

# The Longevity Issue

NAVIGATING THE TWIN CHALLENGES OF  
IMMEDIATE RELEVANCE AND LASTING VALUE

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CLAUDIA  
D'ARPIZIO

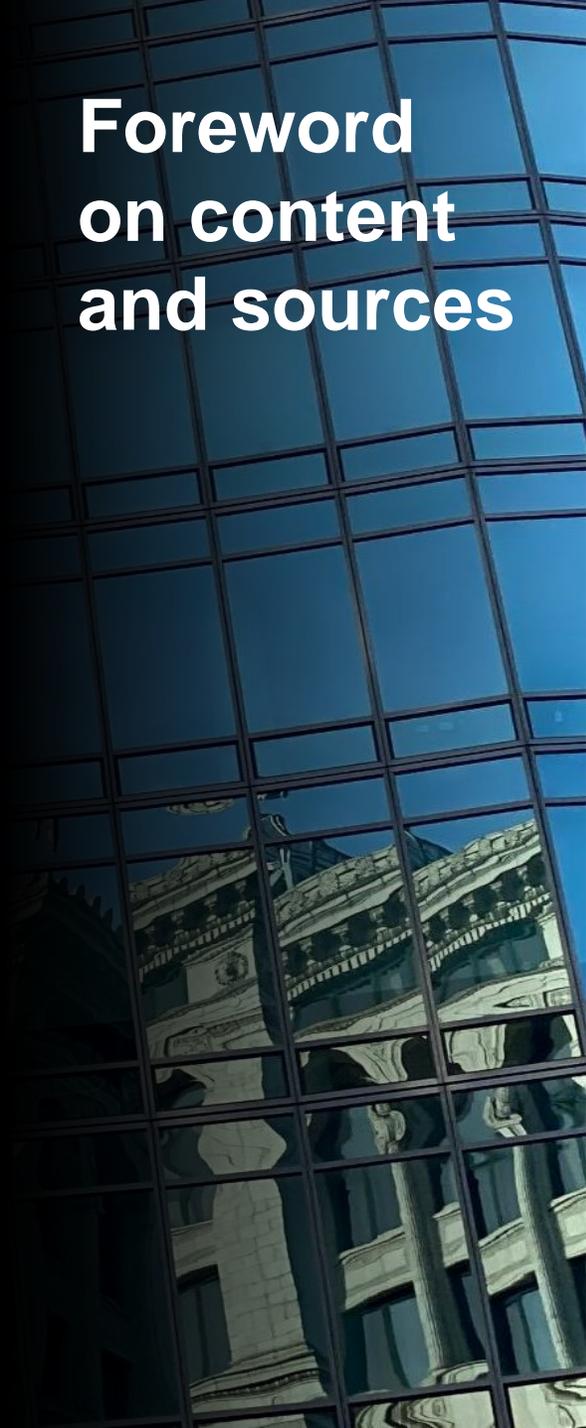
FEDERICA  
LEVATO

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

BAIN & COMPANY 

 **ALTAGAMMA**  
CREATIVITÀ E CULTURA ITALIANA





# Foreword on content and sources

## Content of this document

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- This document contains **an update** on the **luxury goods market**, in particular:
  - Insights into the **performance of the market** for the **first three quarters of 2025**, with expectations for the last quarter
  - **Estimates** for how the luxury market will evolve **beyond 2025**, with related emerging **macro trends**
  - Bain's **recommendations** for how luxury players can **steer the next phase of growth**

## Sources of this document

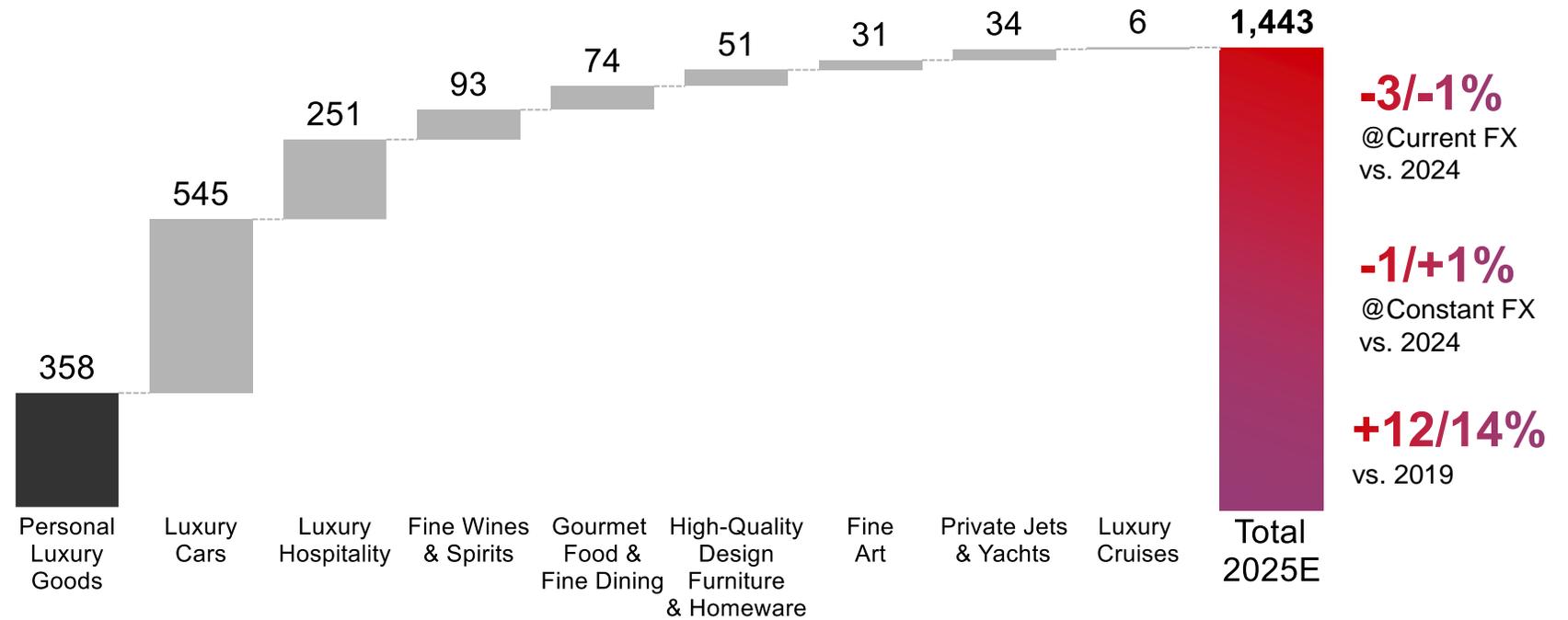
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- The **insights** are based on **Bain's** triangulation of **information** and **sources**, available as of **November 18, 2025**, and include:
  - **Macroeconomic data** (e.g., GDP, consumer confidence index) and the latest **forecasts**
  - **Current trading performance** from relevant luxury industry players
  - Annual **reports**, quarterly **results**, and analyst reports
  - **Consensus of 100+ expert interviews**
- Outlooks **do not consider disruptive changes** in the **global sociopolitical** situation versus the **status quo**

# Luxury markets 2025: Tectonic shifts under the surface of stable performance

Experiences sustaining momentum amid goods decline

Global luxury markets  
€B | 2025E



## YoY (2024–25E) growth

@CURRENT FX

@CONSTANT FX

VS. 2019



(-2%)

(-6%)

+3%

(-5%)

+5%

+1%

(-9%)

+9%

+10%

0%

(-4%)

+5%

(-2%)

+7%

+3%

(-7%)

+11%

+12%

+25/27%

-2/0%

+21/23%

+22/24%

+39/41%

+21/23%

-17/-15%

+43/45%

+150/160%



## Luxury vehicles

### Luxury cars

**Polarization deepens;** aspirational segment under pressure from weak consumer demand and intensifying competition from lower tiers; absolute split between **positive trajectory of performance-oriented segment** and lackluster demand in **comfort-oriented one**

### Luxury yachts

Sustaining **positive growth in deliveries** favored by strong order backlog, though new orders slow, mainly for smaller vessels; trend **toward wider, more efficient yachts**, as owners favor space, comfort, and lower emissions

### Private jets

**Maintaining growth**, supported by strong **business aviation demand**, despite ongoing supply chain delays; **aftermarket activity expands** and market shifts toward **“mobility-as-a-service”** through fractional ownership and subscription models enhancing flexibility



## Fine art & design furniture

### Fine art

**Market in structural standstill;** auctions remain **more resilient**, with private and invitation-only sales gaining traction among UHNWI collectors; **dealer segment under strain**, facing closures amid rising costs and weak demand; Middle East affirming as a new hub

### High-quality design furniture & homeware

Showing **slight rebound** led by **American players** after two years of decline, while EMEA and Asia remain softer; upper-end contract **projects in residential, hospitality, and marine driving growth**, partly offset by **slower** luxury retail development and **consumer retail sales** on account of troubled multibrand distribution



## Food & beverage experiences

### Fine wines

**Showing polarized trends: French bubbles** leading the way, sustained by hedonist consumption; **Italian reds outperforming** in export as symbol of **self-oriented luxury**; rosé gaining share in resort locations to the detriment of whites; rising interest for **smaller formats** in **out-of-home settings** not to compromise on quality

### Spirits

**Facing mid-single-digit decline**, obstructed by **Chinese austerity measures impacting local spirits**; Whisky proves more resilient, while Cognac continues to slow amid trade tensions; **Agave-based spirits** continuing to grow within mixology; **RTDs and No-Low** alcohol alternatives keep expanding rapidly, capturing younger consumers

### Gourmet food and fine dining

On sustained **growth trajectory** across occasions, fueled by expanding **luxury food hubs** in the **Middle East and Southeast Asia** and **longer resort seasons** extending activity; new polished casual dining gaining share among younger audiences



## Out-of-home experiences

### Luxury hotels

Showing **performance consolidation**, supported by **higher daily rates** and **expanding luxury corridors across new emerging luxury destinations**; demand reshaped by new affluent travellers prioritizing experience, personalization, and purpose, redirecting spending from other categories toward travel

### Luxury cruises

Consolidating as **one of the fastest-expanding luxury pillars**, driven by **experiential demand** and **fleet expansion in the ultra-luxury segment**; progressively rising interest (although limited) beyond historical North American core consumer

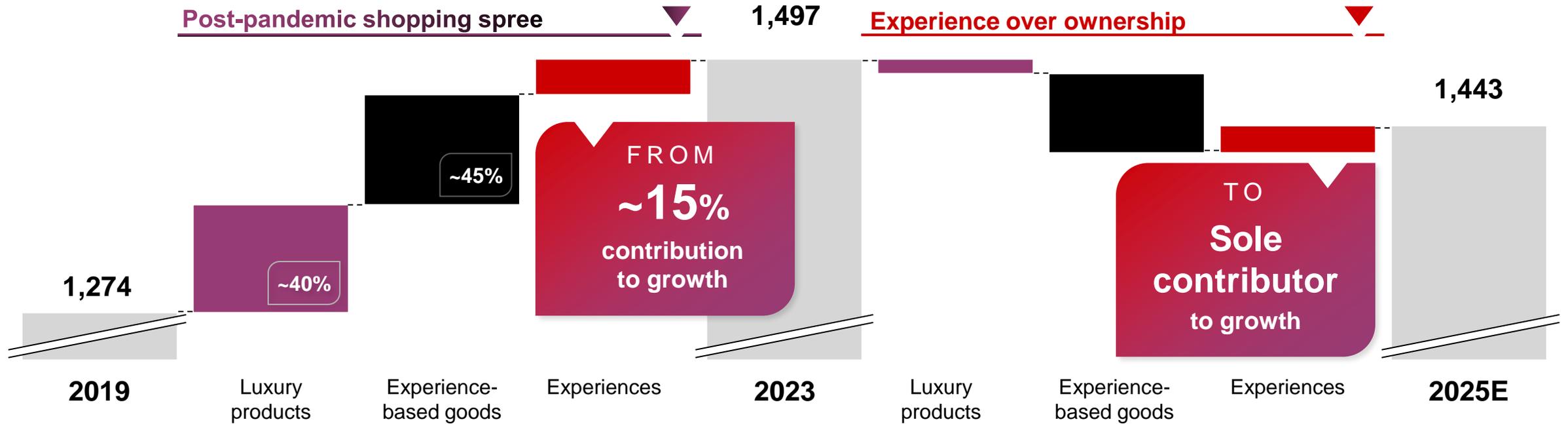
### Other experiences

**Beyond hospitality and cruises**, new luxury experiences — from sport big events (F1, Tennis, Golf, etc.) to trip activities (Theme Parks, Safaris, Eno-gastronomic tours, etc.) — are gaining traction, blending leisure, status and exclusivity across formats

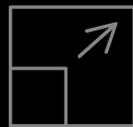
# Experiences and emotions become the primary driver of market growth after the shopping-spree era

