information returns with the IRS and provide shareholders with information regarding their annual income (if any) and expenses with respect to the Trust in accordance with applicable Treasury regulations.

A U.S. Holder will generally be subject to information reporting requirements and backup withholding unless (i) the U.S. Holder is a corporation or other exempt recipient or (ii) in the case of backup withholding, the U.S. Holder provides a correct taxpayer identification number and certifies that it is not subject to backup withholding. In order to avoid the information reporting and backup withholding requirements, a non-U.S. Holder may have to comply with certification procedures to establish that it is not a U.S. person. The amount of any backup withholding will be allowed as a credit against the shareholder’s U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the holder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

### **FATCA**

As discussed above, it is unclear whether any ordinary income recognized by a non-U.S. Holder as a result of a fork, airdrop or similar occurrence would constitute U.S.-source FDAP income. Provisions of the Code commonly referred to as “FATCA” require withholding of 30% on payments of U.S.-source FDAP income and, subject to the discussion of proposed U.S. Treasury regulations below, of gross proceeds of dispositions of certain types of property that produce U.S.-source FDAP income to, “foreign financial institutions” (which is broadly defined for this purpose and in general includes investment vehicles) and certain other non-U.S. entities unless various U.S. information reporting and due diligence requirements (generally relating to ownership by

U.S. persons of interests in or accounts with those entities) have been satisfied, or an exemption applies. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country may modify these requirements. In addition, regulations proposed by the U.S. Treasury Department (the preamble to which indicates that taxpayers may rely on the regulations pending their finalization) would eliminate the requirement under FATCA of withholding on gross proceeds. If FATCA withholding is imposed, a beneficial owner that is not a foreign financial institution generally may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld by filing a U.S. federal income tax return (which may entail significant administrative burden). Shareholders should consult their tax advisers regarding the effects of FATCA on an investment in the Trust.

## ERISA AND RELATED CONSIDERATIONS

ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code impose certain requirements on employee benefit plans and certain other plans and arrangements, including individual retirement accounts (“IRAs”) and annuities, Keogh plans, and certain collective investment funds or insurance company general or separate accounts in which such plans or arrangements are invested, that are subject to ERISA and/or the Section 4975 of the Code (collectively, “Plans”), and on persons who are fiduciaries with respect to the investment of Plan assets. Government plans and certain church and non-U.S. plans (collectively, “Non-ERISA Arrangements”) are not subject to the fiduciary responsibility provisions of ERISA or the provisions of Section 4975 of the Code, but may be subject to similar rules under other federal, state, local, non-U.S. or other applicable laws (“Similar Laws”).

### General Fiduciary Matters

In contemplating an investment of a portion of Plan assets in Shares, the Plan fiduciary responsible for making such investment should carefully consider, taking into account the facts and circumstances of the Plan, the risks discussed in “Part I—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Annual Report, “Part II—Item 1A. Risk Factors” in the Q2 2023 Quarterly Report, in any applicable prospectus supplement and in the other documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference herein, and whether such investment is consistent with its fiduciary responsibilities, including, but not limited to (i) whether the fiduciary has the authority to make the investment under the appropriate governing plan instrument, (ii) whether the investment would constitute a direct or indirect non-exempt prohibited transaction under ERISA or the Code, (iii) the Plan’s funding objectives, and (iv) whether under the general fiduciary standards of investment prudence and diversification such investment is appropriate for the Plan, taking into account the overall investment policy of the Plan, the composition of the Plan’s investment portfolio and the Plan’s need for sufficient liquidity to pay benefits when due. Fiduciaries of Non-ERISA Arrangements should carefully consider whether an investment in Shares would violate any applicable Similar Laws.

### Plan Asset Issues

Under the Department of Labor’s regulations at section 2510.3-101, as amended by Section 3(42) of ERISA (the “Plan Asset Regulations”), if a Plan invests in an equity interest of an entity that is “a publicly-offered security,” the entity will not be deemed to hold “plan assets” subject to ERISA, and a party managing the assets of such entity will not be subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction rules of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Code. A “publicly-offered security” is a security that is freely transferable, part of a class of securities that is widely held, and is either (i) part of a class of securities registered under section 12(b) or 12(g) of the Exchange Act or (ii) sold to the plan as part of an offering of securities to the public pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act and the class of securities of which such security is a part is registered under the Exchange Act within 120 days (or such later time as may be allowed by the Securities and Exchange Commission) after the end of the fiscal year of the issuer during which the offering of such securities to the public occurred. Whether a security is “freely transferable” is a factual question determined on the basis of facts and circumstances. A class of securities is “widely-held” if it is a class of securities that is owned by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and of one another. It is anticipated that the Shares will constitute “publicly-offered securities” as defined in the Plan Asset Regulations. Accordingly, Shares held by a Plan, and not the underlying Bitcoins held in the Trust represented by the Shares, should be treated as assets of the Plan, for purposes of applying the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction rules of ERISA and the Code.

### Investment by Certain Retirement Plans

IRAs and participant-directed accounts under tax-qualified retirement plans are limited in the types of investments they may make under the Code. Potential purchasers of Shares that are IRAs or participant-directed accounts under a Code Section 401(a) plan should consult with their own advisors as to the consequences of an investment in Shares.

