

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Upcoming maturity of the iPath® VXX and VXZ ETNs

# 1. What are the Maturing ETNs?

- iPath<sup>®</sup> S&P 500<sup>®</sup> VIX Short-Term Futures<sup>™</sup> ETNs (Ticker: VXX)
- iPath<sup>®</sup> S&P 500<sup>®</sup> VIX Mid-Term Futures<sup>™</sup> ETNs (Ticker: VXZ)

# 2. When is the last trading date of the Maturing ETNs?

January 29, 2019

#### 3. When are they maturing?

January 30, 2019

#### 4. Why are they maturing?

The Maturing ETNs were listed on January 30, 2009 with a 10-year term to maturity under their prospectus terms.

# 5. What happens on the Maturity Date? I hold shares of the Maturing ETNs. What happens if I do nothing?

- Maturing ETNs are delisted at market open
- · Holders of record receive the final cash settlement value

# 6. What is the final cash settlement value?

The Closing Indicative Value (the "CIV") on January 29, 2019 for each of the Maturing ETNs will be the final cash settlement value. No additional fee or charge will be applied by Barclays in the calculation of the final cash settlement value. Please see the prospectus for the Maturing ETNs for information on how the CIV for the Maturing ETNs is calculated.

#### 7. Does Barclays have an alternate ETN I could use? What are the New ETNs?

- iPath<sup>®</sup> Series B S&P 500<sup>®</sup> VIX Short-Term Futures<sup>™</sup> ETNs (Ticker: VXXB)
- iPath<sup>®</sup> Series B S&P 500<sup>®</sup> VIX Mid-Term Futures<sup>™</sup> ETNs (Ticker: VXZB)

Holders of the Maturing ETNs may choose to switch their holdings to the respective New ETNs (listed January 18, 2018).

#### 8. What are the similarities and differences between the Maturing ETNs and the New ETNs?

The New ETNs were issued with the intent to provide the same economic exposure as the Maturing ETNs. The daily CIV, investor fees, underlying index and CIV formulas are identical across each pair of New ETN and Maturing ETN.

Please refer to the document at <u>www.ipathetn.com/vxxvxxbcompare</u> for more details.

#### 9. Can I switch from the Maturing ETNs to the New ETNs?

Yes.

Holders of long or short positions in the Maturing ETNs are able to execute simultaneous paired buy/sell transactions for the same price and shares to switch to the New ETNs.

The paired buy/sell (or vice versa) transaction may be executed via an execution broker or by facing Barclays directly for example.

#### 10. I am short VXX currently. How do I switch to a short position on the VXXB ETN?

Holders of short positions in the Maturing ETNs may execute a paired buy/sell transaction at the same price, shares, trade date and settlement date to switch to the New ETNs. They would buy shares of the respective Maturing ETNs and sell equivalent number of respective New ETNs shares.

Additionally these holders would need to borrow shares of the corresponding New ETNs from their custodian/broker prior to settlement of the paired transactions.

#### 11. What are the tax implications of switching to a long or short position on the VXXB ETN?

Holders should seek guidance from their tax advisor around their specific tax implications.

#### 12. I trade options on VXX currently. Why are there no option maturities beyond January 25, 2019?

US Options exchanges have not listed any maturities on VXX options beyond the maturity of the Maturing ETNs. Investors looking to trade further out options would need to consider relevant options on the VXXB ETN.

# Additional Relevant Details

#### 1. The prospectuses for the Maturing ETNs and the New ETNs can be accessed at the links below.

VXX: <u>www.ipathetn.com/VXXprospectus</u> VXXB: <u>www.ipathetn.com/VXXBprospectus</u> VXZ: <u>www.ipathetn.com/VXZprospectus</u> VXZB: <u>www.ipathetn.com/VXZBprospectus</u>

# 2. Product identifiers for the ETNs:

Maturing ETNs Ticker/CUSIP	New ETNs Ticker/CUSIP
VXX (CUSIP: 06746L422)	VXXB (CUSIP: 06746P621)
VXZ (CUSIP: 06740Q260)	VXZB (CUSIP: 06746P613)

# 3. Why is Barclays not extending the maturity date on the Maturing ETNs?

As per terms of the Maturing ETNs prospectus, Barclays requires consent from 100% of note holders in order to extend the maturity date of the Maturing ETNs. It is impractical to expect that every holder of these large ETNs will vote, irrespective of the direction of their vote.