Growth of global luxury goods segments  
 €B | 2019–2025E

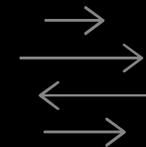
~XX% Contribution to growth



With clear differences  
 in spending patterns



**Top customers**  
**Expanding**

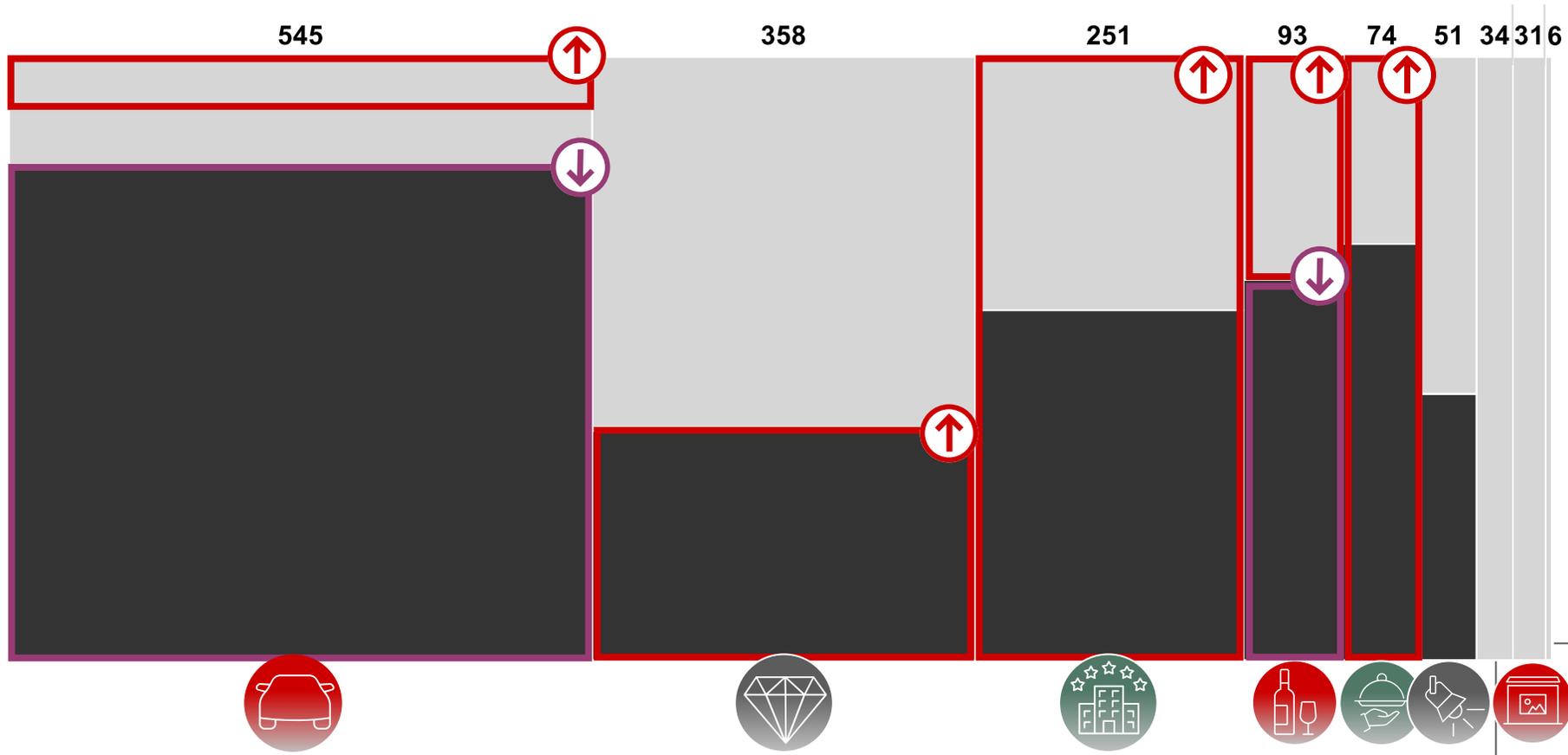


**Aspirational customers**  
**Shifting**

Note: Experience-based goods include fine art, luxury cars, private jets and yachts, fine wines and spirits, and gourmet food; luxury products include high-end furniture/housewares and personal luxury goods; experiences include luxury hospitality, cruises, and fine dining.

# A market in motion: Tectonic shifts and multidirectional polarization across luxury segments

Global luxury goods market by market segment  
 €B | 2025E



## HIGH-END

**~40%**  
 of luxury market  
**-3/-1%**  
 CAGR  
 2023-25E

## ACCESSIBLE

**~60%**  
 of luxury market  
**-2/0%**  
 CAGR  
 2023-25E

Note: High-end segment includes absolute and aspirational luxury.

Market performance 2023-25E

● Positive

● Stable

● Negative

↑

Segment capturing share

↓

Segment losing share



# China competitive landscape intensifying, as local players step into luxury

Local brands taking share led by

**Better understanding of local tastes**

Product aesthetic, brand values, marketing conversations

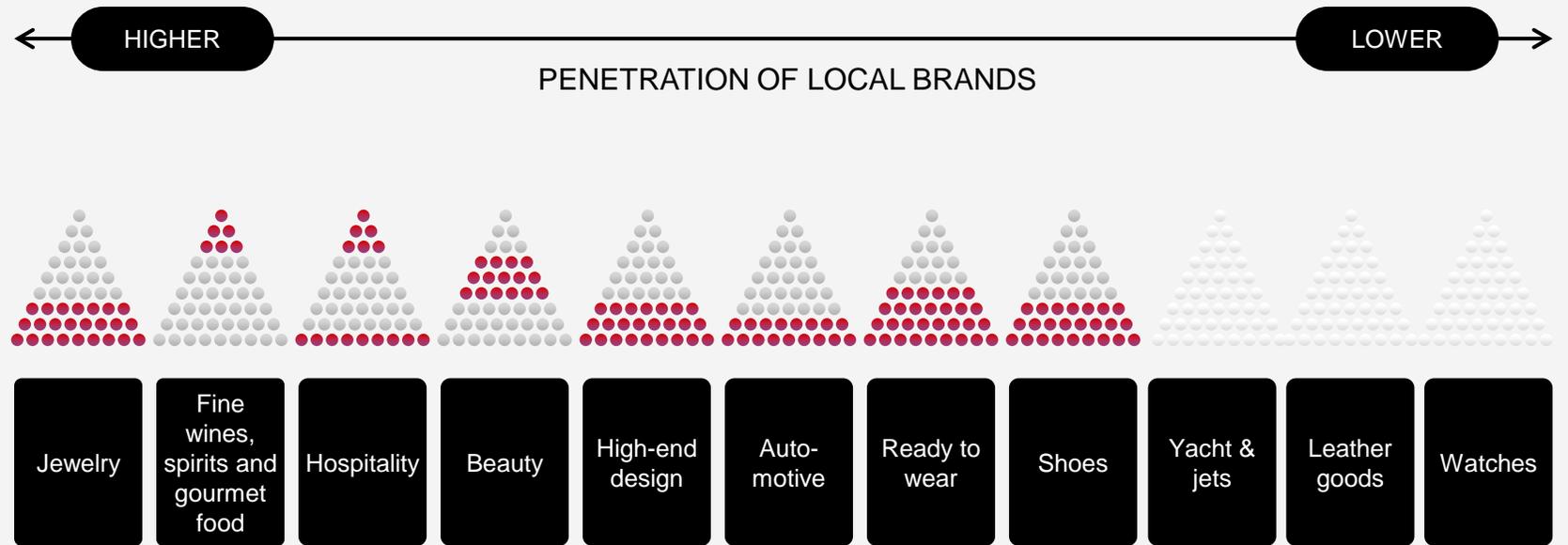
**Tailored (Chinese-first) go-to-customer**

Digital-first, chat-native, engagement-oriented

**Increased access to relevant inputs**

Key components and raw materials, assembled and adapted locally

With **competitive pressure rising** beyond **historically penetrated segments**, although **mostly** within the **entry-to-luxury range**



HISTORICALLY PENETRATED

RECENT BATTLEFIELD

YET TO COME

Historical high penetration of local luxury brands

Rising share of wallet from local premium and luxury brands

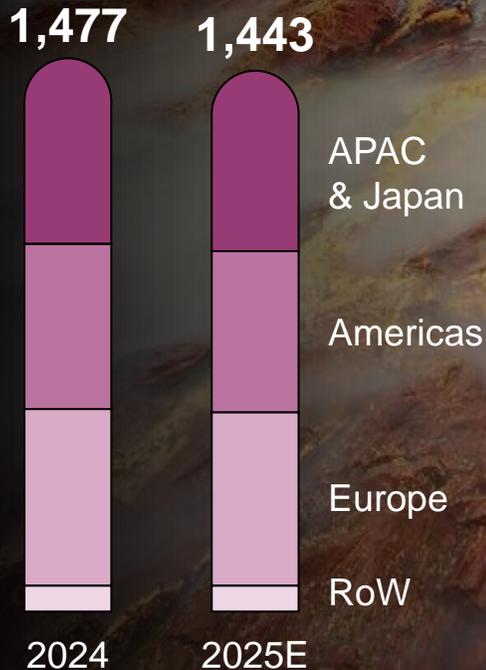
Still Western-led, given high craftsmanship requirements, yet to monitor for the long term

# Distinct regional nuances

in global market trends

## Global luxury market evolution by region

€B | 2024–2025E



### APAC & Japan

**-5/-3%** ↓

YoY 2024–25E

### Americas

**-2/0%** →

YoY 2024–25E

### Europe

**-3/-1%** ↘

YoY 2024–25E

### RoW

**+2/4%** ↗

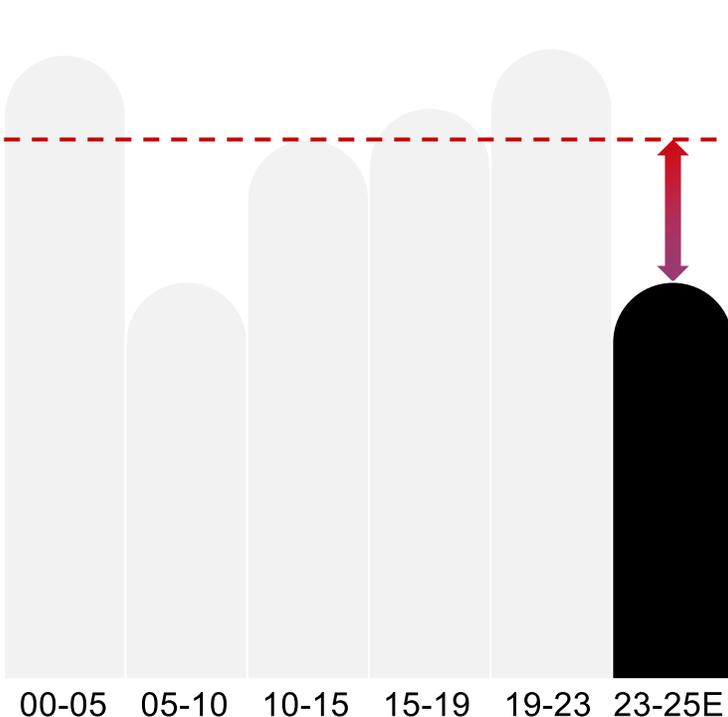
YoY 2024–25E

- **China’s negative trend** (although with signs of stabilization) **offsets SEA**; **Japan** and **South Korea** resilient, but **highly polarized** across markets
- **Local, accessible players gain share**, especially in China, diverting spending from historical luxury players
- **Polarized performance**, with traction **at the top end** and **accessible segments**, while **aspirational luxury** weakens amid **downtrading**
- **LATAM** continues to rise as **emerging luxury hub**, fueled by **local demand** and **expanding brand presence**; **Mexico standing out**
- Scattered **Southern Europe**: performance anchored around **Tier-1** and **resort locations**, driven by touristic experience-led spending, while **automotive, fine wines, and spirits suffer**
- **Northern Europe countries soften** amid lower traffic, especially within DACH area
- **Middle East maintains strong(er) momentum**, with Dubai and Abu Dhabi leading growth; **Saudi Arabia** positive, although with growth equation still to crack
- Cultural & mega-projects **investments broaden luxury beyond goods**

# Persistent macroeconomic headwinds mark a strained global cycle

## Real GDP evolution

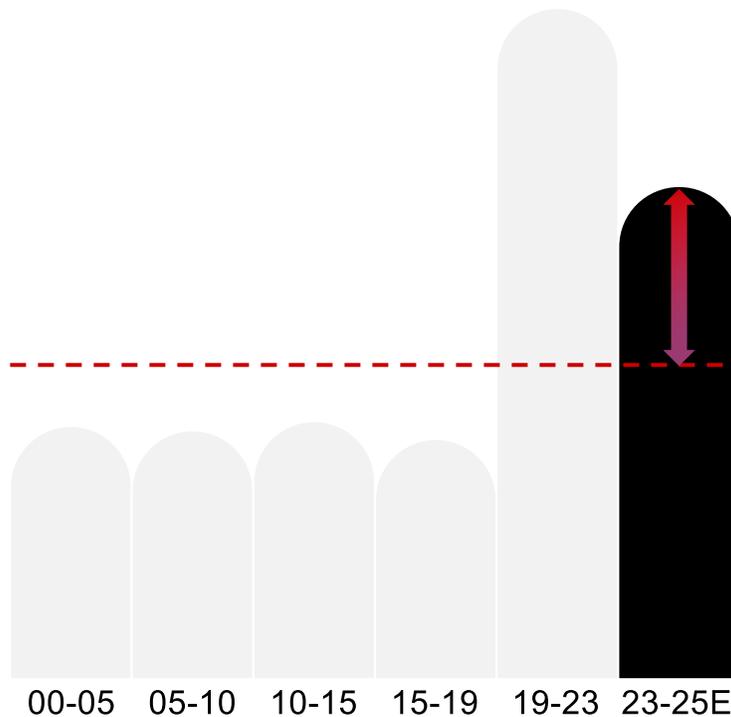
CAGR %, 2000–2025E



**Global GDP** growth mirroring levels seen during **Global Financial Crisis**

## Inflation evolution

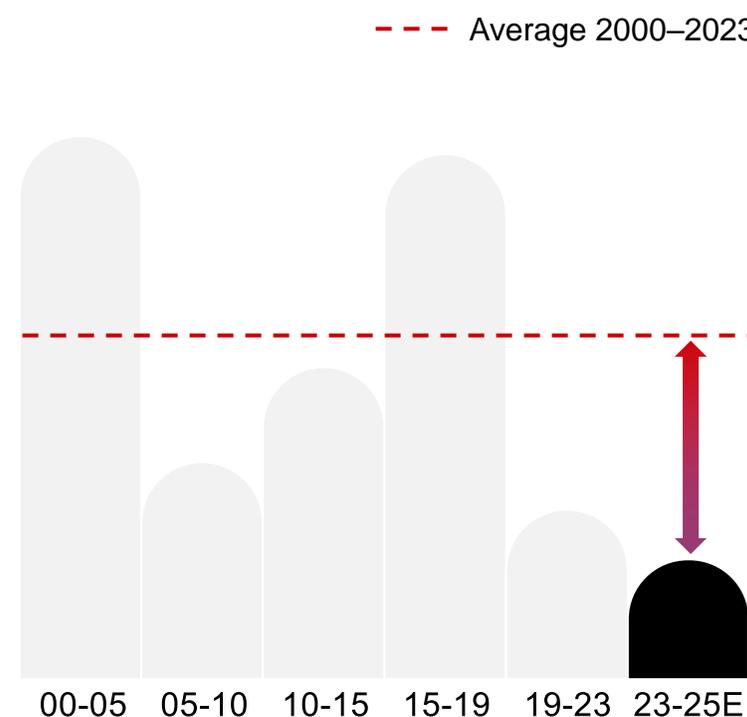
CAGR %, 2000–2025E



**Inflationary pressure** cutting into disposable income

## Consumer Confidence Index evolution

Index, 2000–2025E

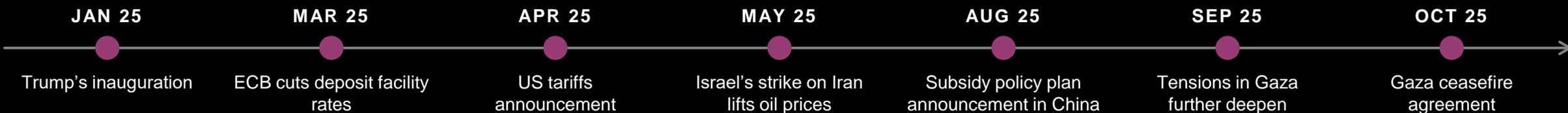


**Subdued consumer confidence**, across the world

Luxury market is still **resilient** but **not immune**

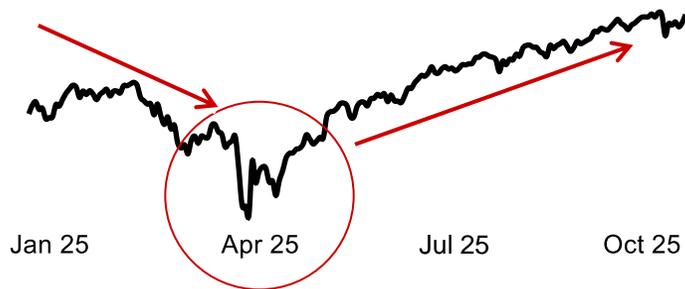
# 2025 is no exception to macroeconomic cycle