### **Ineligible Purchasers**

In general, Shares may not be purchased with the assets of a Plan if the Trustee, the Sponsor, the distributor or any of their respective affiliates or employees either: (i) has investment discretion with respect to the investment of such Plan assets; (ii) has authority or responsibility to give or regularly gives investment advice with respect to such Plan assets, for a fee, and pursuant to an agreement or understanding that such advice will serve as a primary basis for investment decisions with respect to such Plan assets and that such advice will be based on the particular investment needs of the Plan; or (iii) is an employer maintaining or contributing to such Plan. A party that is described in clause (i) or (ii) of the preceding sentence is a fiduciary under ERISA and the Code with respect to the Plan, and any such purchase might result in a prohibited transaction under ERISA and/or the Code.

### **Representation**

Accordingly, by acceptance of Shares, each purchaser and subsequent transferee of Shares will be deemed to have represented and warranted that either (i) no portion of the assets used by such purchaser or transferee to acquire or hold the Shares constitutes assets of any Plan or Non-ERISA Arrangement or (ii) the acquisition, holding and subsequent disposition of the Shares by such purchaser or transferee will not constitute or result in any non-exempt prohibited transaction under Section 406 of ERISA or Section 4975 of the Code or violate any applicable Similar Law.

Except as otherwise set forth, the foregoing statements regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Code of an investment in the Trust are based on the provisions of the Code and ERISA as currently in effect, and the existing administrative and judicial interpretations thereunder. No assurance can be given that administrative, judicial or legislative changes will not occur that may make the foregoing statements incorrect or incomplete.

ACCEPTANCE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS ON BEHALF OF PLANS IS IN NO RESPECT A REPRESENTATION BY THE SPONSOR OR ANY OTHER PARTY RELATED TO THE TRUST THAT THIS INVESTMENT MEETS THE RELEVANT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO INVESTMENTS BY ANY PARTICULAR PLAN, PLANS GENERALLY OR THAT THIS INVESTMENT IS APPROPRIATE FOR ANY PARTICULAR PLAN OR PLANS GENERALLY. THE PERSON WITH INVESTMENT DISCRETION WITH RESPECT FOR ANY PLAN SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR OWN COUNSEL AND ADVISERS AS TO THE PROPRIETY OF AN INVESTMENT IN THE TRUST, IN LIGHT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PARTICULAR PLAN BEFORE PURCHASING SHARES. NEITHER THIS DISCUSSION NOR ANYTHING IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS OR IS INTENDED TO BE INVESTMENT ADVICE DIRECTED AT ANY POTENTIAL PURCHASER THAT IS A PLAN OR NON-ERISA ARRANGEMENT, OR AT SUCH PURCHASERS GENERALLY.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Trust issues Shares in Baskets only to Authorized Participants in exchange for deposits of Bitcoins on an ongoing continuous basis. The Trust does not issue fractions of a Basket. Authorized Participants may create a Basket by depositing with the Trust the Basket Amount, which equals the number of Bitcoins owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each trade date (after deducting the number of Bitcoins representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust) by the number of Shares outstanding at such time and multiplying such quotient by 100. It is expected that Authorized Participants that create Shares will sell Shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by reference to, among other considerations, the price of Bitcoin and the trading price of the Shares on the NYSE Arca at the time of each sale.

While the arbitrage mechanism is expected to keep the value of the Shares closely linked to the Index Price, due to price volatility and differentials, trading volume, and closings of Digital Asset Exchanges due to fraud, failure, security breaches or otherwise, there can be no assurance that the value of the Shares will reflect the value of the Trust's Bitcoin, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities, and the Shares may trade at a substantial premium over, or a substantial discount to, the value of the Trust's Bitcoin, less the Trust's expenses and other liabilities. Moreover, there may be variances in the prices of Bitcoin on the various Digital Asset Exchanges, including as a result of differences in fee structures or administrative procedures on different Digital Asset Exchanges, which could enhance or inhibit the arbitrage mechanism in a manner that is beyond our control.

Because new Shares can be created and issued on an ongoing basis at any point during the life of the Trust, a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act, will be occurring. Authorized Participants, other broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some of their activities will result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which would render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery and liability provisions of the Securities Act. For example, an Authorized Participant, other broker-dealer firm or its client will be deemed a statutory underwriter if it purchases a Basket from the Trust, breaks the Basket down into its constituent Shares and sells the Shares directly to its customers, or if it chooses to couple the creation of a new Basket with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for the Shares. A determination of whether a particular market participant is an underwriter must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to designation as an underwriter and subject them to the prospectus delivery and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

Investors that purchase shares through a brokerage account (whether commission based or fee-based) may pay commissions or fees charged by the brokerage account.

Dealers that are not "underwriters" but are participating in a distribution (as contrasted to ordinary secondary trading transactions), and thus dealing with Shares that are part of an "unsold allotment" within the meaning of Section 4(3)(C) of the Securities Act, would be unable to take advantage of the prospectus delivery exemption provided by Section 4(3) of the Securities Act.

The Sponsor intends to qualify the Shares in states selected by the Sponsor and that sales be made through broker-dealers who are members of FINRA. Investors intending to create or redeem Baskets through Authorized Participants in transactions not involving a broker-dealer registered in such investor's state of domicile or residence should consult their legal advisor regarding applicable broker-dealer or securities regulatory requirements under the state securities laws prior to such creation or redemption.

Authorized Participants will not receive from the Trust or the Sponsor any compensation in connection with an offering or reoffering of the Shares. Accordingly, there is, and will be, no payment of underwriting compensation in connection with any such offering of Shares in excess of 10% of the gross proceeds of the offering.