#### 4. How do I switch from the Maturing ETNs to the New ETNs?

Holders of the Maturing ETNs may either be long or short shares. If they wish to switch to the New ETNs they may take any of the following actions:

1) Sell Maturing ETNs and purchase New ETNs (or vice versa) on the exchange/secondary market at the prevailing bids/offers on the exchange.

2) Sell Maturing ETNs and simultaneously purchase New ETNs (or vice versa) via an execution broker in the secondary market, with each transaction having the same price, shares, trade date and settlement date. The execution brokers would aggregate such orders across the market and face Barclays in a Net Settlement transaction similar to step-3 below.

3) Put Maturing ETNs to Barclays with no minimum early redemption size and simultaneously purchase an equivalent amount of the corresponding New ETNs from Barclays (or vice versa), with each transaction having the same valuation date and settlement date (a "Net Settlement"). In this case, upon redemption of its Maturing ETNs, the holder would receive a number of New ETNs equal to the number of redeemed Maturing ETNs (or vice versa). Holders who wish to effect a Net Settlement must instruct their broker or other person through whom they hold their Maturing ETNs (or their New ETNs) in accordance with the procedures set forth in the section "Specific Terms of the ETNs—Early Redemption Procedures" in the prospectus relating to the Maturing ETNs (or the New ETNs). Holders may also contact Barclays at <u>etndesk@barclays.com</u> or 1-212-528-7990 to obtain further information regarding the procedures for Net Settlement.

#### 5. I do not want to switch. How do I close out my position in the Maturing ETNs?

1) Sell Maturing ETNs (or buy shares if short) on the exchange/secondary market at the prevailing bids/offers on the exchange.

2) Sell Maturing ETNs (or buy shares if short) via an execution broker in the secondary market.

3) Put Maturing ETNs to Barclays under the early redemption option (subject to the existing minimum early redemption size of 25,000 ETNs) or purchase Maturing ETNs from Barclays if originally short, in each case for the applicable cash value and applicable fees.

#### 6. How do I contact Barclays if I have further questions?

Financial advisors:

• Directly contact Barclays at <u>etndesk@barclays.com</u> or 1-212-528-7990 to obtain further information

#### Individual investors:

- Instruct your broker/advisor/custodian to email us at <u>etndesk@barclays.com</u> or to call us at: 1-212-528-7990
- You may call in together with your broker/advisor/custodian or have them speak to us on your behalf

# **Selected Risk Considerations**

An investment in the iPath ETNs described herein (the "ETNs") involves risks. Selected risks are summarized here, but we urge you to read the more detailed explanation of risks described under "Risk Factors" in the applicable prospectus supplement and pricing supplement.

You May Lose Some or All of Your Principal: The ETNs are exposed to any decrease in the level of the underlying index between the inception date and the applicable valuation date. Additionally, if the level of the underlying index is insufficient to offset the negative effect of the investor fee and other applicable costs, you will lose some or all of your investment at maturity or upon redemption, even if the value of such index has increased. Because the ETNs are subject to an investor fee and any other applicable costs, the return on the ETNs will always be lower than the total return on a direct investment in the index components. **The ETNs are riskier than ordinary unsecured debt securities and** have no principal protection.

**Credit of Barclays Bank PLC**: The ETNs are unsecured debt obligations of the issuer, Barclays Bank PLC, and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of or guaranteed by any third party. Any payment to be made on the ETNs, including any payment at maturity or upon redemption, depends on the ability of Barclays Bank PLC to satisfy its obligations as they come due. As a result, the actual and perceived creditworthiness of Barclays Bank PLC will affect the market value, if any, of the ETNs prior to maturity or redemption. In addition, in the event Barclays Bank PLC were to default on its obligations, you may not receive any amounts owed to you under the terms of the ETNs.

**Issuer Redemption**: If specified in the applicable prospectus, Barclays Bank PLC will have the right to redeem or "call" a series of ETNs (in whole but not in part) at its sole discretion and without your consent on any trading day on or after the inception date until and including maturity.

