

# Highland Tax-Exempt Fund

Class A HTXAX Class C HTXCX Class Y HTXYX

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's Statutory Prospectus, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's Statutory Prospectus, Statement of Additional Information and other information about the Fund online at <http://highlandfunds.com/highland-funds-2/>. You can also get this information at no cost by calling 1-877-665-1287 or by sending an e-mail request to [info@highlandfunds.com](mailto:info@highlandfunds.com). The Fund's Statutory Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, both dated February 1, 2018, as supplemented, are incorporated by reference into this Summary Prospectus.

## Investment Objective

The investment objective of Highland Tax-Exempt Fund ("Highland Tax-Exempt Fund" or the "Fund") is to provide as high a level of income exempt from federal income taxation as is consistent with preservation of capital.

## Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The following tables describe the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund.

You may qualify for sales charge discounts on purchases of Class A Shares if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$50,000 in Highland Funds II equity funds and/or asset allocation funds, or at least \$100,000 in Highland Funds II fixed income funds. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial professional and in the "Reduced Sales Charges for Class A Shares" section on page 86 of the Fund's Prospectus and the "Programs for Reducing or Eliminating Sales Charges" section on page 70 of the Fund's Statement of Additional Information. Investors investing in the Fund through an intermediary should consult the Appendix to the Fund's Prospectus, which includes information regarding financial intermediary-specific sales charges and related discount policies that apply to purchases through certain specified intermediaries.

### **Shareholder Fees** (fees paid directly from your investment)

	Class A	Class C	Class Y
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases (as a % of offering price)	4.25%	None	None
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Reinvested Dividends and other Distributions (as a % of offering price)	None	None	None
Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load) (as a % of the net asset value at the time of purchase or redemption, whichever is lower)	None <sup>1</sup>	1.00% <sup>2</sup>	None
Exchange Fee	None	None	None
Redemption Fee	None	None	None

### **Annual Fund Operating Expenses** (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Class A	Class C	Class Y
Management Fee	0.35%	0.35%	0.35%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%	1.00%	None
Other Expenses	0.71%	0.71%	0.71%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>3</sup>	1.32%	2.07%	1.07%
Expense Reimbursement <sup>4</sup>	0.41%	0.41%	0.41%
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Expense Reimbursement	0.91%	1.66%	0.66%

<sup>1</sup> Class A Shares bought without an initial sales charge in accounts aggregating \$1 million or more at the time of purchase are subject to a 0.50% contingent deferred sales charge ("CDSC") if the shares are sold within one year of purchase.

<sup>2</sup> Class C Shares are subject to a 1% CDSC for redemptions of shares within one year of purchase. This CDSC does not apply to redemptions under a systematic withdrawal plan.

<sup>3</sup> Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses differ from the ratio of expenses to average net assets shown in the Financial Highlights, which reflect the operating expenses of the Fund and do not include acquired fund fees and expenses.

<sup>4</sup> Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. ("HCMFA" or the "Adviser") has contractually agreed to limit the total annual operating expenses (exclusive of fees paid by the Fund pursuant to its distribution plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), taxes, such as deferred tax expenses, dividend expenses on short sales, interest payments, brokerage commissions and other transaction costs, acquired fund fees and expenses and extraordinary expenses (collectively, the "Excluded Expenses")) of the Fund to 0.65% of average daily net assets attributable to any class of the Fund (the "Expense Cap"). The Expense Cap will continue through at least January 31, 2019, and may not be terminated prior to this date without the action or consent of the Fund's Board of Trustees. Under the expense limitation agreement, the Adviser may recoup waived and/or reimbursed amounts with respect to the Fund within thirty-six months of the date such amounts were waived or reimbursed, provided the Fund's total annual operating expenses, including such recoupment, do not exceed the Expense Cap in effect at the time of such waiver/reimbursement.