## High volatility defines a year of fragile balance

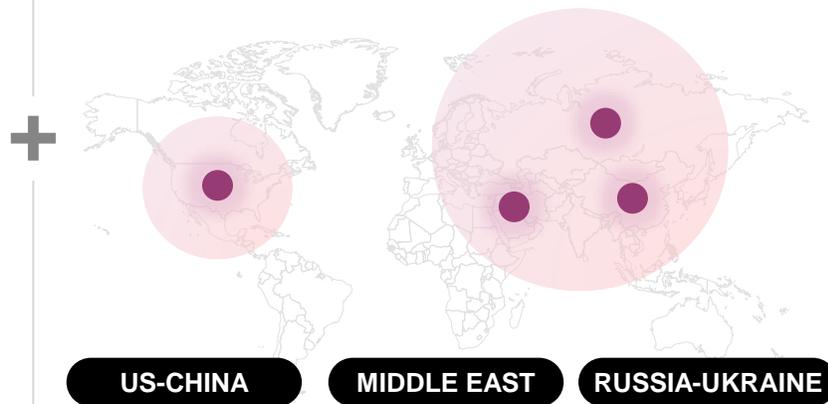


### Stock market volatility

**S&P 500**  
Indexed 100 | Jan-Nov 2025 YTD



### Ongoing geopolitical tensions and instability



**Hampered consumer confidence** as result of both **geopolitical tensions** and **stock market volatility**  
Yet with **progressive uptick** happening in Q3

OECD CCI growth vs. previous quarter



**~3%**  
Real GDP growth

In line with 2024 and 2023, growth supported by Middle East and Japan; Americas decreasing

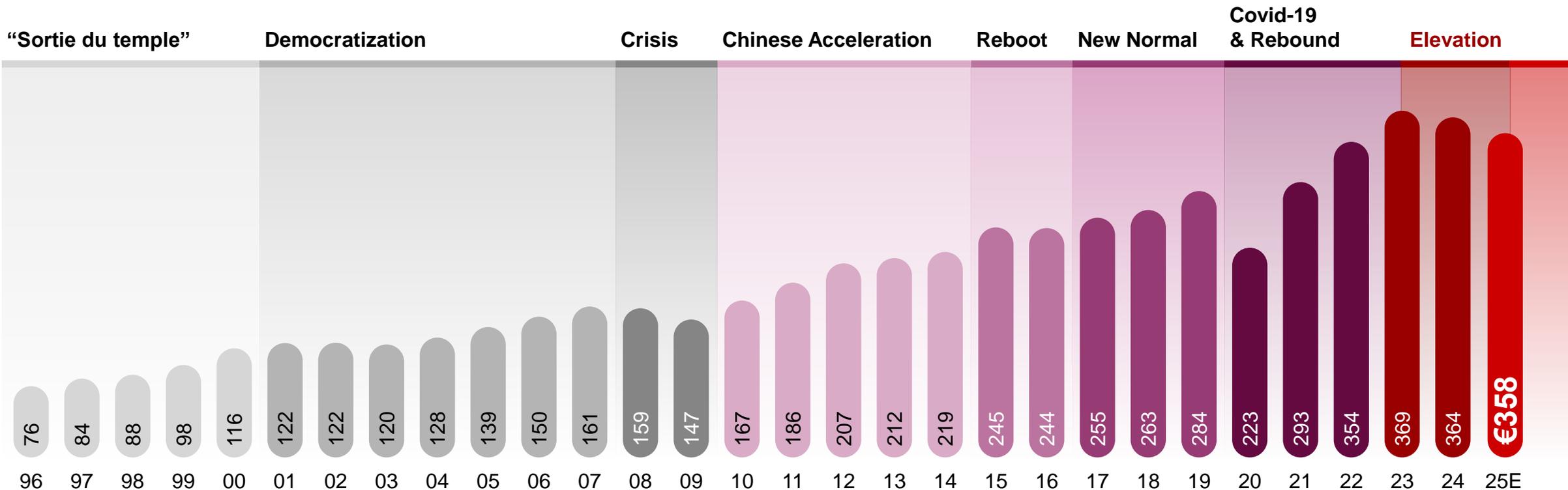
**-1.5p.p.**  
Inflation vs. 2024

Following a downward trajectory started in 2022; European still among the highest rates

**Swinging**  
FX vs. 2024

USD leading in Q1, EUR getting progressively stronger afterward

# Personal luxury goods: Recalibration continues as global uncertainty persists



1996–2019 CAGR



2019–2024 CAGR



2024–2025E YoY

**+6%**

**+5%**

**-2%**

Current  
exch. rates

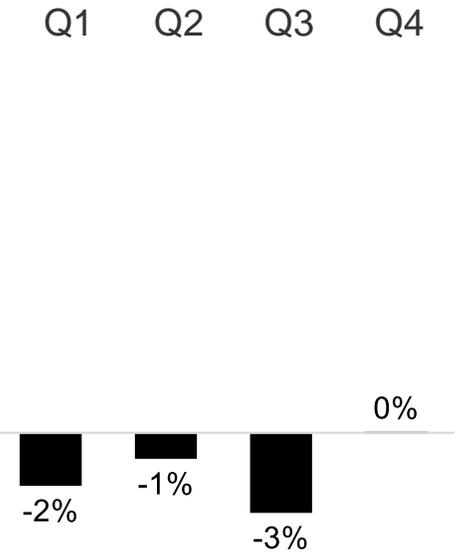
**0%**

Constant  
exch. rates

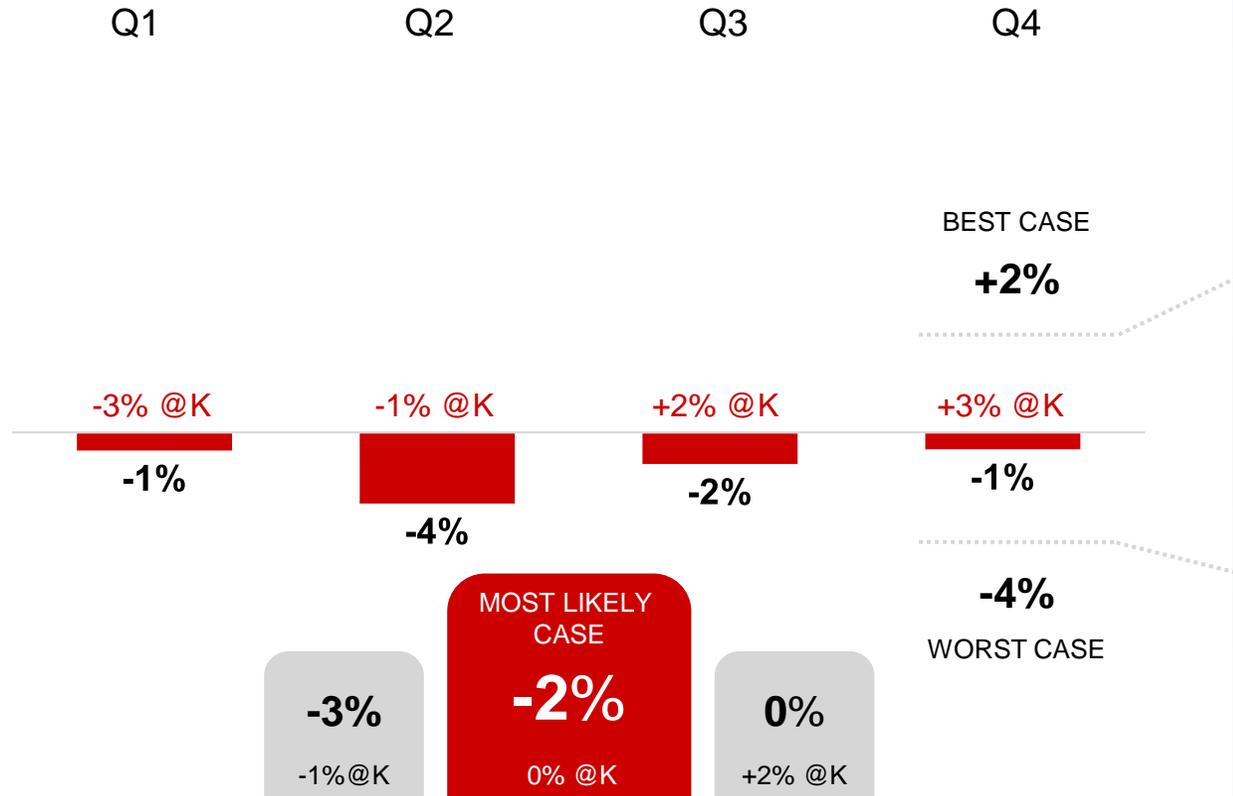
# Quarterly swings, with sequential improvements toward Q3; Q4 becomes the moment of truth

## Personal luxury goods market evolution by quarter

**2024** % | vs. 2023



**2025E** % | vs. 2024



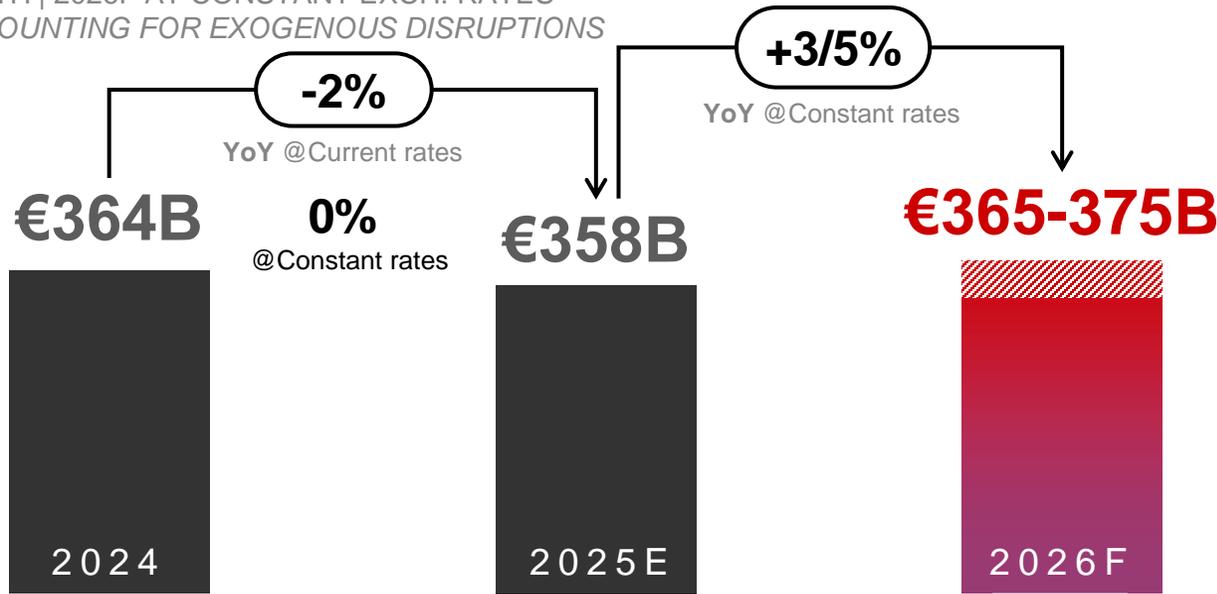
Full-year market growth 2025E vs. 2024

Note: @K = growth at constant exchange rates.

- Stable holiday season in US & Europe, sustained by resilient high-end spend
  - China spending rebounds on **policy support and post-Golden Week momentum**
  - Japan recovers, as FX volatility eases and tourism resumes, softening prior headwinds
- 
- **Mild US in Q4** amid tough comparisons
  - **China still stagnating**, with muted Tier-2/Tier-3 city contribution
  - **Europe holding; Japan sustained by locals** yet still held back by lower inbound tourism
- 
- China weakens post-Golden Week amid fragile macro backdrop
  - **US fails** to sustain holiday season, as instability fears **limit discretionary spend**
  - Heightened volatility curbs travel and demand in Japan and EU
  - Escalating tensions between China and Japan

# Personal luxury goods market back to growth in 2026F

% GROWTH | 2026F AT CONSTANT EXCH. RATES  
NOT ACCOUNTING FOR EXOGENOUS DISRUPTIONS



## Worse scenario

**0/+3%** YoY @ Constant rates

- China's **recovery stalling**, curbing domestic spending
- **Heightened geopolitical frictions** further exacerbating uncertainty and consumer confidence
- **Trade wars** restart inflationary pressure, cutting into Western consumers' spending levels
- **Escalating tensions** between **China and Japan**

## Realistic scenario

**+3/5%** YoY @ Constant rates

- Continued **US momentum**, supported by robust financial markets
- **EU & JP locals demonstrating continued resilience**
- **China progressing on steady recovery**

## Better scenario

**+5/7%** YoY @ Constant rates

- **China regaining momentum**, with renewed consumer appetite on the wave of new (solid) macroeconomic fundamentals
- **Tourist flows rebounding** across regions, coupled with **strong local consumption** sustaining growth

LIKELIHOOD

~10%

~70%

~20%

Note: (1) Referring to People's Republic of China.