Pursuant to a Marketing Agent Agreement (the “Marketing Agent Agreement”) to be entered into between the Sponsor and Foreside Fund Services, LLC, as Marketing Agent (the “Marketing Agent”), the Marketing Agent will be paid by the Sponsor an annual fee. In addition, the Sponsor will pay certain out-of-pocket fees and expenses of the Marketing Agent incurred in connection with its assistance in the marketing of the Trust and its Shares.

Under the Marketing Agent Agreement, the Marketing Agent will provide the following services to the Sponsor:

- Assist the Sponsor in facilitating Participation Agreements between and among Authorized Participants, the Trust, the Transfer Agent;
- Provide prospectuses to Authorized Participants;
- Work with the Transfer Agent to review and approve orders placed by the Authorized Participants and transmitted to the Transfer Agent;
- Review and file applicable marketing materials with FINRA; and
- Maintain, reproduce and store applicable books and records related to the services provided under the Marketing Agent Agreement.

The Trust intends to list the Shares on NYSE Arca under the symbol “GBTC.”

## LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the Shares will be passed upon by Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., as special Delaware counsel to the Trust. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special tax counsel to the Trust, will render an opinion regarding the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership of Shares.

## EXPERTS

Marcum LLP and Friedman LLP (prior to the acquisition of certain assets of Friedman LLP by Marcum LLP effective September 1, 2022), independent registered public accounting firms, have audited the financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Marcum LLP audited the financial statements of the Trust as of December 31, 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2022, as well as internal control over financial reporting of the Trust as of December 31, 2022. Friedman LLP audited the financial statements of the Trust as of December 31, 2021 and for the two years ended December 31, 2021. Such financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance upon the reports of Marcum LLP and Friedman LLP, given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION; INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The Sponsor has filed on behalf of the Trust a registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933. As permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC, this prospectus does not contain all of the information contained in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. As such we make reference in this prospectus to the registration statement and to the exhibits and schedules thereto. For further information about us and about the securities we hereby offer, you should consult the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. You should be aware that statements contained in this prospectus concerning the provisions of any documents filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or otherwise filed with the SEC are not necessarily complete, and in each instance reference is made to the copy of such document so filed. Each such statement is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

We file annual, quarterly and periodic reports and other information with the SEC. These filings contain important information which does not appear in this prospectus but is incorporated by reference herein. Our filings are available to the public on the Internet, through a database maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. Our filings are also available, free of charge, on our website at [www.grayscale.com](http://www.grayscale.com). We have included our website address for the information of prospective investors and do not intend it to be an active link to our website. Information contained on our website does not constitute a part of this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement (or any document incorporated by reference herein or therein).

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” information into this prospectus, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents which we have filed or will file with the SEC. We are incorporating by reference in this prospectus the documents listed below.

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022;
- Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2023, June 30, 2023 and September 30, 2023; and
- Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on June 23, 2023, August 2, 2023, August 29, 2023, September 6, 2023, October 19, 2023, November 2, 2023, November 21, 2023 and .

Any future filings the Sponsor or the Trust makes with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c) 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (other than documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in

accordance with SEC rules, including Items 2.02 and 7.01 of Form 8-K), on or after the date of this prospectus and before the termination or completion of this offering of our Shares shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to become a part of it from the dates that such documents are filed with the SEC. Certain statements and portions of this prospectus will automatically update and may replace information in the above listed documents incorporated by reference. Likewise, information that becomes a part prospectus after the date of this prospectus will automatically update and may replace statements in and portions of this prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraphs, information furnished under Items 2.02 and 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K, including the related exhibits under Item 9.01, is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

We will provide you without charge, upon your written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, other than exhibits to such documents which are not specifically incorporated by reference into such documents, other than information in future filings that is deemed not to be filed. Please direct your written or telephone requests to Grayscale Investments, LLC, 290 Harbor Drive, 4th Floor, Stamford, Connecticut 06902, (212) 668-1427.

## GLOSSARY OF DEFINED TERMS

In this prospectus, each of the following terms has the meaning set forth below.

**“Actual Exchange Rate”**—With respect to any particular asset, at any time, the price per single unit of such asset (determined net of any associated fees) at which the Trust is able to sell such asset for U.S. dollars (or other applicable fiat currency) at such time to enable the Trust to timely pay any Additional Trust Expenses, through use of the Sponsor’s commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the highest such price.

**“Additional Trust Expenses”**—Together, any expenses incurred by the Trust in addition to the Sponsor’s Fee that are not Sponsor-paid Expenses, including, but not limited to, (i) taxes and governmental charges, (ii) expenses and costs of any extraordinary services performed by the Sponsor (or any other service provider) on behalf of the Trust to protect the Trust or the interests of shareholders (including in connection with any Incidental Rights and any IR Virtual Currency), (iii) any indemnification of the Custodian or other agents, service providers or counterparties of the Trust, (iv) the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) to the extent exceeding \$600,000 in any given fiscal year and (v) extraordinary legal fees and expenses, including any legal fees and expenses incurred in connection with litigation, regulatory enforcement or investigation matters.

**“Administrator”**—The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York corporation authorized to do a banking business.

**“Administrator Fee”**—The fee payable to any administrator of the Trust for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor will pay such administrator as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

**“Affirmative Action”**—A decision by the Trust to acquire or abandon specific Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency at any time prior to the time of a creation or redemption of shares.