## Expense Example

This Example helps you compare the cost of investing in the Fund to the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that (i) you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell or redeem all your shares at the end of those periods, (ii) your investment has a 5% return each year, and (iii) operating expenses remain the same. Only the first year of each period in the Example takes into account the expense reimbursement described in the footnote above. Your actual costs may be higher or lower.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Class A	\$514	\$787	\$1,080	\$1,913
Class C				
if you do not sell your shares	\$169	\$609	\$1,076	\$2,368
if you sold all your shares at the end of the period	\$269	\$609	\$1,076	\$2,368
Class Y	\$ 67	\$300	\$ 550	\$1,269

## Portfolio Turnover

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the Expense Example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 9% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in investment-grade municipal obligations. Under normal circumstances, the portfolio manager manages the Fund so that at least 80% of the Fund’s income is exempt from both regular federal income taxes and the federal alternative minimum tax.

Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. (“HCMFA” or the “Adviser”), the Fund’s investment adviser, has allocated all the assets of the Fund to be managed/advised by First Foundation Advisors (“FFA” or the “Sub-Adviser”), the Fund’s sub-adviser. The Fund generally will have an effective duration of 75% to 125% of the duration of the Barclays Capital 10-Year Municipal Bond Index. As of December 31, 2017, the effective duration of the Barclays Capital 10-Year Municipal Bond Index was 5.79 years. Portfolio duration is one measure of risk, as noted under “Interest Rate Risk” below.

The portfolio manager seeks to identify municipal obligations with characteristics such as:

- attractive yields and prices

- the potential for income generation
- the potential for capital appreciation
- reasonable credit quality

The portfolio manager may consider selling a security when one of these characteristics no longer applies, or when valuation becomes excessive and more attractive alternatives are identified.

The Fund also may invest to a lesser extent in tax-free or taxable money market instruments and may hold cash. The portfolio manager may also use various types of derivatives (such as options, futures and options on futures) to manage interest rate exposure (also known as duration) and to manage exposure to credit quality. The Fund may also invest in exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”).

The Fund’s policy that at least 80% of its income be exempt from both regular federal income taxes and the federal alternative minimum tax may only be changed with shareholder approval. The reference in the Fund’s investment objective to capital preservation does not indicate that the Fund may not lose money. The investment adviser seeks to employ strategies that are consistent with capital preservation, but there can be no assurance that the investment adviser will be successful in doing so.

## Principal Risks

When you sell Fund shares, they may be worth less than what you paid for them. Consequently, you can lose money by investing in the Fund. No assurance can be given that the Fund will achieve its investment objective, and investment results may vary substantially over time and from period to period. An investment in the Fund is not appropriate for all investors.

An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of any bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency.

**Credit Risk** is the risk that the issuers of certain securities or the counterparties of a derivatives contract or repurchase contract might be unable or unwilling (or perceived as being unable or unwilling) to make interest and/or principal payments when due, or to otherwise honor its obligations. Debt securities are subject to the risk of non-payment of scheduled interest and/or principal. Non-payment would result in a reduction of income to the Fund, a reduction in the value of the obligation experiencing non-payment and a potential decrease in the net asset value (“NAV”) of the Fund.

**Debt Securities Risk** is the risk associated with the fact that the value of debt securities typically changes in response to various factors, including, by way of example, market-related factors (such as changes in interest rates or changes in the risk appetite of investors generally) and changes in the actual or perceived ability of the issuer (or of issuers generally) to

meet its (or their) obligations. During periods of rising interest rates, debt securities generally decline in value. Conversely, during periods of falling interest rates, debt securities generally rise in value. This kind of market risk is generally greater for funds investing in debt securities with longer maturities.

**Derivatives Risk** is a combination of several risks, including the risks that: (1) an investment in a derivative instrument may not correlate well with the performance of the securities or asset class to which the Fund seeks exposure, (2) derivative contracts, including options, may expire worthless and the use of derivatives may result in losses to the Fund, (3) a derivative instrument entailing leverage may result in a loss greater than the principal amount invested, (4) derivatives not traded on an exchange may be subject to credit risk, for example, if the counterparty does not meet its obligations (see also “Counterparty Risk”), and (5) derivatives not traded on an exchange may be subject to liquidity risk and the related risk that the instrument is difficult or impossible to value accurately. As a general matter, when the Fund establishes certain derivative instrument positions, such as certain futures, options and forward contract positions, it will segregate liquid assets (such as cash, U.S. Treasury bonds or commercial paper) equivalent to the Fund’s outstanding obligations under the contract or in connection with the position. In addition, changes in laws or regulations may make the use of derivatives more costly, may limit the availability of derivatives, or may otherwise adversely affect the use, value or performance of derivatives. The Fund’s ability to pursue its investment strategy, including its strategy of investing in certain derivative instruments, may be limited to or adversely affected by the Fund’s intention to qualify as a RIC, and its strategy may bear adversely on its ability to so qualify.