# Voices from the industry



How brands have been describing the years

Communities

Robust growth

Customer recruitment

Brand energy

Renovations

Elevation

Price-mix management

Experiential

Omnichannel execution

Efficiency

Normalization

Polarization

Rebalancing

Refocusing



**Sequential improvement**



**Value strategy**



**Discipline**



**Newness pipeline**



**Fewer but higher-quality locations**

2025E

A new moment of truth  
for the market

When Timelessness  
meets Time:

Testing the  
longevity  
of luxury

## Navigating uncertainties

Reshuffling market drivers

**Recalibration** among  
regions, potential **new  
engines** emerging

**Markdown pressure**  
questioning channels' role,  
while footprint shrinks

Post-elevation,  
**accessible luxury**  
striking back

## Reframing consumer landscape

Fragmented audiences with larger expectations

Consumer **base shrinking**  
**Intricate** consumer map

**Top customers stalling**,  
sign of broader alienation  
A new deal with **Gen Z**

The three current Elements  
of Value: **Entertainment,  
Emotions, Ethics**

## Rising urgency, calling for ethics

Time is **now** ... or **never**?

New **creativity** meets  
customer **values**:  
time to reestablish **ethics**  
aligning interest with  
advocacy

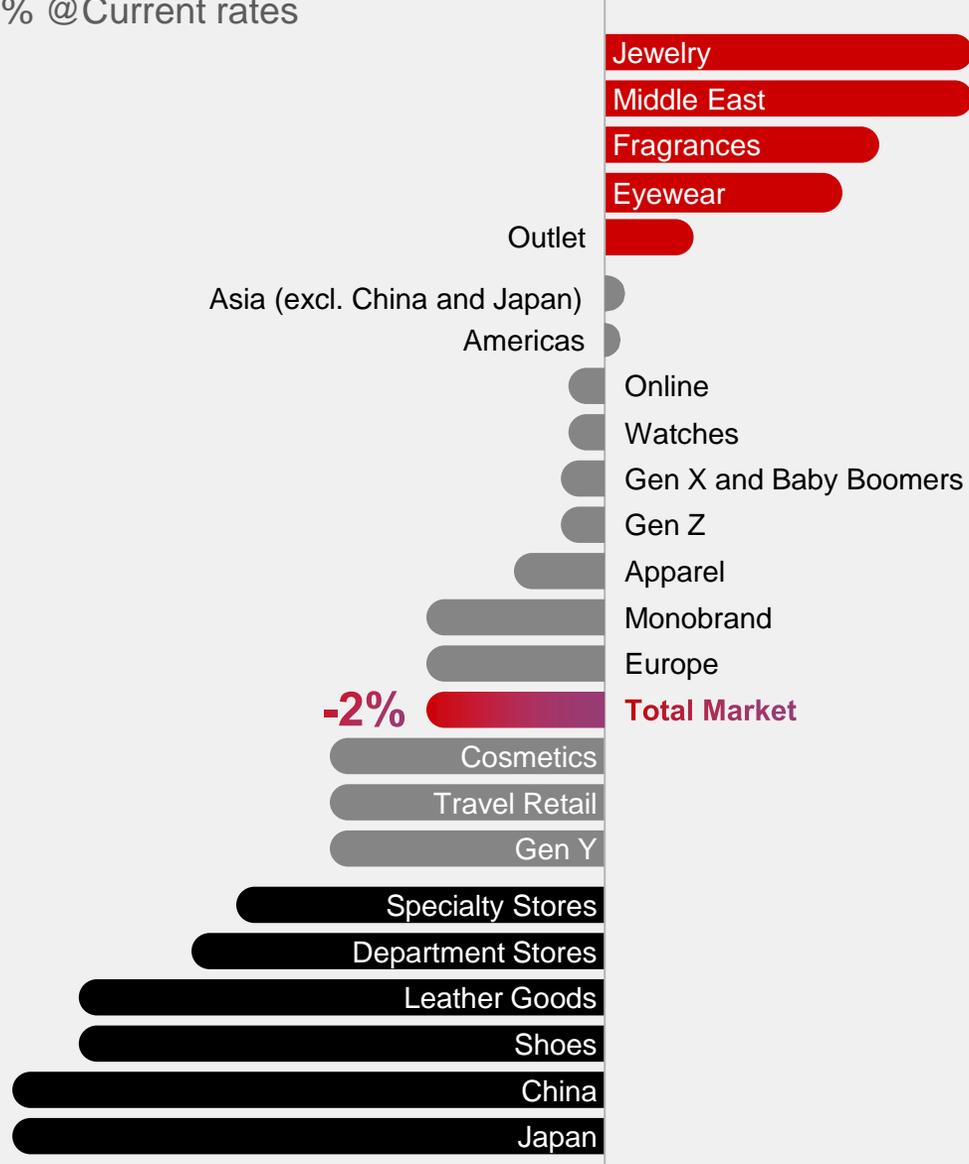
**Profitability under  
pressure**: time for profit  
hunt

New heights of  
**performance polarization**:  
time to define future winning  
formula

2025E  
**Unfolding  
this year's trend**

### YoY growth 2024–2025E

% @Current rates



↑  
**Few  
winning**

↓  
**Some  
suffering**

# From rebound to recalibration: Americas stabilizing, Europe suffering lack of tourism, China and Japan seeking long-term stability

## Middle East (and RoW)

Dubai and Abu Dhabi holding steady, supported by **diversified tourism flows** and **resilient local demand**

Saudi Arabia remains a market of **unmatched promise**, with **strategic potential** still largely **untapped despite growing brand interest**

Mixed signals from other **GCC areas**, with **polarization across cities, malls, and brands**

Australia suffering from **lackluster Chinese tourism**

## Americas

Year **marked by volatility**: first half slowdown driven by **financial uncertainty**; rebound in H2 thanks to stock market recovery and **rising confidence**

**Local customers repatriating** spending due to favorable FX, with **high-end clientele somewhat resilient** and aspirational cohorts increasingly seeking value across categories

**LATAM sees stable growth**, particularly in Mexico and Brazil, fueled by **retail expansion and sound tourist inflows**; Panama a rising spot on the map

## Asia (excl. China & Japan)

**South Korea** showing some green shoots amid strains, driven by **currency advantage** and **regional Chinese inflows**; however, **domestic sentiment remains cautious**

**Hong Kong gradually back on the map** for young Chinese travelers and soaring UHNWIs

**Southeast Asia** sees mixed performance: **Thailand** lagging behind, **Singapore** and **Indonesia** on stable path while **Vietnam and Philippines** showing promise with rising luxury awareness

## Europe

Tourist inflows impacted by **strong euro and geopolitical tensions**, though Middle Eastern sustaining **high-ticket purchases**

**Domestic consumption** challenged, especially **outside of Tier-1 locations**

**UK** remains **penalized by lack of tax-free shopping**, with only GCC and Indian consumers holding up

**Southern Europe** (Greece, Spain) buoyed by **tourism** and **UHNWI**; France and Italy **more volatile** across brands

## Mainland China

Still challenged overall, yet **signs of stabilization from Q3 onward**, supported by **positive stock market signals** and **renewed confidence in Tier-1 hubs**

Consumers increasingly favoring **experiences, wellness, and food over products**

Incumbent brands challenged by intensified **local competition** within key categories and heightened **cultural confidence**, especially among younger generations

## Japan

**Decelerating** after 2024 peak, with Q2 marking lowest point amid **cooling tourism**

**Local demand softening**, yet resilient in top-tier categories (RTW, jewelry), with partial **redirection toward luxury experiences**

Some attempts to intensify engagement of **younger customers** via **entry-level offers** (i.e., charms, gifting)

**Preloved segment** continues robust growth, reinforcing Japan's role as **secondhand leader in Asia**

Market size 2025E | in €B

~€23B

~€101B

~€53B

~€108B

~€42B

~€31B

2025E vs. 24 | in %

+4/6%

0/+2%

-1/+1%

-3/-1@K

-5/-3@K

-7/-5@K

+6/8@K

+2/4@K

+3/5@K

-3/-1%

-8/-6%

-8/-6%

# Europe under pressure: Tourism swinging, locals showing signs of fatigue

Real-term European luxury market trend  
2025E vs. 2024



## South growing, North suffering

Local demand in Tier-1 cities remains **solid**

## Affluent holding

While **aspirational** buyers, pressured by inflation, **delay purchases**

## Value-conscious mindset

Outlet surging; full-price in need of **strong(er) value proposition**

## Tourism sales remain flat as visitor numbers stabilize

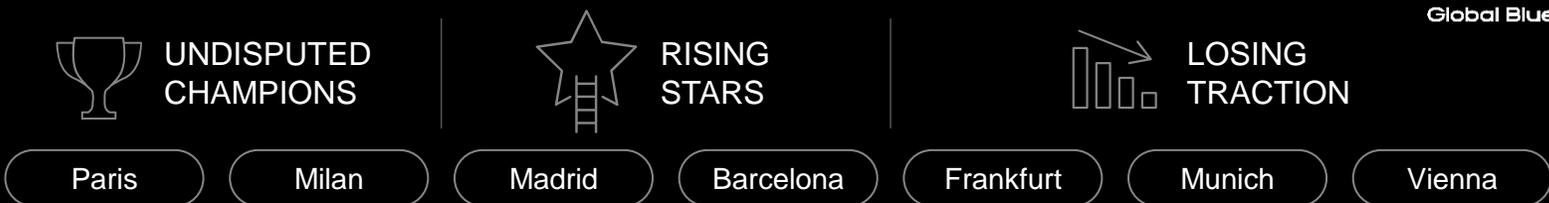
TOURISM DATA VS. 2024 @YTD | [Global Blue](#)



**Stable** # of tourists but **pivoting spending** toward **experiences**

## Evolving cities' landscape

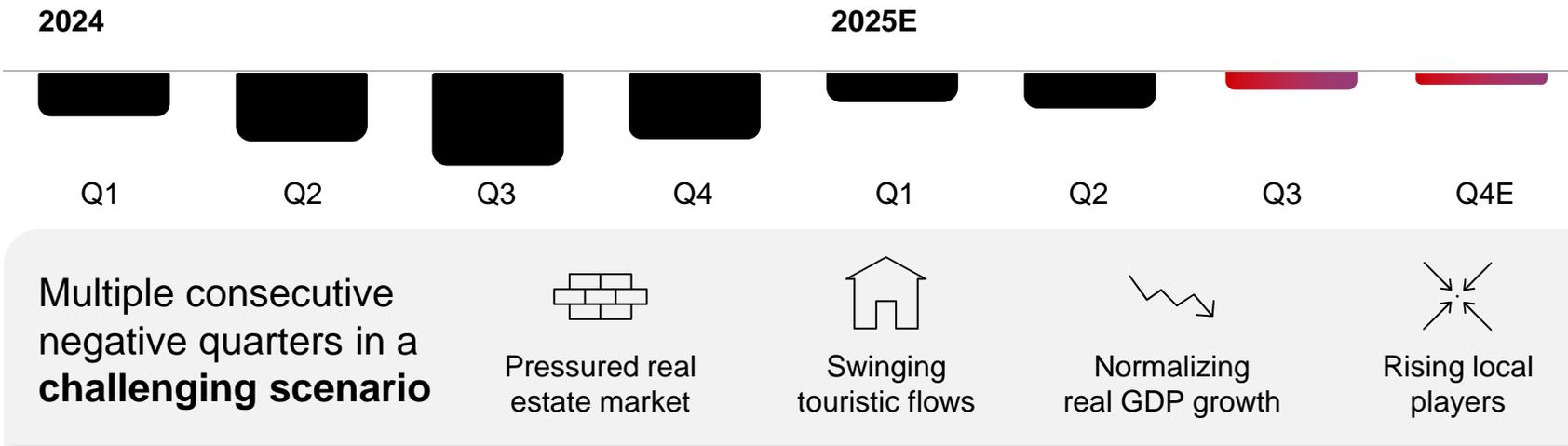
Top 10 EU cities ranking by tourist sales weight | Trend vs. 2019



(1) International tax-free shoppers.

