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2,000

1,800

1,400

1,200

1,000 With

600

200

0

1,600 Q

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Validators 800

XeV 400

Ethereum Shanghai Upgrade

What is the Shanghai Upgrade?

The Ethereum Shanghai upgrade is a hard fork that is anticipated to go live in mid-April 2023. The upgrade includes two major upgrades: Shanghai - an execution layer upgrade, and Capella - a consensus layer upgrade. Most importantly, the fork will allow stakers and validators to withdraw their staked principal and rewards, which are currently locked on the Beacon Chain. Moreover, it will instil more confidence in sidelined investors and institutions to participate in staking Ethereum.

700,000

600,000

500,000

400,000

300,000

200.000

100.000

Validators

Remaining

There are a few critical reasons why we expect this event to be a **positive** for Ethereum.

Less selling pressure than the market anticipates

- The full withdrawal queuing mechanism limits the amount of validators that can exit per day
- > The expected volume from 'partial' withdrawals is a small % of daily volume and will take roughly 4 days to become fully liquid.



2. Current Stakers are 'Liquid' Stakers

Source: Arcane Research, Zerocap

- > Currently, the liquid staking segment contributes ~45% of total Ethereum that is staked.
- > With 'liquid' staking primitives growing in popularity, largely due to the 32[±] bonding restriction, we can argue that a significant proportion of Ethereum stakers are agnostic to this upgrade.

Maximum Shanghai (Full) Withdrawal's

—Ending Validators

Max Withdrawn

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> Additionally, staking pools & CEXs are incentivised to keep their validators running - although this will ultimately fall down to the user preference in these pools & venues.

3. Potential for Large Supply Imbalances

- > With sidelined institutions and investors now having increased capacity to stake and withdraw their principal & rewards, we expect large supply imbalances to occur after the fork.
- > We have already seen a strong uptick in interest of institutional staking of Ethereum. An estimated yield of 5% is great incentive for a utility token with deflationary supply mechanics and ESG benefits (proof-of-stake model).
- > Any affect of existing stakers discontinuing their validators will likely be neutralised by new stakers.
- > The staking ratio of Ethereum, relative to circulating supply, is the lowest of layer-1 networks. We expect this to at least double in percent by the end of 2023.

Coin	Staking Ratio	Market Cap (bn)
	71.5%	7.92
*	70.9%	11.64
0	48.87%	7.25
S	39.86%	10.46
	14.87%	188.97

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FOR WHOLESALE/SOPHISTICATED INVESTORS ONLY

Ethereum Discount Note

Product Description

Investors that view the Shanghai upgrade as a positive event for Ethereum may be suited to the ETH Discount Note.

Discount notes are an instrument that allow investors to enter a long position in the underlying asset for less than its current price if the Expiry Price is below the Cap Price. The maximum return for this instrument is limited to a predetermined price (Cap Price).

Example Levels

Current ETH Market Price	\$1806
	φ1000
Discount to Current Market Price	10%
Purchase Price if below Cap Price	\$1625
Cap Price (15% above Current Market Price)	\$2077
Return if above Cap Price	28%

Terms		
\$50,000		
USD		
27 Oct 2023		
1.0%		

Only Two Outcomes:

- 1. If ETH is above 2077 by 27 Oct 23, you earn **28% in USD.**
- 2. If ETH is below 2077 by 27 Oct 23 you buy ETH at 10% below its current price today.



Risk Profile

- 1. May suit investors with a stable to moderately bullish view on ETH.
- 2. May not suit investors who think a major bull run in ETH is likely before expiry.
- 3. May not suit investors who think ETH will fall significantly before expiry.
- 4. Maximum loss for this product is the initial investment amount.

About Zerocap

Zerocap is a market-leading investment firm for digital assets, providing unique investment products and technology to forward-thinking investors and institutions globally.

To discuss how ETH and other crypto assets fit into your investment strategy, contact us at <u>hello@zerocap.com</u> or phone (AU): 1800 ZEROCAP (937622) | phone: +61 3 9491 8256

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