**“Agent”**—A Person appointed by the Trust to act on behalf of the shareholders in connection with any distribution of Incidental Rights and/or IR Virtual Currency.

**“AP Agent”** shall mean an Authorized Participant’s designee in connection with In-Kind Orders.

**“Authorized Participant”**—Certain eligible financial institutions that have entered into an agreement with the Trust and the Sponsor concerning the creation or redemption of Shares. Each Authorized Participant (i) is a registered broker-dealer, (ii) has entered into a Participant Agreement with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent and (iii) in the case of Authorized Participants creating and redeeming Shares through In-Kind Orders, owns a digital wallet address that is known to the Custodian as belonging to the Authorized Participant or its AP Agent and maintains an account with the Custodian.

**“Basket”**—A block of 100 Shares.

**“Basket Amount”**—On any trade date, the number of Bitcoins required as of such trade date for the creation or redemption of a Basket, as determined by dividing (x) the number of Bitcoins owned by the Trust at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on such trade date, after deducting the number of Bitcoins representing the U.S. dollar value of accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust (converted using the Index Price at such time, and carried to the eighth decimal place), by (y) the number of Shares outstanding at such time (with the quotient so obtained calculated to one one-hundred-millionth of one Bitcoin (i.e., carried to the eighth decimal place)), and multiplying such quotient by 100.

**“Basket NAV”**—The U.S. dollar value of a Basket calculated by multiplying the Basket Amount by the Index Price as of the trade date.

**“Bitcoin”** or **“BTC”**—A type of digital asset based on an open-source cryptographic protocol existing on the Bitcoin Network, comprising units that constitute the assets underlying the Trust’s Shares.

**“Bitcoin Network”**—The online, end-user-to-end-user network hosting the public transaction ledger, known as the Blockchain, and the source code comprising the basis for the cryptographic and algorithmic protocols governing the Bitcoin Network.

**“Blockchain”** or **“Bitcoin Blockchain”**—The public transaction ledger of the Bitcoin Network on which transactions in Bitcoin are recorded.

**“Cash Account”**—the account maintained by the Transfer Agent in the name of an agent of Grayscale Investments, LLC for purposes of receiving cash from, and distributing cash to, Authorized Participants in connection with Creations and Redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders. For the avoidance of doubt, the Trust shall have no interest (beneficial, equitable or otherwise) in the Cash Account or any cash held therein.

**“Cash Order”**—An order for the creation or redemption of Shares pursuant to procedures facilitated by the Transfer Agent and pursuant to which a Liquidity Provider is engaged to facilitate the purchase or sale of Bitcoin.

**“CFTC”**—The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, an independent agency with the mandate to regulate commodity futures and option markets in the United States.

**“Code”**—The U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

**“Creation Time”**—With respect to the creation of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust creates such Shares.

**“Custodial Services”**—The Custodian’s services that (i) allow Bitcoins to be deposited from a public blockchain address to the Trust’s Digital Asset Account and (ii) allow the Trust and the Sponsor to withdraw Bitcoin from the Trust’s Digital Asset Account to a public blockchain address the Trust or the Sponsor controls pursuant to instructions the Trust or the Sponsor provides to the Custodian.

**“Custodian”**—Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC.

**“Custodian Agreement”**—The Amended and Restated Custodial Services Agreement, dated as of June 29, 2022, by and between the Trust and the Sponsor and Custodian that governs the Trust’s and the Sponsor’s use of the Custodial Services provided by the Custodian as a fiduciary with respect to the Trust’s assets.

**“Custodian Fee”**—Fee payable to the Custodian for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor shall pay to the Custodian as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

**“Digital Asset Account”**—A segregated custody account controlled and secured by the Custodian to store private keys, which allow for the transfer of ownership or control of the Trust’s Bitcoins on the Trust’s behalf.

**“Digital Asset Exchange”**—An electronic marketplace where exchange participants may trade, buy and sell Bitcoins based on bid-ask trading. The largest Digital Asset Exchanges are online and typically trade on a 24-hour basis, publishing transaction price and volume data.

**“Digital Asset Exchange Market”**—The global exchange market for the trading of Bitcoins, which consists of transactions on electronic Digital Asset Exchanges.

**“Digital Asset Holdings”**—The aggregate value, expressed in U.S. dollars, of the Trust’s assets (other than U.S. dollars or other fiat currency), less its liabilities (which include estimated accrued but unpaid fees and expenses) calculated in the manner set forth under “Part I—Item 1. Business—Valuation of Bitcoin and

Determination of Digital Asset Holdings” in the Annual Report. See also “Trust Objective and Determination of NAV and Digital Asset Holdings” for a description of the Trust’s NAV, as calculated in accordance with GAAP.

“**Digital Asset Holdings Fee Basis Amount**”—The amount on which the Sponsor’s Fee for the Trust is based, as calculated in the manner set forth under “Valuation of Bitcoin and Determination of Digital Asset Holdings”.

“**Digital Asset Market**”—A “Brokered Market,” “Dealer Market,” “Principal-to-Principal Market” or “Exchange Market,” as each such term is defined in the Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Master Glossary.

“**ERISA**”—the U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.

“**Exchange Act**”—The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

“**FinCEN**”—The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

“**FINRA**”—The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., which is the primary regulator in the United States for broker-dealers, including Authorized Participants.