# Softness persists in China, yet early signs of recovery emerging

Real-term Chinese luxury market Quarter-over-Quarter growth



## Signs of stabilization emerging in H2 2025

### EXTERNAL DRIVERS

Soaring stock market

**+25%**

SSE index @YTD

Surging UHNWIs

**+30%**

Billionaires vs. LY

Accelerating confidence

**+5%**

Chinese CCI

### INTERNAL DYNAMICS

#### Selective resilience

Accessible luxury, **outdoor**, and **jewelry** holding up

**Silver economy** gaining relevance

Amid customer shift from celebrating heritage to owning identity

### CULTURAL PRIDE

*"Where tradition meets trend"*



### CULTURAL CONFIDENCE

*"Where identity becomes strength"*

### How to thrive?

Cultural **relevance**

Emotional **engagement**

Powerful **narrative**

True **value**

Affordable **indulgence**

# New markets affirming as emerging growth engines, with untapped potential waiting to be unlocked

## Middle East

**United Arab Emirates** on upward growth trajectory

**Saudi Arabia** outlook turning mixed

~1,000

## LATAM

**Mexico and Brazil** maintaining momentum

Locals favoring **domestic purchases** for cultural affinity, niche fragrances booming in Mexico

~900

## SEA

**Accessible brands** fueling Gen Z's entry into luxury

**"Kawaii"** aesthetics driving emotional resonance

~840

## Africa

**New local players** on the scene

Yet **distribution infrastructure** remains underdeveloped

~150

## India

Demand rising abroad; **local market still nascent**

Global brands expanding amid **surging middle class**

~175

Total # of monobrand stores @2025E

With a total market value of **€40-45 B** equal to Mainland China 2025E size  
as of 2025E

# Markdown pressure increasingly intensifying across channels

Raising trade-offs between stock monetization and markdown management

Monobrand

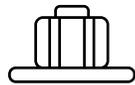
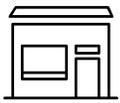
Travel retail

Online

Department store

Specialty store

Outlet



Markdown exposure by channel

Manage increasing **stock levels**

BRANDS UNDER GROWING PRESSURE BETWEEN

Avoid excessive **discounts**

Stock/revenues | %



+3/4 p.p.  
vs. 2019



+5/6 p.p.  
vs. 2016

**35/40%**

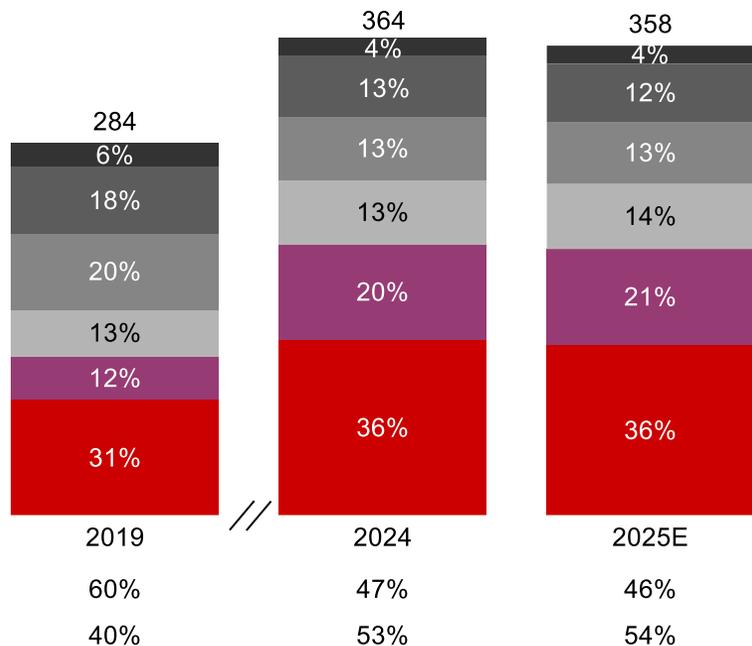
industry sales at discount up ~5p.p. from 10 years ago

# Outlet outperforming, online keeping pace, monobrand under scrutiny

## Personal luxury goods market by channel

€B | 2019–2030F

⬆️⬅️⬇️ Real-term trend



Channel	Delta 24–25E	CAGR 25E–30F
Travel retail	-4/-2%	⬆️↗️
Department store	-6/-4%	⬆️➡️
Specialty	-5/-3%	⬆️↗️
Outlet	+1/3%	⬆️↗️
Online	-1/+1%	⬆️⬆️
Monobrand	-2/0%	⬆️⬆️

In an environment in which **luxury footprint is contracting** across the board

**(US) Dept. stores** restructuring footprint **~-10%** SQM since 2024

**Brands** narrowing their reach **~25K SQM** Monobrand SQM lost in past six months

### Monobrand



Foot traffic remains subdued, except for spikes linked to new creative waves or brand capsules; flagship stores continue their upsizing trajectory

### Online



Direct showing positive signals from aspirational clientele, with GenAI enhancing UX/UI and engagement; multibrand platforms still strained, with few winners

### Outlet



Continued overperformance, fueled by consumer demand for value for money; continued network rationalization and elevation from high-end players

### Department and specialty stores



Still underperforming, growing reliance on discounts and loyalty programs; traffic pressured despite brands' attempts with experiential formats

### Travel retail



Growth slows amid currency volatility and geopolitical headwinds; strength concentrated in tax-free hubs with high-conversion rates

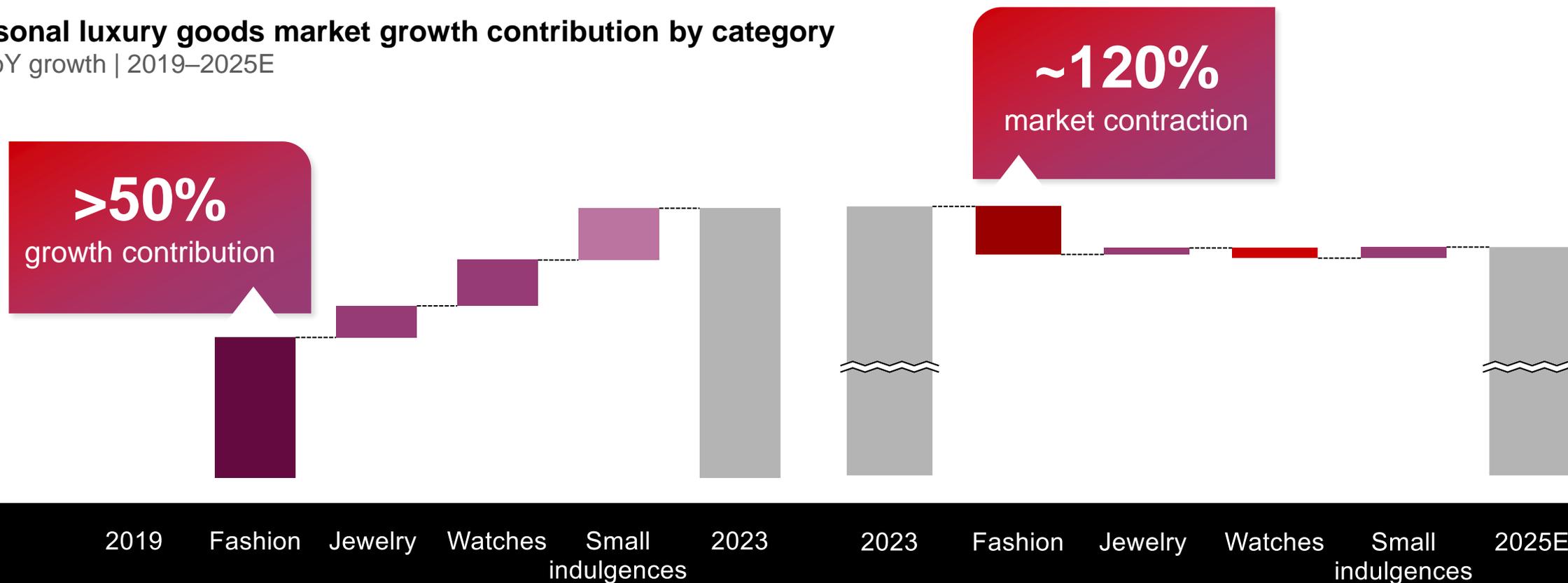
# Jewelry shining bright, Eyewear and Beauty following, Bags and Shoes remain fragile

Jewelry	Eyewear	Beauty	Watches	Apparel	Leather	Shoes
<p>Category remains <b>robust across regions</b>, with top players sustaining growth through refined <b>clienteling and experiential activations</b></p> <p>Rising <b>competitive pressure</b> in Asia and from new entrants scaling up in <b>high jewelry</b></p> <p>Increased relevance as <b>emotional asset</b>, beyond <b>traditional gifting</b></p> <p><b>Customizable and modular pieces</b> gaining ground among <b>younger cohorts</b></p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€32B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>+4/6%</b></p>	<p>Eyewear <b>maintains solid momentum</b>, driven by <b>design-led differentiation and high versatility</b>, gaining traction as a platform for identity expression, especially among <b>younger consumers</b></p> <p>Continuing to perform as an <b>accessory-category hybrid</b>, enabling both <b>upgrading and entry-level access</b></p> <p>Innovation focusing on <b>custom fit, personalization, and digital integration</b></p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€17B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>+2/4%</b></p>	<p>Beauty <b>slows down</b>, with <b>sell-out</b> sustained by <b>last years' stock availability</b></p> <p><b>High-end brands</b> outperform, while mid- and low-end face intense <b>discount pressure</b></p> <p><b>Fragrances</b> as the most dynamic subcategory, with masculine scents leading growth; <b>skincare</b> and <b>makeup</b> performance differing by brand, with positive <b>signs of comeback</b> from <b>key winning players</b></p> <p>AI increasingly used to power <b>personalization</b></p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€78B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>0/+2%</b></p>	<p>Polarization persisting both <b>across players</b>—<b>major brands</b> leading growth—and <b>price points</b>, with <b>resilient entry prices</b> alongside <b>high-end pieces for collectors</b></p> <p><b>High-end watches</b> post strong <b>performance for jewelry players</b></p> <p><b>Secondary market</b> remains active, as tariffs and retail prices push <b>some consumers to pre-owned alternatives</b></p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€52B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>-1/+1%</b></p>	<p>Holding steady especially among top customers, with <b>occasion-driven subcategories</b>—eveningwear, resort-wear—and <b>statement pieces</b> supporting <b>value perception</b></p> <p>Positive traction of more <b>accessible players</b> among younger gens</p> <p>Brands accelerating <b>capsule, limited drops and novelty-driven storytelling</b> to respond to rapid shifts in customer trends and cultural signals</p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€75B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>-1/+1%</b></p>	<p>Perceived as category with least innovation injection, with rising <b>demand for newness and playful alternatives</b>, especially from Gen Z</p> <p>Category highly <b>exposed to volatility linked to aspirational consumers</b>, who increasingly turn toward insurgent brands' value propositions</p> <p><b>Top-tier icons</b> remain resilient, yet <b>new hero bags struggling to emerge</b></p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€74B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>-7/-5%</b></p>	<p>Still <b>underperforming vs. other fashion</b>, pressured by <b>price sensitivity</b> and <b>sportswear</b> competition</p> <p>Brands experiment with <b>entry-level products, notably sneakers, and capsules/collaborations</b> to drive traffic and volume</p> <p><b>Heels and statement shoes</b> show early signs of recovery in selected markets</p> <p>Market size 2025E   in €B</p> <p><b>~€24B</b></p> <p>2025E vs. 2024   %</p> <p><b>-7/-5%</b></p>

# Trend reversal in soft luxury: From growth engine to source of slowdown

## Personal luxury goods market growth contribution by category

% YoY growth | 2019–2025E



Market value (€B)

