

VanEck Vectors ETF Trust  
 Form 497K  
 May 01, 2019

**VANECK VECTORS® GLOBAL ALTERNATIVE ENERGY ETF**

Ticker: GEX®  
 Principal U.S. Listing Exchange: NYSE Arca, Inc.  
**SUMMARY PROSPECTUS**  
 MAY 1, 2019

**GEXSUM**

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's prospectus and other information about the Fund online at <http://www.vaneck.com/library/etfs/>. You can also get this information at no cost by calling 800.826.2333, or by sending an email request to [info@vaneck.com](mailto:info@vaneck.com). The Fund's prospectus and statement of additional information, both dated May 1, 2019, as may be supplemented from time to time, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

VanEck Vectors® Global Alternative Energy ETF (the "Fund") seeks to replicate as closely as possible, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the Ardour Global Index<sup>SM</sup> (Extra Liquid) (the "Ardour Global Index").

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

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

**Shareholder Fees** (*fees paid directly from your investment*)      None

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses**

(*expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment*)

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Management Fee   | 0.50%        |
| Other Expenses   | 0.15%        |
| <b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses<sup>(a)</sup></b>  | <b>0.65%</b> |
| Fee Waivers and Expense Reimbursement <sup>(a)</sup>   | -0.02%       |
| <b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and Expense Reimbursement<sup>(a)</sup></b> | <b>0.63%</b> |

Reimbursement<sup>(a)</sup>

<sup>(a)</sup> Van Eck Associates Corporation (the Adviser ) has agreed to waive fees and/or pay Fund expenses to the extent necessary to prevent the operating expenses of the Fund (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest expense, trading expenses, taxes and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 0.62% of the Fund's average daily net assets per year until at least May 1, 2020. During such time, the expense limitation is expected to continue until the Fund's Board of Trustees acts to discontinue all or a portion of such expense limitation.

**EXPENSE EXAMPLE**

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your Shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% annual return and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same (except that the example incorporates the fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement arrangement for only the first year). Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

**YEAR    EXPENSES**

|    |    |     |
|----|----|-----|
| 1  | \$ | 64  |
| 3  | \$ | 206 |
| 5  | \$ | 360 |
| 10 | \$ | 809 |

## PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

The Fund will pay transaction costs, such as commissions, when it purchases and sells securities (or turns over its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover will cause the Fund to incur additional 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 example, may affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 31% of the average value of its portfolio.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in stocks of companies primarily engaged in the business of alternative energy. Such companies may include small- and medium-capitalization companies and foreign issuers. Alternative energy refers to the generation of power through environmentally friendly, non-traditional sources. It includes power derived principally from bio-fuels (such as ethanol), bio mass, wind, solar, hydro and geothermal sources and also includes the various technologies that support the production, use and storage of these sources. As of December 31, 2018, the Ardour Global Index included 30 securities of companies with a market capitalization range of between approximately \$381.4 million and \$57.2 billion and a weighted average market capitalization of \$13.8 billion. As of December 31, 2018, approximately 20.6% of the Fund's assets were invested in securities of European issuers. These amounts are subject to change. The Fund's 80% investment policy is non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval upon 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders. Under normal market conditions, the Fund intends to invest at least 30% of its assets in the securities of non-U.S. companies located in at least three different countries.

The Fund, using a passive or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the Ardour Global Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Ardour Global Index. Unlike many investment companies that try to beat the performance of a benchmark index, the Fund does not try to beat the Ardour Global Index and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued. Indexing may eliminate the chance that the Fund will substantially outperform the Ardour Global Index but also may reduce some of the risks of active management, such as poor security selection. The Fund normally invests at least 80% of its total assets in securities that comprise the Ardour Global Index.

The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act), and, therefore, may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer. The Fund may concentrate its investments in a particular industry or group of industries to the extent that the Ardour Global Index concentrates in an industry or group of industries. As of December 31, 2018, the Fund was concentrated in the industrials and information technology sectors.

## PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

**Investors in the Fund should be willing to accept a high degree of volatility in the price of the Fund's Shares and the possibility of significant losses. An investment in the Fund involves a substantial degree of risk. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit with a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Therefore, you should consider carefully the following risks before investing in the Fund, each of which could significantly and adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.**

**Risk of Investing in Alternative Energy Companies.** The Fund will be sensitive to, and its performance will depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of alternative energy companies. Alternative energy refers to the generation of power through environmentally friendly sources that can replace or supplement traditional fossil-fuel

sources. It includes power derived principally from bio fuels (such as ethanol), bio mass, wind, solar, hydro and geothermal sources and also includes the various technologies that support the production, use and storage of these sources.

Alternative energy companies may be significantly affected by the competition from new and existing market entrants, obsolescence of technology, short product cycles, production spending, varying prices and profits, commodity price volatility, changes in exchange rates, imposition of import controls, depletion of resources, seasonal weather conditions, technological developments and general economic conditions, market sentiment, fluctuations in energy prices and supply and demand of alternative energy fuels, fluctuations in the price of oil and gas, energy conservation efforts, the success of exploration projects, tax and other government regulations (such as incentives and subsidies) and international political events. Additionally, adverse weather conditions may cause fluctuations in renewable energy generation and adversely affect the cash flows associated with these assets.

Further, alternative energy companies may be subject to risks associated with hazardous materials and can be significantly and adversely affected by legislation resulting in more strict government regulations and enforcement policies and specific expenditures for environmental cleanup efforts. There are also risks associated with a failure to enforce environmental law. If the government reduces environmental regulations or their enforcement, companies that produce products designed to provide a clean environment are less likely to prosper. Alternative energy companies may be more volatile than companies operating in more established industries. Certain valuation methods used to value alternative energy companies have not been in widespread use for a significant period of time. As a result, the use of these valuation methods may serve to further

increase the volatility of certain alternative and transitional energy company share prices. If government subsidies and incentives for alternative energy sources are reduced or eliminated, the demand for alternative energy may decline and cause corresponding declines in the revenues and profits of alternative energy companies. In addition, changes in U.S., European and other governments' policies towards alternative energy technology also may have an adverse effect on the Fund's performance. Furthermore, the Fund may invest in the shares of companies with a limited operating history, some of which may never have operated profitably. Investment in young companies with a short operating history is generally riskier than investing in companies with a longer operating history. The Fund will carry greater risk and may be more volatile than a portfolio composed of securities issued by companies operating in a wide variety of different or more established industries.

**Special Risk Considerations of Investing in European Issuers.** Investments in securities of European issuers involve risks and special considerations not typically associated with investments in the U.S. securities markets. The Economic and Monetary Union ( EMU ) of the European Union ( EU ) requires member countries to comply with restrictions on inflation rates, deficits, interest rates, debt levels and fiscal and monetary controls, each of which may significantly affect every country in Europe. Decreasing imports or exports, changes in governmental or EU regulations on trade, changes in the exchange rate of the euro, the default or threat of default by an EU member country on its sovereign debt and/or an economic recession in an EU member country may have a significant adverse effect on the economies of EU member countries and on major trading partners outside Europe. The European financial markets have previously experienced, and may continue to experience, volatility and have been adversely affected by concerns about economic downturns, credit rating downgrades, rising government debt levels and possible default on or restructuring of government debt in several European countries. These events have adversely affected, and may in the future affect, the value and exchange rate of the euro and may continue to significantly affect the economies of every country in Europe, including EU member countries that do not use the euro and non-EU member countries. In a referendum held on June 23, 2016, voters in the United Kingdom ( UK ) voted to leave the EU, creating economic and political uncertainty in its wake. The UK has provided the EU with notice of its intention to withdraw from the EU and the UK and the EU are currently negotiating exit terms. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing of the UK's withdrawal from the EU and the effects such withdrawal will have on the euro, European economies and global markets.