**Exchange-Traded Funds (“ETF”) Risk** is the risk that the price movement of an ETF may not exactly track the underlying index and may result in a loss. In addition, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of the Fund’s expenses and similar expenses of the underlying investment company when the Fund invests in shares of another investment company.

**Interest Rate Risk** is the risk that fixed income securities will decline in value because of changes in interest rates. When interest rates decline, the value of fixed rate securities already held by the Fund can be expected to rise. Conversely, when interest rates rise, the value of existing fixed rate portfolio securities can be expected to decline. A fund with a longer average portfolio duration will be more sensitive to changes in interest rates than a fund with a shorter average portfolio duration.

**Municipal Obligations Risk** is the risk of investing in municipal securities, and includes interest rate risk and the credit risk of the issuers of municipal securities. The municipal securities

market is volatile and may be significantly affected by adverse tax, legislative or political changes. To the extent that the Fund remains relatively small, it may have fewer favorable investment opportunities.

**Operational and Technology Risk** is the risk that cyber-attacks, disruptions, or failures that affect the Fund’s service providers, counterparties, market participants, or issuers of securities held by the Fund may adversely affect the Fund and its shareholders, including by causing losses for the Fund or impairing Fund operations.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk** is the risk that high portfolio turnover will increase a Fund’s transaction costs and may result in increased realization of net short-term capital gains (which are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income when distributed to them), higher taxable distributions and lower after-tax performance.

**Prepayment Risk** is the risk that during periods of falling interest rates, issuers of debt securities may repay higher rate securities before their maturity dates. This may cause the Fund to lose potential price appreciation and to be forced to reinvest the unanticipated proceeds at lower interest rates. This may adversely affect the NAV of the Fund’s shares.

**Securities Market Risk** is the risk that the value of securities owned by the Fund may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably, due to factors affecting particular companies or the securities markets generally. A general downturn in the securities market may cause multiple asset classes to decline in value simultaneously. Many factors can affect this value and you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

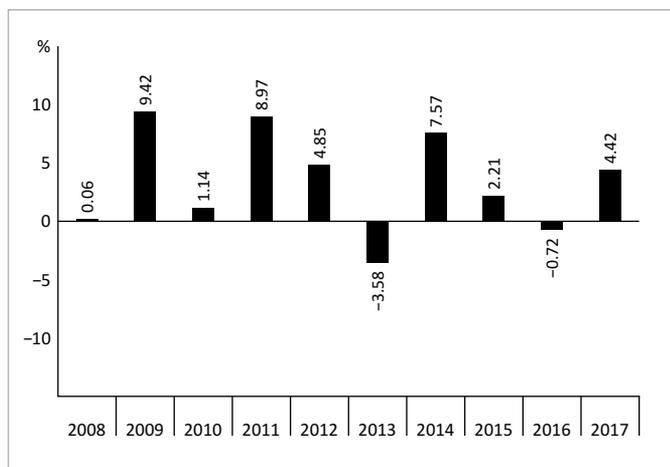
### Performance

The bar chart and the Average Annual Total Returns table below provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by showing changes in the performance of the Fund’s Class A Shares for each full calendar year and by showing how the Fund’s average annual returns compare with the returns of a broad-based securities market index or indices. As with all mutual funds, the Fund’s past performance (before and after taxes) does not predict how the Fund will perform in the future. The Fund’s performance prior to August 1, 2014 reflects returns achieved when the Fund was sub-advised by a different sub-adviser. If the Fund’s current management had been in place for the prior periods, the performance information shown would have been different. The Fund’s performance reflects applicable fee waivers and/or expense limitations in effect during the periods presented, without which returns would have been lower. Both the chart and the table assume the reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The bar chart does not reflect the deduction of applicable sales charges for Class A Shares. If sales charges had been reflected, the returns for Class A Shares would be less than those shown below. The returns of Class C and Class Y Shares would have substantially similar returns as Class A because

the classes are invested in the same portfolio of securities and the annual returns would differ only to the extent that the classes have different expenses (including sales charges). Updated information on the Fund's performance can be obtained by visiting <http://highlandfunds.com/highland-funds-2/> or by calling 1-877-665-1287.