€284B

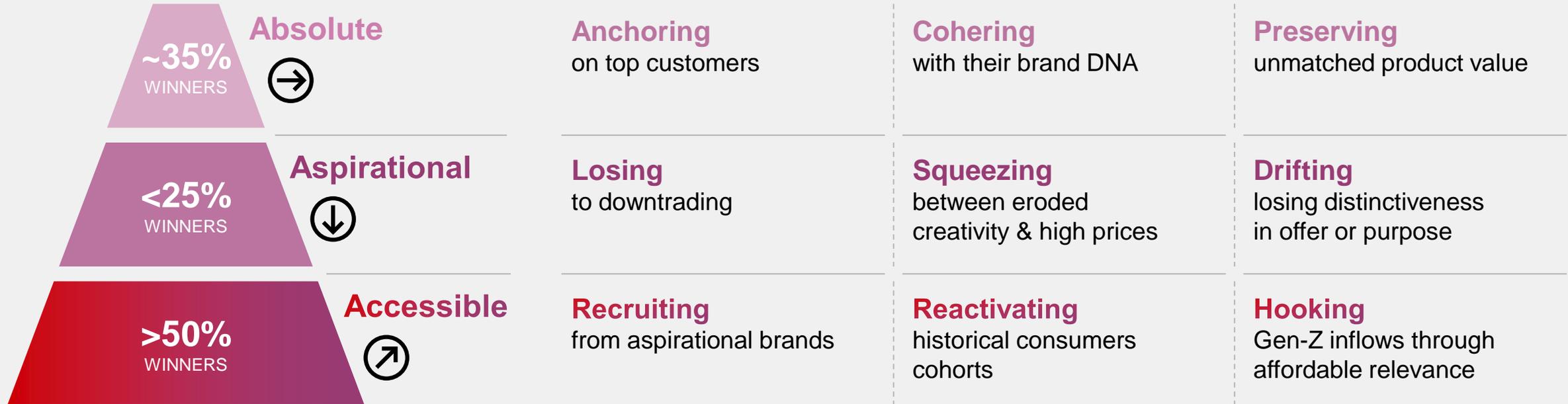
€369B

€358B

# After years of elevation, accessible luxury strikes back

## Evolution of Soft Luxury Goods market by positioning

Real term trend 2024–2025E



### WINNING PLAYERS SHARING COMMON TRAITS ACROSS SEGMENTS



Product innovation



Timelessness with edge



Cultural relevance

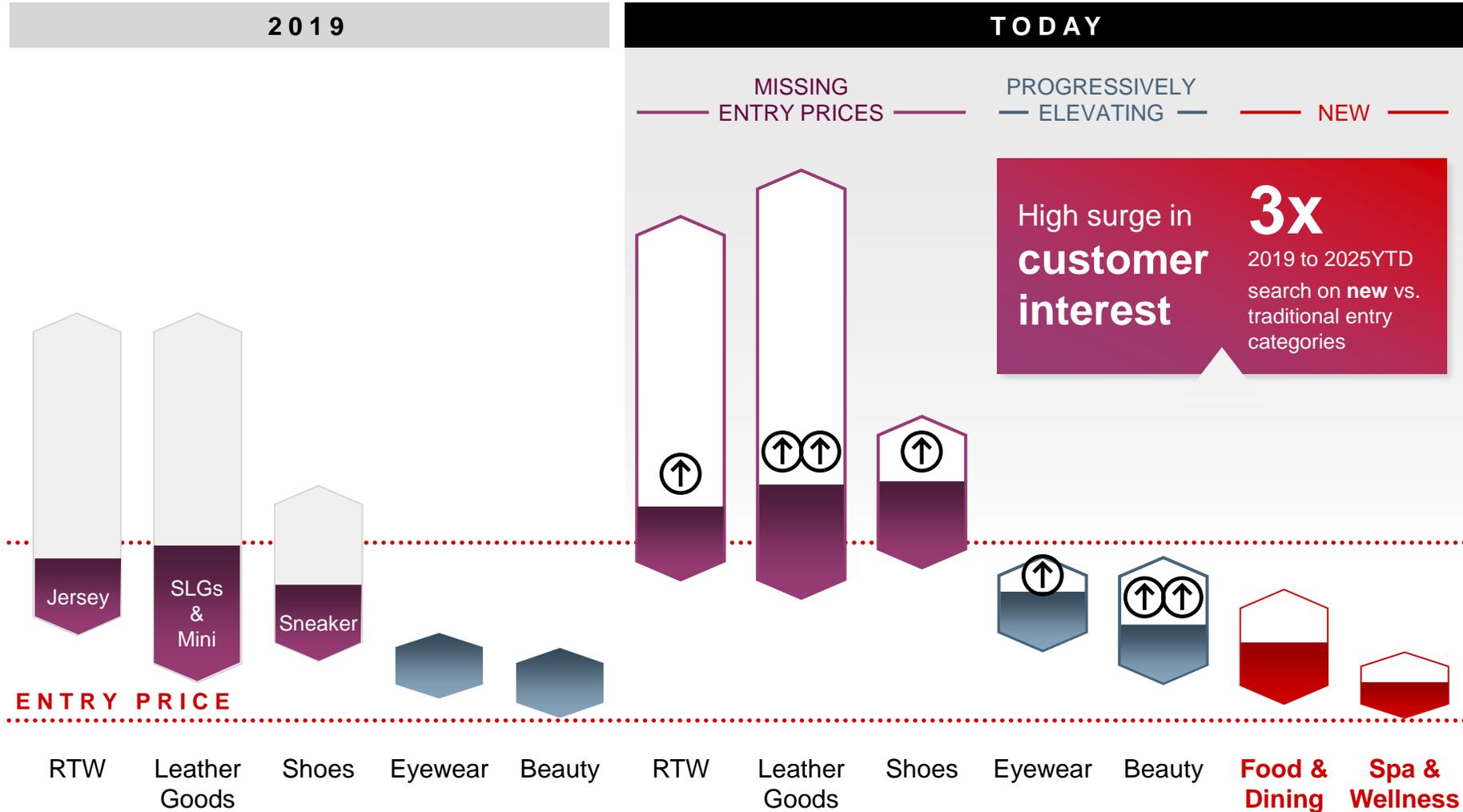


Ethical pricing

# Brands are redefining reach through adjacent and lower-entry categories

Price architectures for personal luxury goods brands

◻ Range ◼ Category entry items



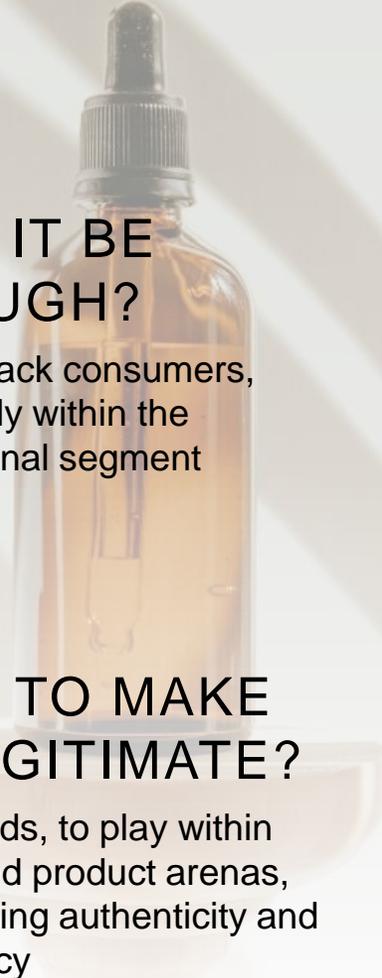
## But two key questions remain

**01**  
WILL IT BE ENOUGH?

To win back consumers, especially within the aspirational segment

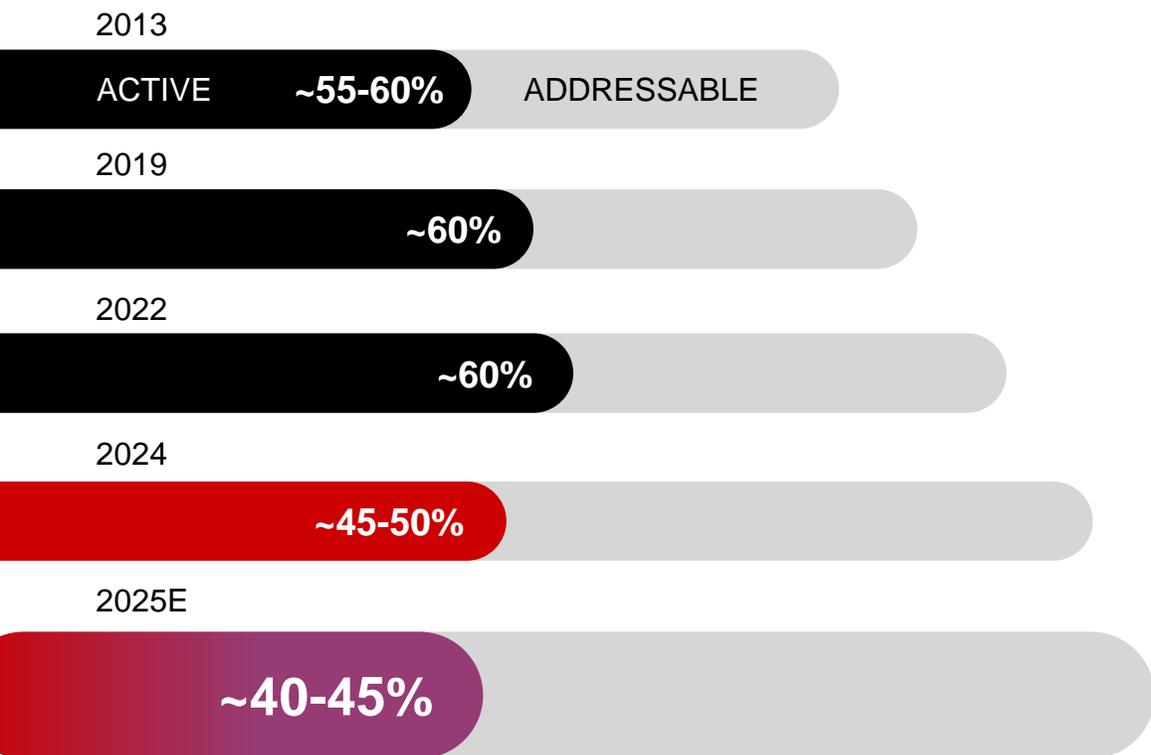
**02**  
HOW TO MAKE IT LEGITIMATE?

For brands, to play within expanded product arenas, maintaining authenticity and coherency



# Luxury consumer base contracting further, and decoupling from addressable population

## Consumers and addressable base



#M LUXURY CUSTOMERS

330

380

400

350

~330

~-5%

YoY % | 2024-25E

New customer recruiting at brand level

With spending flowing away in different paths

### WITHIN

### Personal luxury



Cutting purchase volumes



Reducing shopping frequency



Shifting to small indulgences



Prioritizing markdown channels

### OUTSIDE

### Personal luxury



Redirecting to luxury experiences



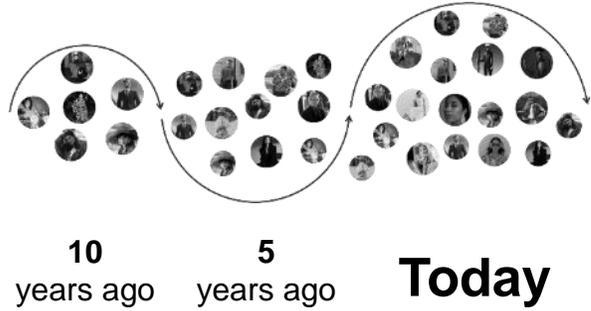
Downtrading outside of luxury



Pivoting toward pre-loved luxury

# Client maps growing ever more intricate, woven from multiplying:

## \_personas



## \_consumer journeys

Navigating countless paths, blending **digital, physical, and social** experiences

## \_zeitgeist & purposes

Diverse addressable base driving **layered motives behind luxury purchases**

## \_demographics

**New demographic tapestry emerging**, redefining who luxury speaks to



### Starting younger

Digital-savvy, entry-price oriented



### Older but healthier

With high wealth and free time, shifting and diversifying needs & behaviors



### Diverse phenotypes

Broadening cultural & aesthetic representation



### Longevity conscious

Upgrading wellness, beauty, and fitness into status symbols



### More knowledgeable

Increasingly scrutinizing over brands

## IMPLICATIONS

Adaptive products

Holistic engagement

Localized assortment

Increased transparency

Cultural relevance

# Top customers stabilizing spending

Top customers' value and incidence on personal luxury goods market 2019–2024–2025E



## Signs of a broader customer alienation

# As the meaning of **exclusivity** is redefined, every **consumer resets their standards**

## What consumers look for **ACROSS ALL TIERS**



### Longevity

True, long-lasting relationship



### Uniqueness

Access to special moments



### Understanding

Feeling that their passions matter



### Tailoring

Crafted "for and by" them

## How to **WIN THEM BACK**

### Winning with All customers

@Scale 1-to-1 personalization

Curated experience

Continuous conversations

Flawless execution across the journey

### Winning with Top customers

#### Money-can't-buy

Unlock once-in-a-lifetime moments relevant for each individual, from culture to sport events

#### 360-degree innovation

Creating "wow" effect across all business levers and touchpoints to deliver unmatched satisfaction

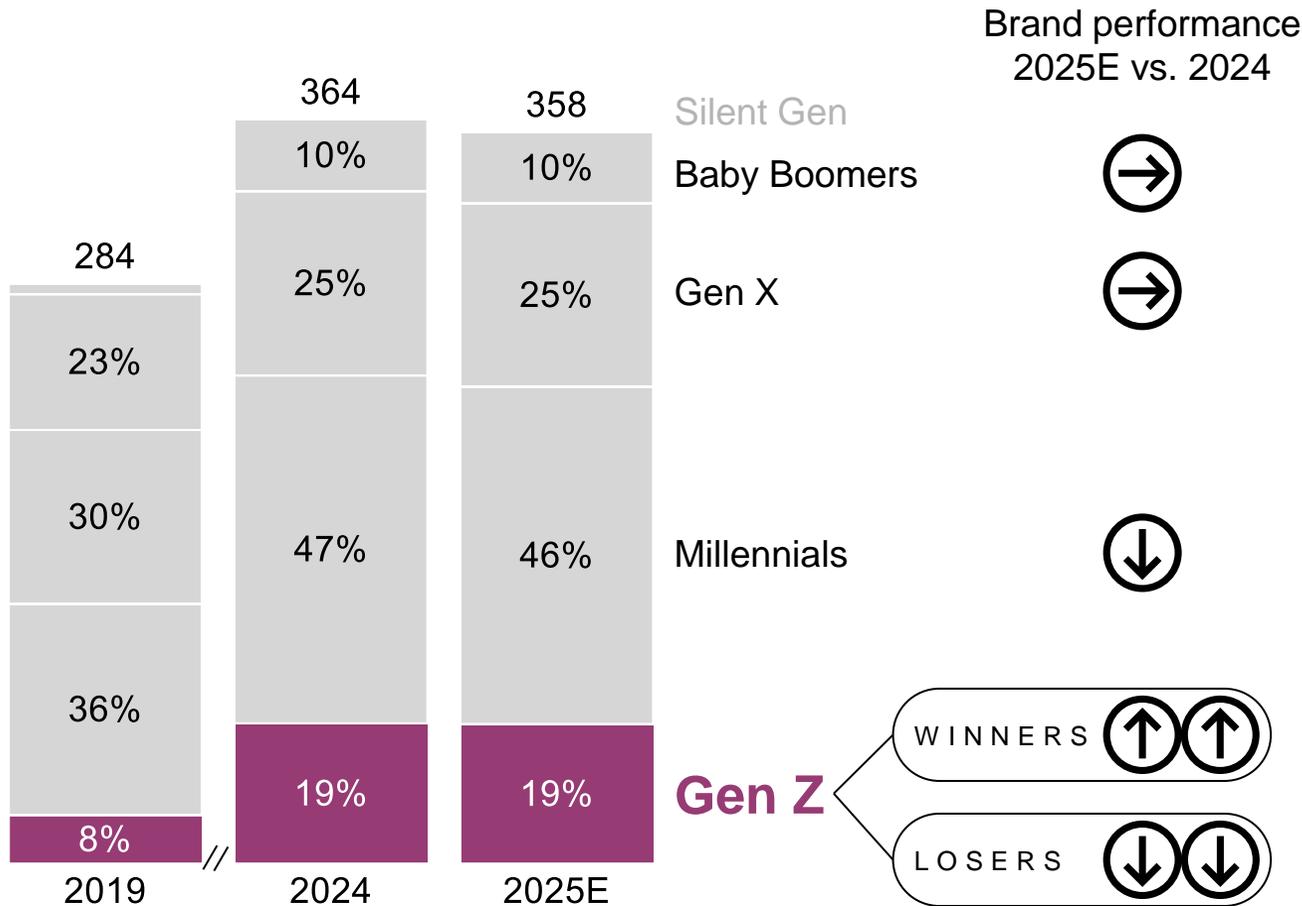
#### Intimacy

Empowering client advisers to build emotional connections & elevate brand experience

