9<sup>th</sup> Edition July 2023



True-Luxury Global Consumer Insights



#### **2023 STUDY: CONTENTS**



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  - Market outlook & True-Luxury consumer sentiment
- 2 TOP 10 TRENDS CEOS SHOULD STAY AHEAD OF Snapshot of market, consumer and novel Luxury trends

LUXURY IN A CHANNEL-LESS AGE:
TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMER STILL UNHAPPY
The new frontier of Luxury experience



# 2023 study keeps True-Luxury consumer at the center...



#### 9<sup>th</sup> Edition True-Luxury consumer survey

Respondents **12,000**+ **respondents** 

of which 2,000 in China & 2,000 in US

Avg. spend

**€39K+** Avg. personal spend¹ (back to pre-Covid level)

**Markets** 

Top 12 WW Luxury Markets





Research partner

#### 1. Includes personal and experiential luxury, excluding cars, yachts, smartphones and

#### ..with a much wider range of tools, sources and deep dives



**30+** in depth interviews with individual **True-Luxury consumers** 



25+ interviews & content discussion sessions with industry experts & topic leaders



Brand new deep dive on **customer experience**, based on quali-quantitative sources and advanced **data & analytics tools** 



Engagement of local Luxury experts and industry partners from China and US



**HIGHSNOBIETY** 



We bring ALTAGAMMA partners and members of BCG luxury ecosystem to the table to generate the best consumers insights



Note: List of brands not exhaustive

Chapter 1.

FUTUREPROOF:
LUXURY MARKET
THRIVES AMIDST
UNCERTAINTY

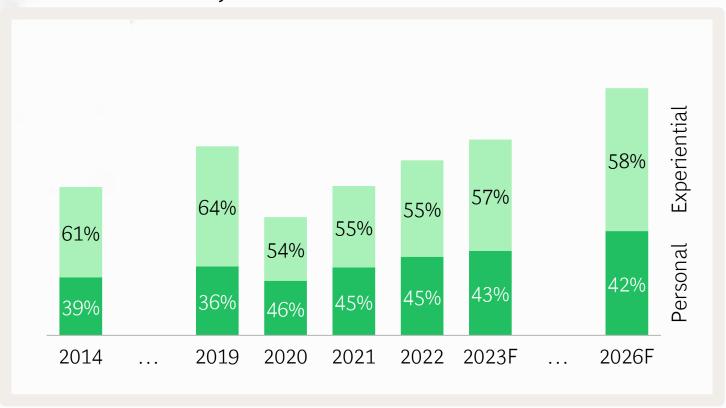
Market outlook & True-luxury consumer sentiment

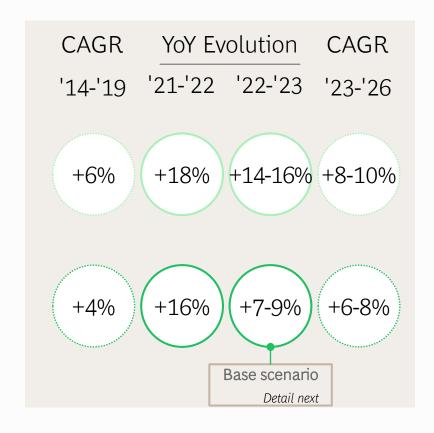




#### Personal luxury has recovered to pre-covid levels and Experiential on the way; High single-digit growth expected

#### Global True-Luxury Market





Note: Personal includes apparel, footwear, accessories, leather goods, beauty, jewelry (branded and unbranded) and watches / Experiential includes furniture, food and wine, fine dining & hotel and exclusive vacations

Source: BCG Fashion & Luxury Market Model as of June 2023; BCG Analysis

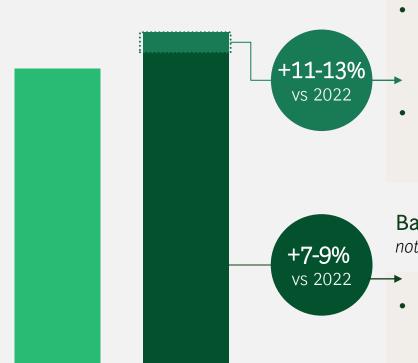


Unprecedented complexity to make Luxury market forecasts | Today's macroeconomic volatility requires an assessment on a weekly horizon