The Performance of the Underlying Indices are Unpredictable: An investment in the ETNs is subject to risks associated with fluctuations, particularly a decline, in the performance of the underlying index. Because the performance of such index is linked to futures contracts on the VIX Index, the performance of the underlying index will depend on many factors including, the level of the S&P 500®, the prices of options on the S&P 500®, and the level of the VIX Index which may change unpredictably, affecting the value of futures contracts on the VIX Index and, consequently, the level of the underlying index. Additional factors that may contribute to fluctuations in the level of such index include prevailing market prices and forward volatility levels of the U.S. stock markets and the equity securities included in the S&P 500®, the prevailing market prices of options on the VIX Index, relevant futures contracts on the VIX Index, or any other financial instruments related to the S&P 500® and the VIX Index, interest rates, supply and demand in the listed and over-the-counter equity derivative markets as well as hedging activities in the equity-linked structured product markets.

Your ETNs Are Not Linked to the VIX Index: The ETNs offer exposure to futures contracts of specified maturities on the VIX Index and not direct exposure to the VIX Index or its spot level. These futures contracts will not track the performance of the VIX Index. In addition, the nature of the VIX futures market has historically resulted in a significant cost to "roll" a position in the VIX futures contracts underlying the index. As a result, the levels of the underlying index, which tracks a rolling position in specified VIX futures contracts, may experience significant declines as a result of these roll costs, especially over a longer period. The VIX Index will perform differently than the index underlying the ETNs and, in certain cases, may have positive performance during periods, while the index underlying the ETNs is experiencing poor performance. In turn, an investment in the ETNs may experience a significant decline in value over time, the risk of which increases the longer that the ETNs are held.

**Risk of Long Term Holdings**: The ETNs are only suitable for a very short investment horizon. The relationship between the level of the VIX Index and the underlying futures on the VIX Index will begin to break down as the length of an investor's holding period increases, even within the course of a single index business day. The relationship between the level of the underlying index and the value of the ETNs will also begin to break down as the length of an investor's holding period increases due to the effect of accrued fees. The long term expected value of your ETNs is zero. If you hold your ETNs as a long term investment, it is likely that you will lose all or a substantial portion of your investment.

Market and Volatility Risk: The market value of the ETNs may be influenced by many unpredictable factors and may fluctuate between the date you purchase them and the maturity date or redemption date. You may also sustain a significant loss if you sell your ETNs in the secondary market. Factors that may influence the market value of the ETNs include prevailing market prices of the U.S. stock markets, the index components included in the underlying index, and prevailing market prices of options on such index or any other financial instruments related to such index; and supply and demand for the ETNs, including economic, financial, political, regulatory, geographical or judicial events that affect the level of such index or other financial instruments related to such index.

A Trading Market for the ETNs May Not Develop: Although the ETNs are listed on NYSE Arca, a trading market for the ETNs may not develop and the liquidity of the ETNs may be limited, as we are not required to maintain any listing of the ETNs.

**No Interest Payments from the ETNs:** You may not receive any interest payments on the ETNs.

**Restrictions on the Minimum Number of ETNs and Date Restrictions for Redemptions:** Subject to the terms described in the applicable prospectus, you must redeem at least 25,000 ETNs of the same series at one time in order to exercise your right to redeem your ETNs on any redemption date. You may only redeem your ETNs on a redemption date if we receive a notice of redemption from you by certain dates and times as set forth in the pricing supplement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, beginning after the close of trading on January 4, 2018, we have waived the minimum early redemption amount on the Maturing ETNs for any redemption order that is paired with a simultaneous purchase of an equivalent amount of the corresponding New ETNs. Our waiver of the minimum redemption amount will be available to any and all holders of the ETNs on such early redemption dates and will remain in effect until the maturity date of the Maturing ETNs. A similar waiver is also in place on the minimum early redemption size of 25,000 ETNs on the New ETNs for any redemption order that is paired with a simultaneous purchase of an equivalent amount of the corresponding Maturing ETNs from Barclays. This waiver will be in place until the maturity of the Maturing ETNs. We may, at any time and in our sole discretion, make further modifications to the minimum redemption amount, including, among others, to reinstate the minimum redemption amount of 25,000 ETNs for all redemption dates after such further modification. Any such modification will be applied on a consistent basis for all holders of the ETNs at the time such modification becomes effective.

**Uncertain Tax Treatment:** Significant aspects of the tax treatment of the ETNs are uncertain. You should consult your own tax advisor about your own tax situation.

The ETNs may be sold throughout the day on the exchange through any brokerage account. Commissions may apply and there are tax consequences in the event of sale, redemption or maturity of ETNs.

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