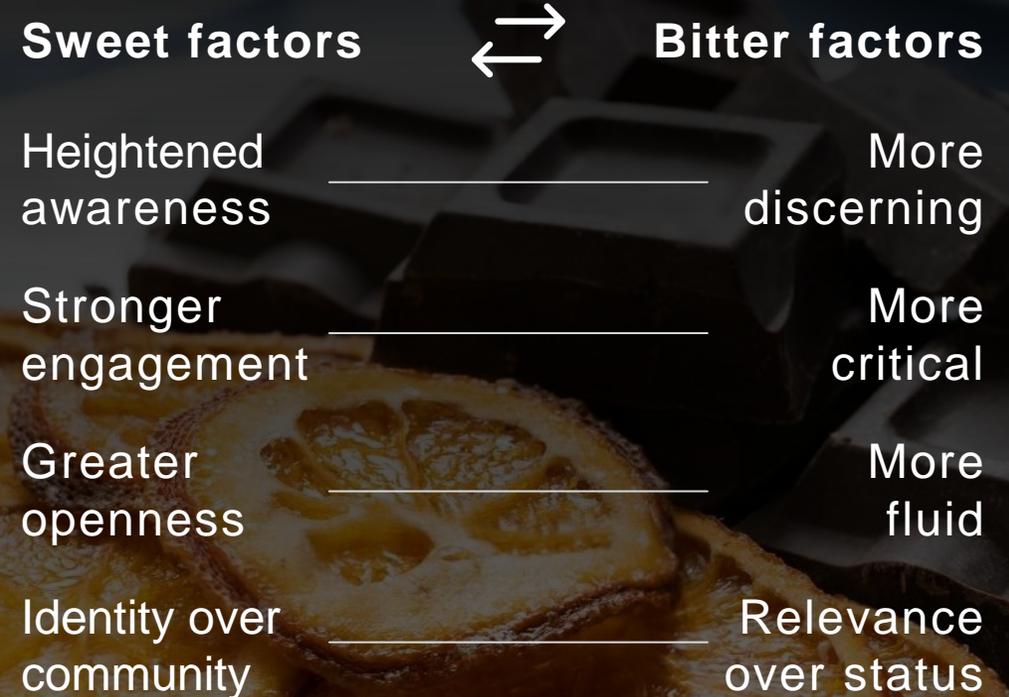
# Gen Z polarizing across brands, rewarding the few that resonate

## Personal luxury goods market by generation

€B | 2019–2025E



Winning Gen Z unlocks growth, but brings **new complexities to manage**



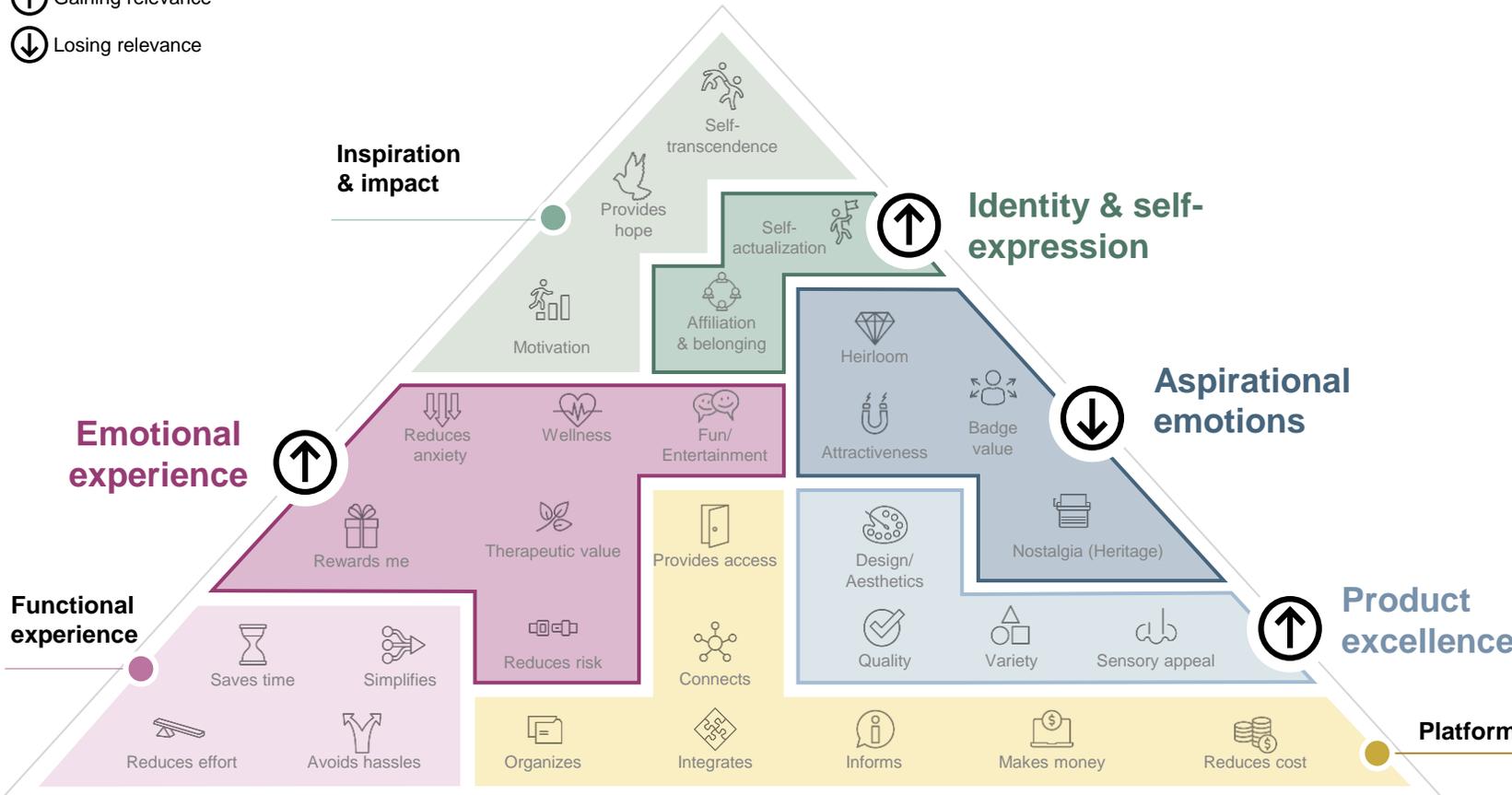
**Gen Z setting the tone for a new deal: renewed purpose of participation**

# Entertainment, Emotions and Ethics affirming as central Elements of Value for consumers

## Key purchase criteria evolution

Perceived relevance

- ⬆️ Gaining relevance
- ⬇️ Losing relevance



## BUT BRANDS FALL SHORT IN delivering the expected value

% of luxury customers who<sup>1</sup>

**70%** Lack satisfaction with current in-store experience

**90%** Deem experiences comparable across brands

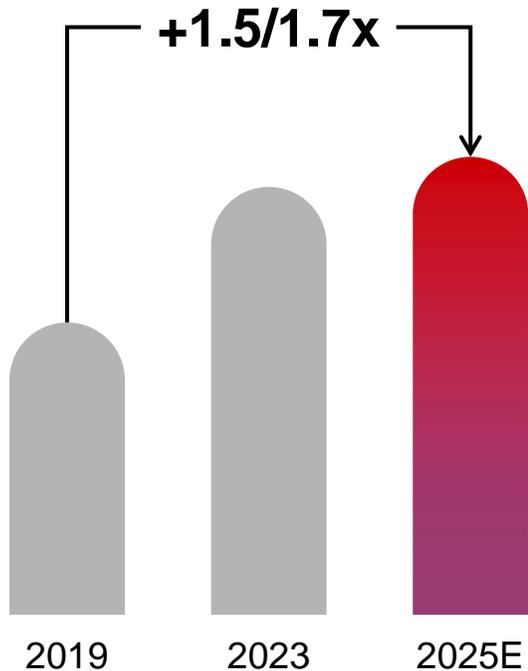
**85%** Feel brands do not match their true purpose

(1) Bain Luxury Study 2025 consumer survey, October 2025

# Traditional price-to-value equation broken by lack of trust & ethics

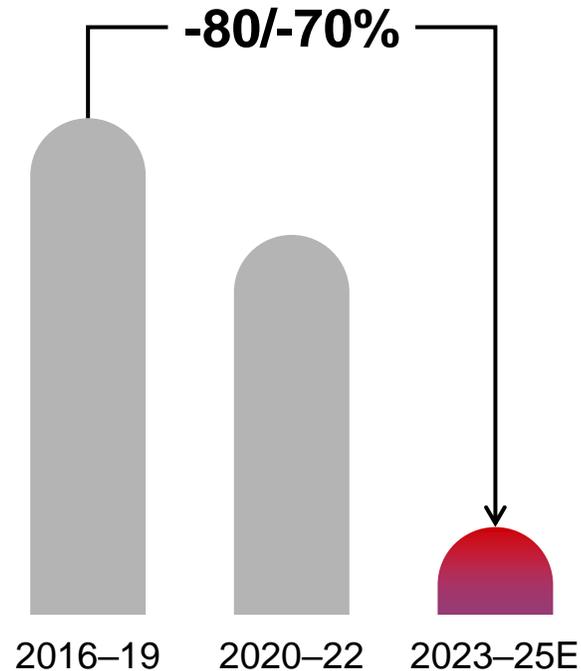
## Same-item elevation breaking consumer trust

Iconic bags like-for-like price evolution  
Indexed, 2019=100



## Creativity stall jeopardizing industry true purpose

# of hero bags launches  
Cumulative, by period



With **consumers voicing** clearly **what they look for**

to make luxury relevant again to them

CONSUMER DEMAND → BRAND IMPERATIVE



Trust is not a given, and brands must **earn it back** through **fairness, clarity, and conscious creativity**

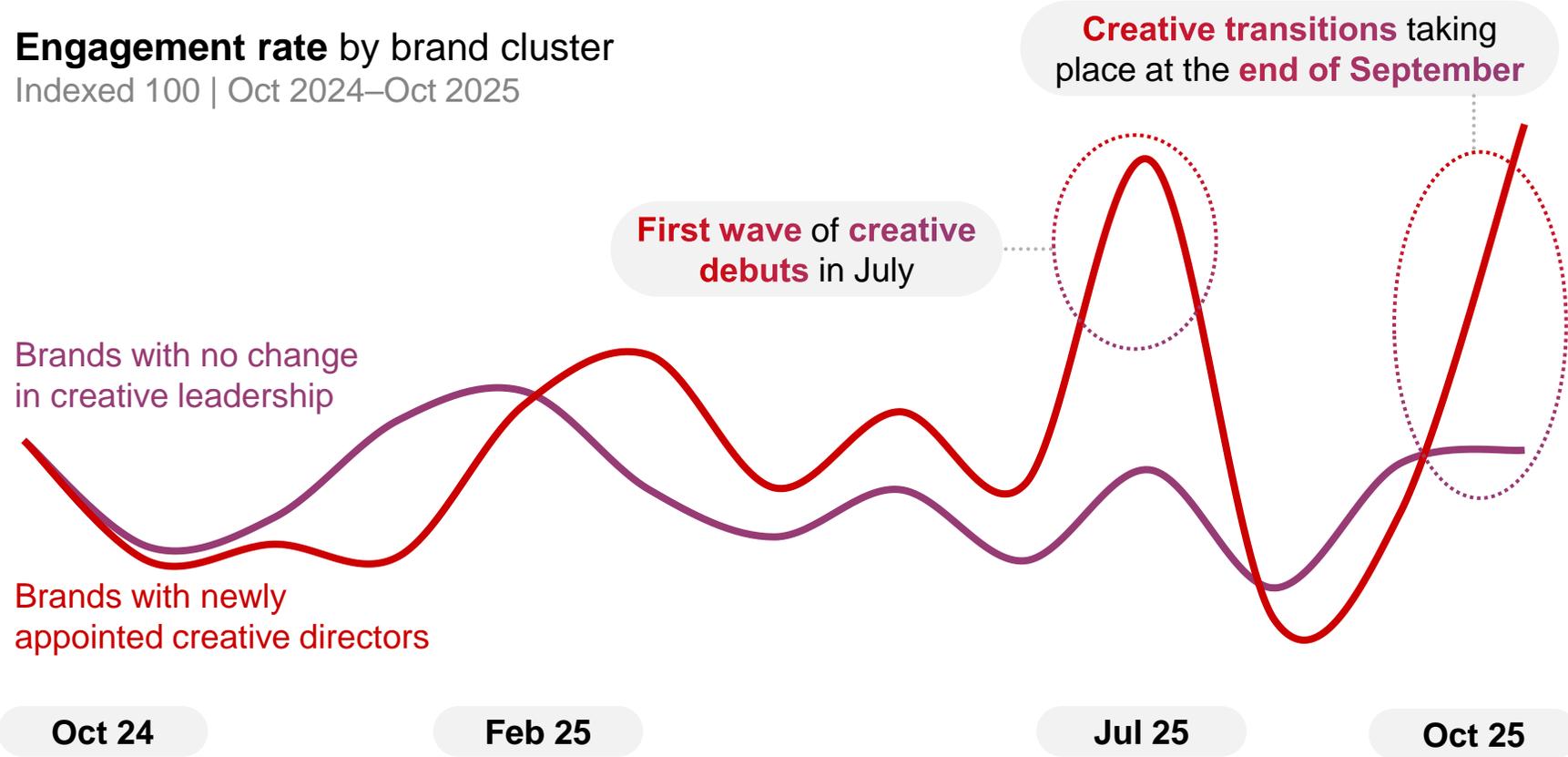
# Creative transitions appear to have ignited a spark of interest in the market

New appointments are fueling buzz, yet not turning into visible results



While raising an urgent call for **solid brand platforms and guardrails**

Engagement rate by brand cluster  
Indexed 100 | Oct 2024–Oct 2025

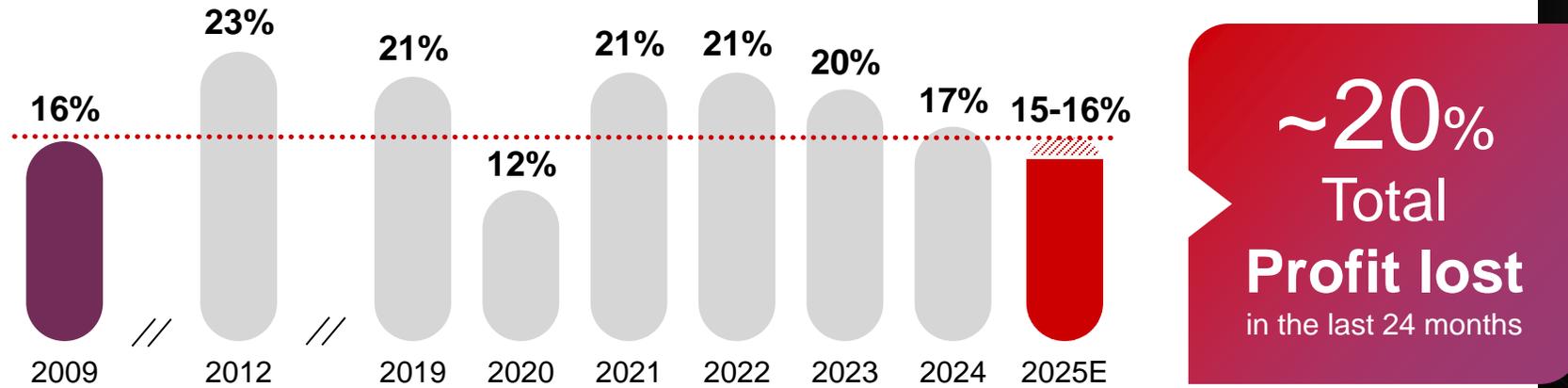


How to turn increased visibility, consideration, and traffic into real conversion and win back consumer advocacy?