### Calendar Year Total Returns

The bar chart shows the performance of the Fund's Class A shares as of December 31.



The highest calendar quarter total return for Class A Shares of the Fund was 5.16% for the quarter ended September 30, 2009 and the lowest calendar quarter total return was -4.17% for the quarter ended December 31, 2010.

### Average Annual Total Returns

(For the periods ended December 31, 2017)

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
<b>Class A (inception 9/8/93)</b>			
Return Before Taxes	0.02%	1.02%	2.90%
Return After Taxes on Distributions	-0.62%	0.68%	2.73%
Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares	1.51%	1.27%	2.85%
<b>Return Before Taxes</b>			
Class C (inception 9/30/99)	2.65%	1.15%	2.58%
Class Y (inception 9/27/97)	4.50%	2.14%	3.59%
<b>Barclays Capital 10-Year Municipal Bond Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) (inception 8/31/93)</b>			
	5.83%	3.13%	4.86%

After-tax returns in the table above are shown for Class A Shares only and after-tax returns for other share classes will vary. After-tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on an investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown. For example, after-tax returns shown are

not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares through tax-advantaged arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

In some cases, average annual return after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares is higher than the return before taxes and the average annual return after taxes on distributions because of realized losses that would have been sustained upon the sale of fund shares immediately after the relevant periods. The calculations assume that an investor holds the shares in a taxable account, is in the actual historical highest individual federal marginal income tax bracket for each year and would have been able to immediately utilize the full realized loss to reduce his or her federal tax liability. However, actual individual tax results may vary and investors should consult their tax advisers regarding their personal tax situations.

### Portfolio Management

Highland Capital Management Fund Advisors, L.P. serves as the investment adviser to the Fund and First Foundation Advisors serves as sub-adviser to the Fund. The primary individual portfolio managers for the Fund are:

Portfolio Manager	Portfolio Manager Experience in this Fund	Title with Sub-Adviser
John Hakopian	3 years	President

### Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

**Purchase minimum** (for Class A and Class C Shares) (reduced for certain accounts)

	By mail	By wire	Automatic
Initial Investment	\$500	\$1,000	\$25
Subsequent Investments	\$100	\$1,000	\$25

There is no program asset size or minimum investment requirements for initial and subsequent purchases of shares by eligible omnibus account investors.

**Purchase minimum** (for Class Y Shares) (eligible investors only)

	Class Y
Initial Investment	None
Subsequent Investments	None

Class Y Shares are available to investors who invest through programs or platforms maintained by an authorized financial intermediary.

Individual investors that invest directly with the Fund are not eligible to invest in Class Y Shares.

The Fund reserves the right to apply or waive investment minimums under certain circumstances as described in the Prospectus under the "Choosing a Share Class" section.

You may purchase shares of the Fund by mail, bank wire, electronic funds transfer or by telephone after you have opened an account with the Fund. You may obtain an account

application from your financial intermediary, from the Fund by calling 1-877-665-1287 or from the Fund's website at <http://highlandfunds.com/literature>.

In general, you may sell (redeem) all or part of your Fund shares on any business day through the following options:

- Through your Financial Intermediary
- By writing to Highland Funds II — Highland Tax-Exempt Fund, PO Box 8656, Boston, Massachusetts 02266-8656, or
- By calling DST Asset Manager Solutions, Inc. at 1-877-665-1287

Financial intermediaries may independently charge fees for shareholder transactions or for advisory services. Please see their materials for details.

### Tax Information

The Fund generally intends to distribute primarily exempt-interest dividends that are exempt from federal income tax and the federal alternative minimum tax. A portion of the Fund's distributions may not qualify as exempt-interest dividends, and generally will be taxable to you as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gain, unless you are a tax-exempt investor or otherwise investing in the Fund through a tax-advantaged arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account. If you are investing in the Fund through a tax-advantaged arrangement, you may be taxed later upon withdrawals from that account.

### Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

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

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