### We envision 2 evolution scenarios based on key geographies outlook





- Strong restart of China Luxury market (~+20% vs '22), mainly fueling domestic consumption, while gradual spend increase in nearby countries (e.g., HK, Macao) and in int. destinations from H2 2023
- Solid confidence of US consumers despite the macro context, driving domestic and international demand (high-single digit growth)

**Base Scenario:** Slow-down of Western Consumers not compensated by Asian acceleration

- More cautious outlook for China (~+15% growth '22-23) with technical rebound domestically and slow restart of international consumption
- Limited confidence of consumers in Western markets, with H2 '23 heavily impacted by economic uncertainty (mid-low single digit growth)

2023F

2022





#### China is back but with significantly different dynamics vs Pre-Covid

Growth back, but ~4X home market '23 vs '19... ... and abroad spend

unlikely to return to '19 level

Growth driven by Young, Rich & Lower Tier cities...

...in a thriving digital environment



Chinese luxury consumers

about the same on luxury

products in the next year

expect to spend more or

Abroad spend in '23, with 18% some recovery expected as travel resumes in H2, but unlikely to return to '19 level

11% Heavy spenders<sup>1</sup> contribute 40% of the ~40% total luxury spending

> Future spending net appetite % Chinese Beyond Money<sup>2</sup> vs Avg. True-Luxury Beyond Money<sup>1</sup>

46%

of domestic digital purchases in 2023 (+17pp vs 2019)

68%

Chinese luxury consumers willing to spend more in mainland, as benefits of buying outside (price, range, etc.) gradually diminish

of under 30, accounting for ~50% of total spending

+15pp Future spending net appetite % Chinese Gen Z vs Avg. True-Luxury

total spending by Tier

2 & below cities

of all consumers 92% influenced by digital channels, with WeChat ecosystem impacting ~60% of purchases



## The top of the pyramid has consistently overgrown the bottom: conquering the wealthiest segments is the key priority for luxury brands

100	Cluster	2016		2022		2026F			
		Pop. (M)	Size (B€)	Pop. (M)	Size (B€)	Pop. (M)	Size (B€)	CAGR Pop. '16-'22	CAGR Pop. '22-'26
50 k€	Beyond money	0.3	20	0.5	38	0.6	50-60	5%	9%
20 k€	Top absolute	1.4	31	1.7	53	2.3	60-70	4%	8% ,
5 k€	Absolute & Entry absolute	15	201	17.6	260	18.9	320-340	3%	2%
3 KE	Total true-luxury	16.8	252	19.8	352	21.9	430-470	3%	3%
2 k€	Top aspirational	20.9	62	20.5	71	24.5	90-100	0%	5%
<2 k€	Other aspirational	375.0	551	327.2	476	425.3	720-730	-2%	7%
	Total Luxury Consumers	~410	~870	~370	~900	~470	~1240-1300	-2%	6%

- 2 wealthiest clusters
  representing less
  than 1% of the
  market but
  accounting for ~10%
  of sales
- Strong growth of the top segments confirming their priority role in the upcoming years
- '16-'22 population decline due to strong impact of Covid on aspirational and Chinese slow down in '22; acceleration over the next years

Note: Numbers rounded. Personal includes apparel, footwear, accessories, leather goods, beauty, jewelry (branded and unbranded) and watches / Experiential includes furniture, food and wine, fine

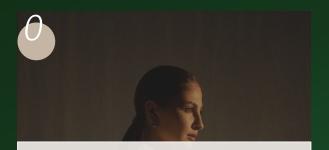
dining & hotel and exclusive vacations



# True-Luxury consumer sentiment

#### True-Luxury consumer sentiment pulse check

#### GLOBAL OVERALL VS TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMER



How does the True-Luxury Consumer sentiment differ from the global overall consumer?



#### TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMER DEEP DIVE



SENTIMENT ABOUT
MACRO-CONTEXT
How is the True-Luxury
Consumer feeling about the
macroeconomic context?



SPENDING OUTLOOK
Who are the most resilient
consumers and what's their
sentiment towards future
spending?





SPENDING BEHAVIOR
Will consumers who raise
their spending levels continue
to follow the same spending
patterns?





#### Consumers feel financially worse-off, but are spending more; instead, True-Luxury consumers are more confident and project solid spending increase



#### SENTIMENT ABOUT MACRO-CONTEXT



#### SPENDING OUTLOOK

GLOBAL CONSUMERS ARE PESSIMISTIC ON ECONOMIC OUTLOOK...