# Margins back to 2009 levels, pressured by higher operating costs and top-line strains

EBIT evolution of selected personal luxury goods brands

% | 2009–2025E



## Shrinking gross margin



Inflation, tariffs, and markdowns pressuring product margin

## Rising opex



Pressuring war for talent  
Increasing marketing intensity

## Stable capex



Reduced retail expansion  
Growing supply chain and digital needs

Setting new baselines for luxury profitability in the post-expansion era

# Performance improvement as key lever to drive long-term sustainable growth

## Uncover True Business Demand

Focus on **business-critical priorities**  
Challenge even the most efficient cost areas

## Gear for Best-in-Class

Protect **brand building** and competitive advantage **levers**  
Drive spending where it **creates value**

## Drive to Best-in-Cost

Streamline cost in **low-value areas**, exploring simplification and automation to **achieve structural efficiency**

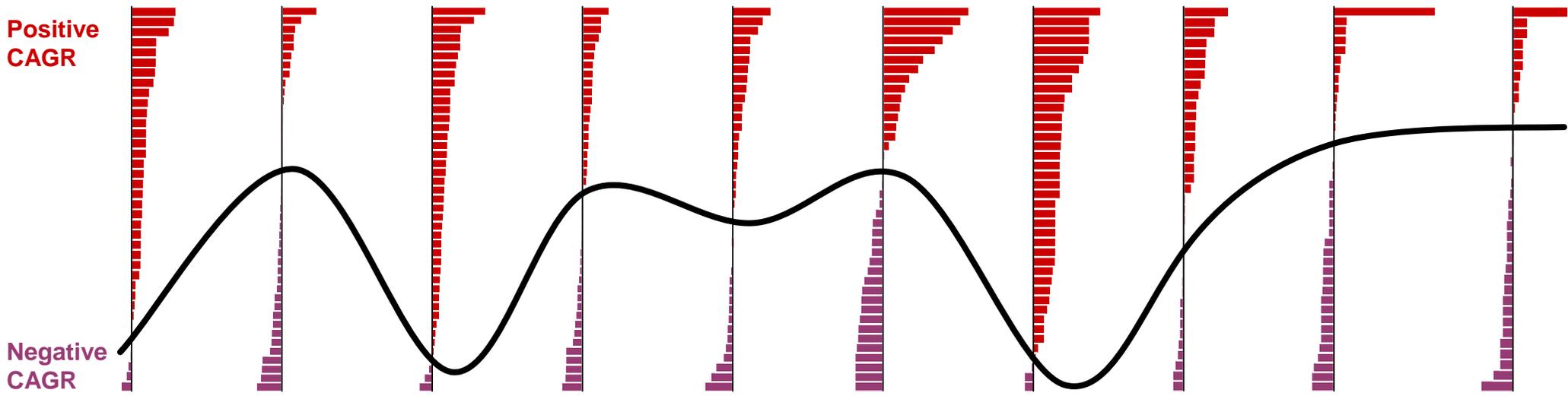
## Retool the Business Model

Shape a **fit-for-purpose organization**, through **tech-enabled process redesign** and **enhancement**

# 2025E to mark a new peak in performance polarization

## Fewer winners, broader stagnation, deeper tail

Sortie du temple democratization	Crisis	Chinese acceleration	Reboot	New normal	Covid-19 & rebound			Elevation	
1994–2007	2008–2009	2010–2014	2015–2016	2017–2019	2019–2021	2021–2022	2022–2023	2023–2024	2024–2025E



**SPECIALISTS WINNING**

**>70%**  
Winners are specialist brands

**POLARIZED GIANTS**

**50%**  
Players above €5B are losing revenues

~85%	~35%	~95%	~50%	~60%	~40%	~95%	~65%	~45%	~40/45%	% winners
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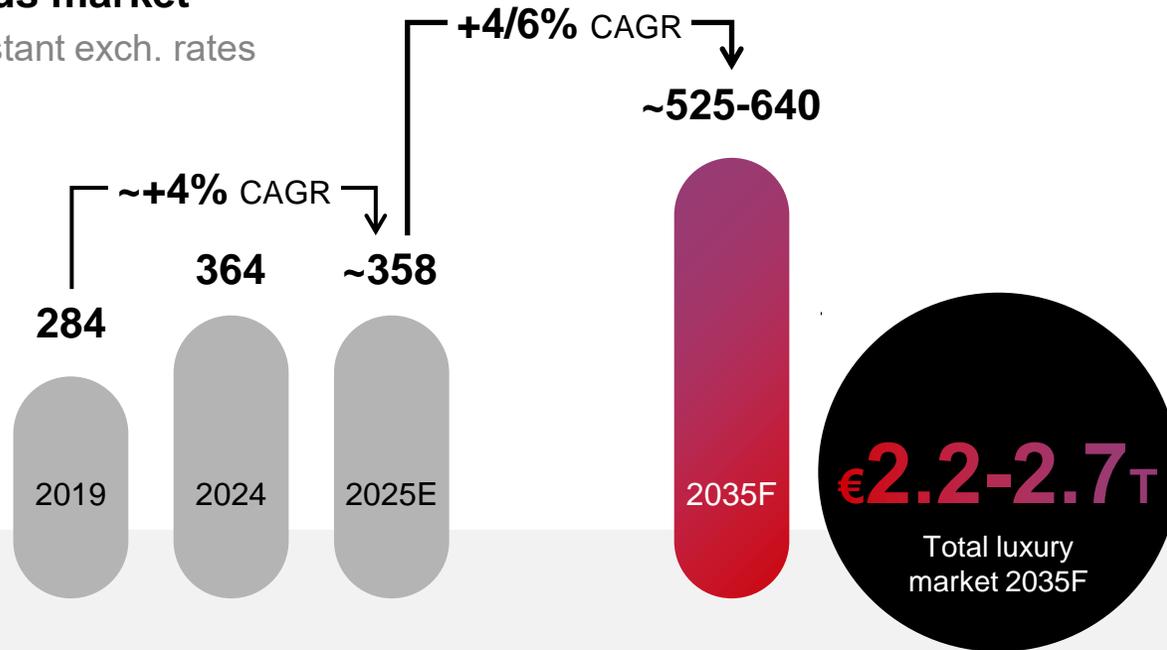
Global personal luxury goods market  
% | CAGR

+7%	-5%	+9%	-1%	+5%	+1%	+22%	+4%	-1%	-2%
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# Long-term growth ahead, anchored in customer base expansion and lasting appetite

## Personal luxury goods market

€B | future growth at constant exch. rates



### Enduring customer base

Generations of **lifelong customers**

**New generations** set to enter market earlier

**Older cohorts** engaged longer

### Timeless desire

**70%+**

of **alienated customers** intend to **resume purchasing within next three years**<sup>1</sup>

**~90%**

of **currently active buyers** plan to continue spending, especially among **Gen Z and HNWI**<sup>1</sup>

(1) Bain Luxury Study 2025 consumer survey, October 2025

# Yet market longevity calls for a dose of brand **cryotherapy**

## TIME FOR STRATEGIC RESET



Recalibrate to thrive—not just survive—for the next decade(s)



Rebalance growth ambitions with evolving consumer expectations



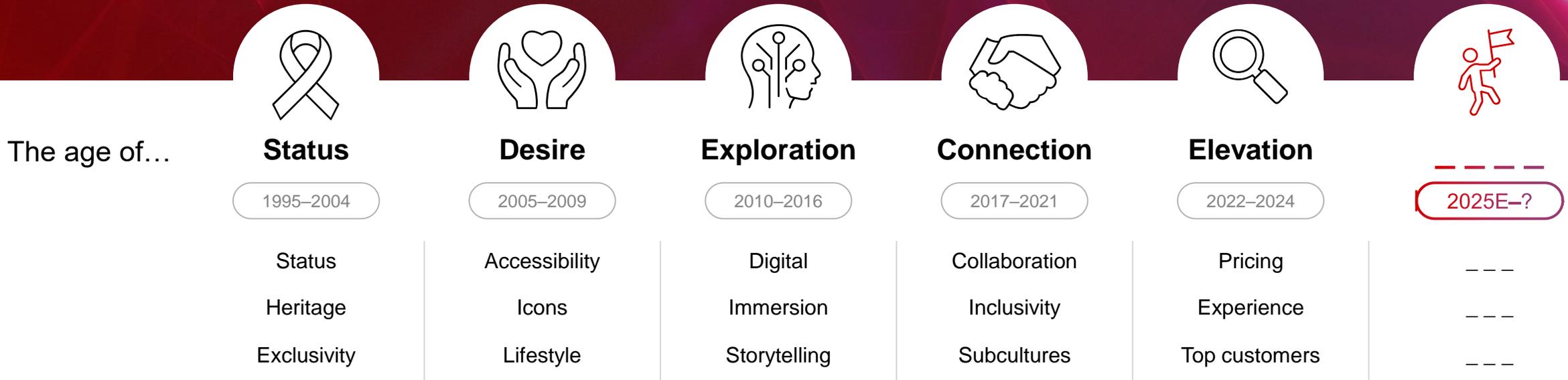
Rethink retail formats, client engagement, and cultural relevance



Build a future-proof ecosystem that blends tech, talent, and timeless brand codes

# Luxury brands stand at a crossroad

## Time to realign values and shape the next chapter of the industry



What will the next chapter be about?

Self-empowerment  
Inclusivity  
Social progress  
Purpose

ETHICS

vs.

ELITISM

Power  
Exclusivity  
Status  
Prestige

# Drive forward

to actively define the longevity formula for the luxury market

**D**

## Decide who you want to serve

Identify and crystallize future target customers

**R**

## Reinject the essentials

Think of creativity, quality, and purpose as non-negotiable pillars of value proposition

**I**

## Invest in what sets you apart

Prioritize excellence across quality, merchandising, talent, and marketing

**V**

## Value precision, over scale

Sharpen targeting, understanding, forecasting, and operational discipline

**E**

## Empower teams to lead

Build capabilities, trust talent, and enable local and frontline decision making

**ETHICS**

**INTEGRITY**

**EMOTIONS**

**LOVE**

THANK YOU



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## Claudia D'Arpizio

**Partner, Bain & Company**

Leader, Global Fashion-Luxury Goods vertical



Claudia has spent more than 30 years advising multinational luxury and fashion clients on everything relating to corporate and brand strategy, new product development and innovation, distribution and marketing excellence and organizational and cultural change.

She is the lead author of the Bain Luxury Study, one of the most cited sources of market information in the luxury industry.

In 2009, Claudia was also recognized as one of the Top 25 Consultants in the World by *Consulting Magazine*.

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## Federica Levato

**Partner, Bain & Company**

Leader, EMEA Fashion-Luxury Goods vertical



Over the last 20 years, Federica has led more than 300 assignments in the fashion and luxury industry on issues relating to corporate and brand strategy, portfolio management, merchandising, retail and wholesale excellence, digital acceleration, millennial strategies, marketing and communication, and more.

Alongside Claudia D'Arpizio, Federica is the coauthor of the Bain Luxury Study, one of the most cited sources of market information in the luxury industry.

# Bain contacts

**For any questions or further discussion, please contact:**

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## **Press**

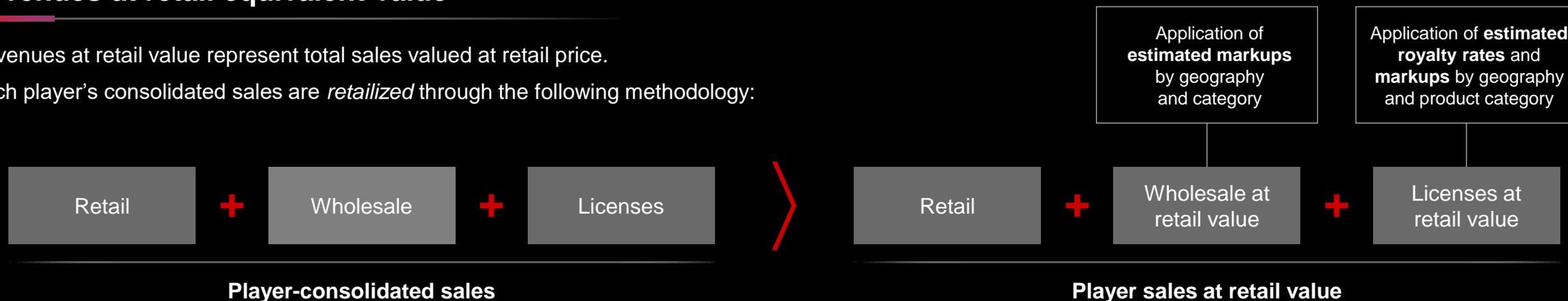
- Orsola Randi (Italy)  
[Orsola.Randi@bain.com](mailto:Orsola.Randi@bain.com) or +39 340 408 2256

# Methodology of the study

## Revenues at retail equivalent value

Revenues at retail value represent total sales valued at retail price.

Each player's consolidated sales are *retailized* through the following methodology:



## Bottom-up and top-down estimates

### Bottom-up



We add brands' individual retail values...

### Top-down

- Industry-specific (e.g., watches vs. beauty) data in the main geographical markets
- Comparison between market breakdown and turnover breakdown for key players
- Interviews with industry experts (top management of brands, distributors, department stores, etc.)
- Consistency check on the data and fine-tuning

...we cross-check results

BAIN & COMPANY 