“**GAAP**”—United States generally accepted accounting principles.

“**Incidental Rights**”—Rights to acquire, or otherwise establish dominion and control over, any virtual currency or other asset or right, which rights are incident to the Trust’s ownership of Bitcoins and arise without any action of the Trust, or of the Sponsor or Trustee on behalf of the Trust.

“**Index**”— The CoinDesk Bitcoin Price Index (XBX).

“**Index License Agreement**”—The license agreement, dated as of February 1, 2022 and as amended from time to time, between the Index Provider and the Sponsor governing the Sponsor’s use of the Index for calculation of the Index Price.

“**Index Price**”—The U.S. dollar value of a Bitcoin derived from the Digital Asset Exchanges that are reflected in the Index, calculated at 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each business day. See “Part I—Item 1. Business—Overview of the Bitcoin Industry and Market—Bitcoin Value—The Index and the Index Price” in the Annual Report for a description of how the Index Price is calculated. For purposes of the Trust Agreement, the term Bitcoin Index Price shall mean the Index Price as defined herein.

“**Index Provider**”—CoinDesk Indices, Inc., a Delaware corporation that publishes the Index. DCG is the indirect parent company of CoinDesk Indices, Inc. As a result, CoinDesk Indices, Inc. is an affiliate of the Sponsor and the Trust and is considered a related party of the Trust.

“**IR Virtual Currency**”—Any virtual currency tokens, or other asset or right, acquired by the Trust through the exercise (subject to the applicable provisions of the Trust Agreement) of any Incidental Right.

“**IRS**”—The U.S. Internal Revenue Service, a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

“**In-Kind Order**”—An order for the creation or redemption of Sharers pursuant to which the Authorized Participant (or its AP Agent) will deliver or receive Bitcoin directly from the Trust’s Digital Asset Account.

“**Liquidity Engager**”—Grayscale Investments, LLC, acting other than in its capacity as Sponsor, and in its capacity to engage one or more Liquidity Providers.

“**Liquidity Provider**”—One or more eligible companies that facilitate the purchase and sale of Bitcoins on behalf of an Authorized Participant in connection with creations or redemptions pursuant to Cash Orders.

**“Marketing Agent”**—Foreside Fund Services, LLC.

**“Marketing Fee”**—Fee payable to the marketer for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor will pay to the marketer as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

**“NAV”**—The net asset value of the Trust determined on a GAAP basis.

**“NYSE Arca”**—NYSE Arca, Inc.

**“OTCQX”**—The OTCQX tier of OTC Markets Group Inc.

**“Participant Agreement”**—An agreement entered into by an Authorized Participant with the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent, that provides the procedures for the creation and redemption of Baskets.

**“Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment”**—The abandonment by the Trust, irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which the Trust would otherwise be entitled, effective immediately prior to a Creation Time or a Redemption Time (as the case may be) for the Trust.

**“Pre-Creation/Redemption Abandonment Notice”**—A notice, as supplemented from time to time, delivered by the Sponsor to the former custodian and the current Custodian, on behalf of the Trust, stating that the Trust is abandoning irrevocably for no direct or indirect consideration, effective immediately prior to each Creation Time or Redemption Time (as the case may be), all Incidental Rights and IR Virtual Currency to which it would otherwise be entitled as of such time and with respect to which the Trust has not taken any Affirmative Action at or prior to such time.

**“Redemption Time”**—With respect to the redemption of any Shares by the Trust, the time at which the Trust redeems such Shares.

**“SEC”**—The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

**“Secondary Market”**—Any marketplace or other alternative trading system, as determined by the Sponsor, on which the Shares may then be listed, quoted or traded, including but not limited to, NYSE Arca and the OTCQX tier of OTC Markets Group Inc.

**“Securities Act”**—The Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

**“Share Split”**—A 91-for-1 Share split of the Trust’s issued and outstanding Shares, which was effected on January 26, 2018 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on January 22, 2018.

**“Shares”**—Common units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in, and ownership of, the Trust.

**“Sponsor”**—Grayscale Investments, LLC.

**“Sponsor-paid Expenses”**—The fees and expenses incurred by the Trust in the ordinary course of its affairs that the Sponsor is obligated to assume and pay, excluding taxes, but including: (i) the Marketing Fee, (ii) the Administrator Fee, (iii) the Custodian Fee and fees for any other security vendor engaged by the Trust, (iv) the Transfer Agent fee, (v) the Trustee fee, (vi) the fees and expenses related to the listing, quotation or trading of the Shares on any Secondary Market (including customary legal, marketing and audit fees and expenses) in an amount up to \$600,000 in any given fiscal year, (vii) ordinary course, legal fees and expenses, (viii) audit fees, (ix) regulatory fees, including, if applicable, any fees relating to the registration of the Shares under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, (x) printing and mailing costs, (xi) costs of maintaining the Trust’s website and (xii) applicable license fees, provided that any expense that qualifies as an Additional Trust Expense will be deemed to be an Additional Trust Expense and not a Sponsor-paid Expense.

**“Sponsor’s Fee”**—A fee, payable in Bitcoins, which accrues daily in U.S. dollars at an annual rate of % of the Digital Asset Holdings Fee Basis Amount of the Trust as of 4:00 p.m., New York time, on each day; *provided* that for a day that is not a business day, the calculation of the Sponsor’s Fee will be based on Digital Asset Holdings Fee Basis Amount from the most recent business day, reduced by the accrued and unpaid Sponsor’s Fee for such most recent business day and for each day after such most recent business day and prior to the relevant calculation date.