**Risk of Investing in Foreign Securities.** Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve risks beyond those associated with investments in U.S. securities. These additional risks include greater market volatility, the availability of less reliable financial information, higher transactional and custody costs, taxation by foreign governments, decreased market liquidity and political instability. Because certain foreign securities markets may be limited in size, the activity of large traders may have an undue influence on the prices of securities that trade in such markets. The Fund invests in securities of issuers located in countries whose economies are heavily dependent upon trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** Because the Fund's assets may be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the proceeds received by the Fund from these investments will generally be in foreign currencies. The Fund's exposure to foreign currencies and changes in the value of foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar may result in reduced returns for the Fund, and the value of certain foreign currencies may be subject to a high degree of fluctuation. Moreover, the Fund may incur costs in connection with conversions between U.S. dollars and foreign currencies.

**Risk of Investing in Depositary Receipts.** The Fund may invest in depositary receipts which involve similar risks to those associated with investments in foreign securities. Depositary receipts are receipts listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges issued by banks or trust companies that entitle the holder to all dividends and capital gains that are paid out on the underlying foreign shares. Investments in depositary receipts may be less liquid than the underlying shares in their primary trading market and, if not included in the Ardour Global Index, may negatively affect the Fund's ability to replicate the performance of the Ardour Global Index.

**Risk of Investing in the Industrials Sector.** The Fund will be sensitive to, and its performance may depend on to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the industrials sector. Companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by changes in government regulation, world events and economic conditions. In addition, companies in the industrials sector may be adversely affected by environmental damages, product liability claims and exchange rates.

**Risk of Investing in the Information Technology Sector.** The Fund will be sensitive to, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the information technology sector. Information technology companies face intense competition, both domestically and internationally, which may have an adverse effect on profit margins. Information technology companies may have limited product lines, markets, financial resources or personnel. The products of information technology companies may face product obsolescence due to rapid technological developments and frequent new product introduction, unpredictable changes in growth rates and competition for the services of qualified personnel. Companies in the information technology sector are heavily dependent on patent protection and the expiration of patents may adversely affect the profitability of these companies.

**Risk of Investing in Small- and Medium-Capitalization Companies.** Small- and medium-capitalization companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-capitalization companies to have narrower product lines, fewer financial resources, less management depth and experience and less competitive strength. In addition, these companies often have greater price volatility, lower trading volume and less liquidity than larger more established companies. Returns on investments in securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies could trail the returns on investments in securities of large-capitalization companies.

**Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the equity securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the markets in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific issuers in which the Fund invests. Equity securities are subordinated to preferred securities and debt in a company's capital structure with respect to priority in right to a share of corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred securities or debt instruments. In addition, while broad market measures of equity securities have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, equity securities have generally also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions fixed income securities may have comparable or greater price volatility.

**Market Risk.** The prices of the securities in the Fund are subject to the risks associated with investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable drops in value. An investment in the Fund may lose money.

**Operational Risk.** The Fund is exposed to operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Fund's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures.