**“Total Basket Amount”**—With respect to any creation or redemption order, the applicable Basket Amount multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed.

**“Total Basket NAV”**—The applicable Basket NAV Amount multiplied by the number of Baskets being created or redeemed.

**“Transfer Agency and Service Agreement”**—The agreement between the Sponsor and the Transfer Agent which sets forth the obligations and responsibilities of the Transfer Agent with respect to transfer agency services and related matters.

**“Transfer Agent”**—The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York corporation authorized to do a banking business.

**“Transfer Agent Fee”**—Fee payable to the Transfer Agent for services it provides to the Trust, which the Sponsor will pay to the Transfer Agent as a Sponsor-paid Expense.

**“Treasury Regulations”**—The regulations, including proposed or temporary regulations, promulgated under the Code.

**“Trust”**—Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC), a Delaware statutory trust, formed on September 13, 2013 under the DSTA and pursuant to the Trust Agreement.

**“Trust Agreement”**—The Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of September 12, 2018, between the Trustee and the Sponsor establishing and governing the operations of the Trust, as amended by Amendments No. 1 and No. 2 thereto and as the same may be amended from time to time.

**“Trustee”**—Delaware Trust Company (formerly known as CSC Trust Company of Delaware), a Delaware trust company, is the Delaware trustee of the Trust.

**“U.S.”**—United States.

**“U.S. dollar”** or **“\$”**—United States dollar or dollars.

**“Variable Fee”**—An amount in cash based on the Total Basket NAV, which shall be paid by the Authorized Participant in connection with Cash Orders. The amount may be changed by the Sponsor in its sole discretion at any time.

---

**GRAYSCALE<sup>®</sup>**

**GRAYSCALE BITCOIN TRUST (BTC)**

---

## **PART II**

### **INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS**

#### **Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.**

The Registrant (“Registrant” or “Trust”) does not bear any expenses incurred in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered. These expenses will be paid by Grayscale Investments, LLC, the sponsor of the Registrant (“Sponsor”).

#### **Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

Section 2.4(a) of the Trust Agreement (“Trust Agreement”) between Delaware Trust Company, the Registrant’s Trustee (“Trustee”), and the Sponsor provides that the Trustee and any of the officers, directors, employees and agents of the Trustee (the “Indemnified Persons”) shall be indemnified by the Trust as primary obligor and held harmless against any loss, damage, liability, claim, action, suit, cost, expense, disbursement (including the reasonable fees and expenses of counsel), tax or penalty of any kind and nature whatsoever (collectively, “Expenses”), arising out of, imposed upon or asserted at any time against such Indemnified Person in connection with the performance of its obligations under the Trust Agreement, the creation, operation or termination of the Trust or the transactions contemplated therein; provided, however, that neither the Trust nor Digital Currency Group, Inc. shall be required to indemnify any Indemnified Person for any Expenses which are a result of the willful misconduct, bad faith or gross negligence of the Indemnified Person. If the Trust shall have insufficient assets or improperly refuses to pay an Indemnified Person within 60 days of a request for payment owed under Section 2.4 of the Trust Agreement, Digital Currency Group, Inc. shall, as secondary obligor, compensate or reimburse the Trustee or indemnify, defend and hold harmless an Indemnified Person as if it were the primary obligor under Section 2.4 of the Trust Agreement. Any amount payable to an Indemnified Person under Section 2.4 of the Trust Agreement may be payable in advance and shall be secured by a lien on the Trust property. The obligations of Digital Currency Group, Inc. and the Trust to indemnify the Indemnified Persons under this Section 2.4 shall survive the termination of the Trust Agreement.

Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement provides that the Sponsor, its affiliates and their respective members, managers, directors, officers, employees, agents and controlling persons (each a “Sponsor Indemnified Party”) shall be indemnified by the Trust against any loss, judgment, liability, expense and amount paid in settlement of any claims sustained by it in connection with its activities for the Trust, provided that (i) the Sponsor Indemnified Party was acting on behalf of or performing services for the Trust and has determined, in good faith, that such course of conduct was in the best interests of the Trust and such liability or loss was not the result of fraud, gross negligence, bad faith, willful misconduct, or a material breach of the Trust Agreement on the part of the Sponsor Indemnified Party and (ii) any such indemnification will only be recoverable from the bitcoins and proceeds from the sale of bitcoins on deposit in the Trust’s accounts as well as any rights of the Trust pursuant to any other agreements to which the Trust is a party.

All rights to indemnification permitted in Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement and payment of associated expenses shall not be affected by the dissolution or other cessation to exist of the Sponsor Indemnified Party, or the withdrawal, adjudication of bankruptcy or insolvency of the Sponsor Indemnified Party, or the filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition in bankruptcy under Title 11 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, by or against the Sponsor Indemnified Party.