**Index Tracking Risk.** The Fund's return may not match the return of the Ardour Global Index for a number of reasons. For example, the Fund incurs a number of operating expenses, including taxes, not applicable to the Ardour Global Index and incurs costs associated with buying and selling securities, especially when rebalancing the Fund's securities holdings to reflect changes in the composition of the Ardour Global Index, which are not factored into the return of the Ardour Global Index. Transaction costs, including brokerage costs, will decrease the Fund's net asset value (NAV) to the extent not offset by the transaction fee payable by an Authorized Participant (AP). Market disruptions and regulatory restrictions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to adjust its exposure to the required levels in order to track the Ardour Global Index. Errors in the Ardour Global Index data, the Ardour Global Index computations and/or the construction of the Ardour Global Index in accordance with its methodology may occur from time to time and may not be identified and corrected by the Ardour Global Index provider for a period of time or at all, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders. When the Ardour Global Index is rebalanced and the Fund in turn rebalances its portfolio to attempt to increase the correlation between the Fund's portfolio and the Ardour Global Index, any transaction costs and market exposure arising from such portfolio rebalancing may be borne directly by the Fund and its shareholders. In addition, the Fund may not invest in certain securities included in the Ardour Global Index, or invest in them in the exact proportions in which they are represented in the Ardour Global Index. The Fund's performance may also deviate from the return of the Ardour Global Index due to legal restrictions or limitations imposed by the governments of certain countries, certain listing standards of the Fund's listing exchange (the Exchange), a lack of liquidity on stock exchanges in which such securities trade, potential adverse tax consequences or other regulatory reasons (such as diversification requirements). The Fund may value certain of its investments and/or other assets based on fair value prices. To the extent the Fund calculates its NAV based on fair value prices and the value of the Ardour Global Index is based on securities' closing prices on local foreign markets (*i.e.*, the value of the Ardour Global Index is not based on fair value prices), the Fund's ability to track the Ardour Global Index may be adversely affected. In addition, any issues the Fund encounters with regard to currency convertibility (including the cost of borrowing funds, if any) and repatriation may also increase the index tracking risk. For tax efficiency purposes, the Fund may sell certain securities, and such sale may cause the

Fund to realize a loss and deviate from the performance of the Ardour Global Index. In light of the factors discussed above, the Fund's return may deviate significantly from the return of the Ardour Global Index. Changes to the composition of the Ardour Global Index in connection with a rebalancing or reconstitution of the Ardour Global Index may cause the Fund to experience increased volatility, during which time the Fund's index tracking risk may be heightened.

**Authorized Participant Concentration Risk.** The Fund may have a limited number of financial institutions that act as APs, none of which are obligated to engage in creation and/or redemption transactions. To the extent that those APs exit the business, or are unable to or choose not to process creation and/or redemption orders, and no other AP is able to step forward to create and redeem, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for Shares or Shares may trade like closed-end funds at a discount (or premium) to NAV and possibly face trading halts and/or de-listing. The AP concentration risk may be heightened in scenarios where APs have limited or diminished access to the capital required to post collateral.

**No Guarantee of Active Trading Market.** While Shares are listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Shares will be maintained. Further, secondary markets may be subject to irregular trading



activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods in times of market stress because market makers and APs may step away from making a market in the Shares and in executing creation and redemption orders, which could cause a material deviation in the Fund's market price from its NAV.

**Trading Issues.** Trading in Shares on the Exchange may be halted due to market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in Shares inadvisable. In addition, trading in Shares on the Exchange is subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to the Exchange's circuit breaker rules. There can be no assurance that the requirements of the Exchange necessary to maintain the listing of the Fund will continue to be met or will remain unchanged.

**Passive Management Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves risks similar to those of investing in any fund invested in equity securities traded on an exchange, such as market fluctuations caused by such factors as economic and political developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in security prices. However, because the Fund is not actively managed, unless a specific security is removed from the Ardour Global Index, the Fund generally would not sell a security because the security's issuer was in financial trouble. Therefore, the Fund's performance could be lower than funds that may actively shift their portfolio assets to take advantage of market opportunities or to lessen the impact of a market decline or a decline in the value of one or more issuers.

**Fund Shares Trading, Premium/Discount Risk and Liquidity of Fund Shares.** The market price of the Shares may fluctuate in response to the Fund's NAV, the intraday value of the Fund's holdings and supply and demand for Shares. The Adviser cannot predict whether Shares will trade above, below, or at their most recent NAV. Disruptions to creations and redemptions, the existence of market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for Shares (including through a trading halt), as well as other factors, may result in Shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV or to the intraday value of the Fund's holdings. If a shareholder purchases Shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells Shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Shares that were bought or sold or the shareholder may be unable to sell his or her Shares. The securities held by the Fund may be traded in markets that close at a different time than the Exchange. Liquidity in those securities may be reduced after the applicable closing times. Accordingly, during the time when the Exchange is open but after the applicable market closing, fixing or settlement times, bid-ask spreads on the Exchange and the resulting premium or discount to the Shares' NAV may widen. Additionally, in stressed market conditions, the market for the Fund's Shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the Fund's underlying portfolio holdings. There are various methods by which investors can purchase and sell Shares. Investors should consult their financial intermediaries before purchasing or selling Shares of the Fund.

**Non-Diversified Risk.** The Fund is classified as a non-diversified fund under the 1940 Act. Therefore, the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a smaller number of issuers or may invest a larger proportion of its assets in a single issuer. Moreover, the gains and losses on a single investment may have a greater impact on the Fund's NAV and may make the Fund more volatile than more diversified funds.

**Concentration Risk.** The Fund's assets may be concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries to the extent the Ardour Global Index concentrates in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries. To the extent that the Fund is concentrated in a particular sector or sectors or industry or group of industries, the Fund will be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions that have a negative effect on those sectors and/or industries may negatively impact the Fund to a greater extent than if the Fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries.

## PERFORMANCE

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The bar chart that follows shows how the Fund performed for the calendar years shown. The table below the bar chart shows the Fund's average annual returns (before and after taxes). The bar chart and table provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund by comparing the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for the one year, five year, ten year and/or since inception periods, as applicable, compared with the Fund's benchmark index and broad measure of market performance. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. The Fund's past performance (before and after income taxes) is not necessarily indicative of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.vaneck.com](http://www.vaneck.com).

**Annual Total Returns (%) Calendar Years****Best Quarter:** 33.37% 2Q 09**Worst Quarter:** -34.12% 3Q 11**Average Annual Total Returns for the Periods Ended December 31, 2018**

The after-tax returns presented in the table below are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Your actual after-tax returns will depend on your specific tax situation and may differ from those shown below. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold Shares of the Fund through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

|  | <b>Past<br/>One Year</b> | <b>Past<br/>Five<br/>Years</b> | <b>Past<br/>Ten Years</b> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| VanEck Vectors Global Alternative Energy ETF (return before taxes)   | -9.02%                   | 0.66%                          | -1.11%                    |
| VanEck Vectors Global Alternative Energy ETF (return after taxes on distributions)   | -9.18%                   | 0.40%                          | -1.45%                    |
| VanEck Vectors Global Alternative Energy ETF (return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund Shares)                     | -5.27%                   | 0.46%                          | -0.94%                    |
| Ardour Global Index <sup>SM</sup> (Extra Liquid) (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes, except withholding taxes) | -8.65%                   | 0.79%                          | -1.28%                    |
| S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)   | -4.38%                   | 8.49%                          | 13.12%                    |

See License Agreements and Disclaimers for important information.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Investment Adviser.** Van Eck Associates Corporation.

**Portfolio Managers.** The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio:

| <b>Name</b> | <b>Title with Adviser</b> | <b>Date Began Managing the Fund</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|

|                     |                   |            |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Peter H. Liao       | Portfolio Manager | May 2007   |
| Guo Hua (Jason) Jin | Portfolio Manager | March 2018 |

**PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES**

The Fund issues and redeems Shares at NAV only in a large specified number of Shares each called a Creation Unit, or multiples thereof. A Creation Unit consists of 50,000 Shares.

Individual Shares of the Fund may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. Shares of the Fund are listed on the Exchange, and because Shares trade at market prices rather than NAV, Shares of the Fund may trade at a price greater than NAV (*i.e.*, a premium) or less than NAV (*i.e.*, a discount).

**TAX INFORMATION**

The Fund's distributions are taxable and will generally be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains.

**PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

The Adviser and its related companies may pay broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries (such as a bank) for the sale of the Fund Shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing your broker-dealer or other intermediary or its employees or associated persons to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your financial adviser or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

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