Notwithstanding the other provisions of Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement, the Sponsor Indemnified Party and any person acting as broker-dealer for the Trust shall not be indemnified for any losses, liabilities or expenses arising from or out of an alleged violation of U.S. federal or state securities laws unless (i) there has been a successful adjudication on the merits of each count involving alleged securities law violations as to the particular indemnitee and the court approves the indemnification of such expenses (including, without limitation, litigation costs), (ii) such claims have been dismissed with prejudice on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction as to the particular indemnitee and the court approves the indemnification of such expenses

(including, without limitation, litigation costs) or (iii) a court of competent jurisdiction approves a settlement of the claims against a particular indemnitee and finds that indemnification of the settlement and related costs should be made. The Trust shall not incur the cost of that portion of any insurance which insures any party against any liability, the indemnification of which is prohibited by the Trust Agreement. Expenses incurred in defending a threatened or pending civil, administrative or criminal action suit or proceeding against the Sponsor Indemnified Party shall be paid by the Trust in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, if (i) the legal action relates to the performance of duties or services by the Sponsor Indemnified Party on behalf of the Trust; (ii) the legal action is initiated by a third party who is not a shareholder of the Trust or the legal action is initiated by a shareholder of the Trust and a court of competent jurisdiction specifically approves such advance; and (iii) the Sponsor Indemnified Party undertakes to repay the advanced funds with interest to the Trust in cases in which it is not entitled to indemnification under Section 6.7 of the Trust Agreement. In the event the Trust is made a party to any claim, dispute, demand or litigation or otherwise incurs any loss, liability, damage, cost or expense as a result of or in connection with any shareholder of the Trust's (or assignee's) obligations or liabilities unrelated to Trust business, such shareholder of the Trust (or assignees cumulatively) shall indemnify, defend, hold harmless, and reimburse the Trust for all such loss, liability, damage, cost and expense incurred, including attorneys' and accountants' fees.

**Item 16. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.**

**(a) Exhibits**

See Exhibit Index below, which is incorporated by reference herein.

**(b) Financial Statement Schedules**

Not applicable

**Item 17. Undertakings.**

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
  - (i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;
  - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement.
  - (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

*Provided, however, the:*

- (A) Paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (ii), and (iii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference

in the registration statement, or, contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:
  - (i) Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and
  - (ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or
- (5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

- (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;
- (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and
- (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

- (b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
  
- (c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
4.1	Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Registration Statement on Form 10 filed by the Registrant on November 19, 2019).
4.2	Amendment No. 1 to the Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Registration Statement on Form 10 filed by the Registrant on November 19, 2019).
4.3	Amendment No. 2 to the Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 of the Annual Report on Form 10-K filed by the Registrant on March 20, 2020).
4.4	Certificate of Amendment to Certificate of Trust (attached as Exhibit A to Amendment No. 1 to the Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement).
4.5*	Form of Participant Agreement.
5.1	Opinion of Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., as special Delaware counsel to the Trust.
8.1*	Opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special tax counsel to the Trust.
10.1*	Custodian Agreement.
10.2	Fund Administration and Accounting Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on July 13, 2021).
10.3†	Index License Agreement, dated February 1, 2022, between the Sponsor, and the Index Provider (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on February 4, 2022).
10.4†	Amendment No. 1 to the Index License Agreement, dated June 20, 2023, between the Sponsor and Index Provider (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on June 23, 2023).
10.5*	Marketing Agent Agreement.
10.6	Transfer Agency and Service Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on November 21, 2023).
10.7	Co-Transfer Agency Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Registrant on November 21, 2023)
23.1	Consent of Marcum LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
23.2	Consent of Friedman LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
23.3	Consent of Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., as special Delaware counsel to the Trust, included in Exhibit 5.1.
23.4*	Consent of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, as special tax counsel to the Trust, included in Exhibit 8.1.
24.1#	Power of Attorney of certain officers and directors of the Sponsor (included on the signature page of the original filing of this Registration Statement).
107#	Filing Fee Table.

† Portions of this exhibit (indicated by asterisks) have been omitted as the Registrant has determined that (i) the omitted information is not material and (ii) the omitted information is of the type that the Registrant treats as private or confidential.

\* To be filed by amendment.

# Previously filed.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of New York, New York, on November 22, 2023.

GRAYSCALE INVESTMENTS, LLC  
as Sponsor of the Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC)

By: /s/ Michael Sonnenshein  
Name: Michael Sonnenshein  
Title: Member of the Board of Directors and Chief  
Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>#</u> Barry E. Silbert	Chairman of the Board of Directors	November 22, 2023
<u>/s/ Michael Sonnenshein</u> Michael Sonnenshein	Member of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)	November 22, 2023
<u>#</u> Edward McGee	Chief Financial Officer (principal financial and principal accounting officer)	November 22, 2023
<u>#</u> Mark Murphy	Member of the Board of Directors	November 22, 2023

\* The Registrant is a trust and the persons are signing in their capacities as officers or directors of Grayscale Investments, LLC, the Sponsor of the Registrant.

# /s/ Michael Sonnenshein,  
Michael Sonnenshein, as attorney-in-fact



November 22, 2023

Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC)  
c/o Grayscale Investments, LLC  
636 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10011

Re: Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special Delaware counsel to Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) (the “Trust”), a Delaware statutory trust, in connection with the matters set forth herein. This opinion is being delivered to you at your request.

We have examined and relied upon such records, documents, certificates and other instruments as in our judgment are necessary or appropriate to enable us to render the opinions expressed below, including the following documents:

- (a) The Certificate of Trust of the Trust, as filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware (the “Secretary of State”) on September 13, 2013, as amended by that certain Certificate of Amendment to the Certificate of Trust, as filed with the Secretary of State on January 11, 2019 (collectively, the “Certificate of Trust”);
- (b) The Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement of the Trust, dated as of September 13, 2013, between Grayscale Investments, LLC (f/k/a Alternative Currency Asset Management, LLC), a Delaware limited liability company, as sponsor (the “Sponsor”), SecondMarket Holdings, Inc. (solely with respect to Section 3 thereof) and CSC Trust Company of Delaware, a Delaware corporation, as trustee (the “Trustee”);
- (c) The Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of September 12, 2018, as amended by that certain Amendment No. 1 to the Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of January 11, 2019, and as further amended by that certain Amendment No. 2 to the Fifth Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust and Trust Agreement, dated as of January 11, 2020 (the “Amended and Restated Trust Agreement”);



One Rodney Square ■ 920 North King Street ■ Wilmington, DE 19801 ■ Phone: 302-651-7700 ■ Fax: 302-651-7701

[www.rlf.com](http://www.rlf.com)

- (d) A form of the Participant Agreement to be entered into by the Sponsor, acting in its capacity as Sponsor of the Trust, The Bank of New York Mellon, a New York Banking corporation acting in its capacity as transfer agent of the Trust, and each authorized participant (the “Participant Agreement”);
- (e) Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the “Registration Statement”), including a preliminary prospectus (the “Prospectus”), filed by the Sponsor and the Trust with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) on or about the date hereof relating to an unspecified number of shares to be issued by the Trust representing units of fractional undivided beneficial interests in the assets of the Trust (each, a “Share” and collectively, the “Shares); and
- (f) A Certificate of Good Standing for the Trust, dated November 21, 2023, obtained from the Secretary of State.

With respect to all documents examined by us, we have assumed (i) the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as authentic originals, (ii) the conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to us as copies or forms, and (iii) the genuineness of all signatures. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined are used as defined in, or by reference in, the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, except that references herein to any document shall mean such document as in effect on the date hereof.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing and subject to the assumptions, exceptions, qualifications and limitations set forth hereinbelow, it is our opinion that:

1. The Trust is validly existing as a statutory trust under the Delaware Statutory Trust Act, 12 Del.C. § 3801 et seq. (the “Act”) and has the power and authority to issue and deliver the Shares.

2. When the Shares to be issued by the Trust have been delivered and sold to and paid for by the subscribers thereof as contemplated in the Registration Statement, the Participant Agreement and the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, such Shares will be validly issued and will be fully paid and nonassessable beneficial interests in the Trust.

The foregoing opinions are subject to the following assumptions, exceptions, qualifications and limitations:

A. This opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Delaware (excluding the securities laws of the State of Delaware), and we have not considered and express no opinion on the laws of any other jurisdiction, including federal laws and rules and regulations relating thereto. Our opinions are rendered only with respect to Delaware laws and rules, regulations and orders thereunder which are currently in effect.

B. We have assumed (i) that the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the parties thereto with respect to the subject matter thereof, including, without limitation, the creation, operation and termination of the Trust and that the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement and the Certificate of Trust are in full force and effect and have not been amended, (ii) the due creation, due formation or due organization, as the case may be, and valid existence in good standing of each party to the documents (other than the Trust) examined by us under the laws of the jurisdiction governing its creation, formation or organization, (iii) the legal capacity of each natural person who is a signatory to the documents examined by us, (iv) that each of the parties to the documents (other than the Trust) examined by us has the power and authority to execute and deliver, and to perform its obligations under, such documents, (v) the due authorization, execution and delivery by all parties thereto of all documents (other than the Trust) examined by us, (vi) the due submission to the Sponsor or its delegate of a Creation Order by each Participant, (vii) the due acceptance by the Sponsor or its delegate of each Creation Order, (viii) the payment by each Shareholder to the Trust of the full consideration due from it for the Shares subscribed to by it, (ix) the Shares will be offered and sold as described in the Registration Statement, the Participant Agreement, and the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, and (x) that any amendment or restatement of any document reviewed by us has been accomplished in accordance with, and was permitted by, the relevant provisions of said document prior to its amendment or restatement from time to time.

C. We have not participated in the preparation of the Registration Statement or the Prospectus (except for providing this opinion) and assume no responsibility for its contents.

D. We note that Section 6.7(f) of the Amended and Restated Trust Agreement provides that the Shareholders will indemnify the Trust in certain circumstances.

We consent to the filing of this opinion with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. We hereby consent to the use of our name under the heading “Legal Matters” in the Prospectus. In giving the foregoing consents, we do not thereby admit that we come within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) (the "Trust") on Amendment No. 1 to Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-275079) of our report dated February 28, 2023, with respect to our audit of the financial statements of the Trust as of December 31, 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and our report dated February 28, 2023, with respect to our audit of internal control over financial reporting of the Trust as of December 31, 2022, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2022. We also consent to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in such Prospectus.

/s/ Marcum LLP

Marcum LLP  
New York, NY  
November 22, 2023

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM'S CONSENT

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement of Grayscale Bitcoin Trust (BTC) (the "Trust") on Amendment No. 1 to Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-275079) of our report dated February 25, 2022, with respect to our audit of the financial statements of the Trust as of December 31, 2021 and for the two years ended December 31, 2021, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2022. We also consent to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in such Prospectus. We were dismissed as auditors on September 27, 2022 and, accordingly, we have not performed any audit or review procedures with respect to any financial statements appearing in such prospectus for the periods after the date of our dismissal.

/s/ Friedman LLP

Friedman LLP  
New York, NY  
November 22, 2023