..believe a recession has started in their country

...ARE FEELING WORSE OFF FINANCIALLY THAN A YEAR AGO...

% consumer feel.... than a year ago



...HOWEVER, MOST ARE SPENDING MORE DUE TO PRICE HIKES AND LOWER SAVING

next 6 months

PRICE INCREASE AS TOP REASON EXPECTED FOR INCREASE IN SPEND

**TRUE-LUXURY** CONSUMER

OVERALL GLOBAL CONSUMER

THE MACRO MATTERS ALSO FOR TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMERS...

....BUT THEY DO NOT FEEL FINANCIALLY WORSE OFF...

% consumer feel.... than a year ago

50% ...believe a recession has started in their country



... AND ANTICIPATE SOLID SPENDING ON LUXURY, CONFIDENT ABOUT THEIR STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

85% ..expect to spend more or about the same on luxury products in the next year

CONFIDENCE IN FINANCIAL POSITION AND INTENTION TO INVEST AS TOP REASON EXPECTED FOR INCREASED SPEND



# True-Luxury Consumers are well-aware of volatile macro environment, with heterogeneity across geos...

Total True-Luxury















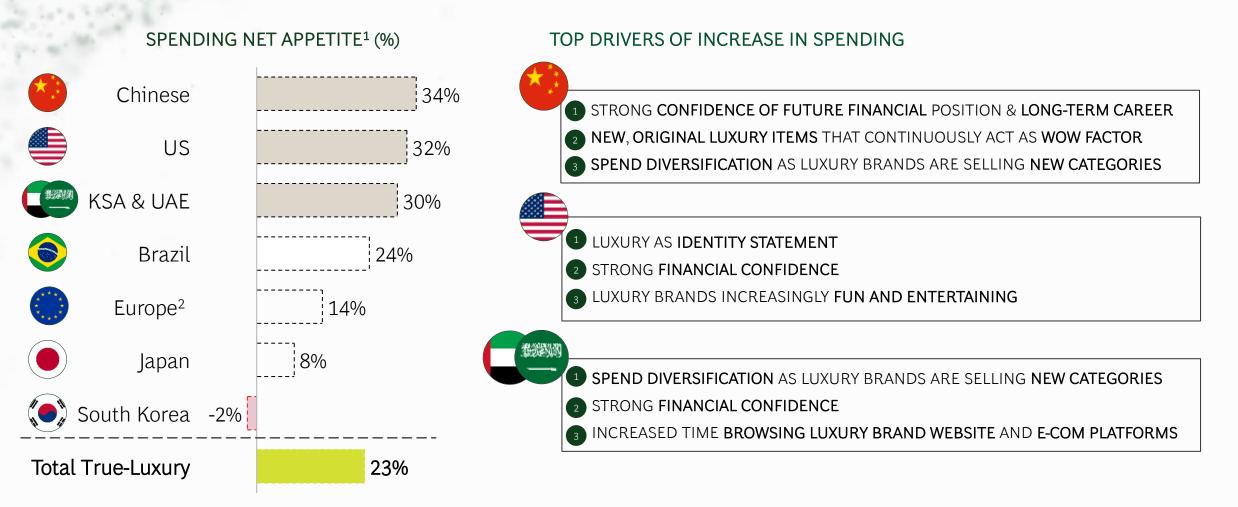
#### SHARE OF TOTAL RESPONDENTS THAT AGREE (%)

"THERE WILL BE AN ECONOMIC RECESSION IN MY COUNTRY"	50%	32%	39%	34%	43%	53%	54%	69%
"MY COUNTRY'S <b>ECONOMIC REVIVAL</b> IS NOT ON THE RIGHT PATH"	37%	22%	26%	30%	29%	42%	39%	53%
"INFLATION IS HERE TO STAY FOR A LONG TIME"	61%	54%	32%	65%	78%	67%	72%	73%
"I WORRY THAT THE CONFLICT BETWEEN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE WILL CONTINUE FOR A LONG TIME"	67%	55%	53%	74%	76%	68%	74%	74%

China and Middle
East consumers
exhibiting an
optimistic outlook,
while US, Japan &
EU prove to be
more pessimistic







#### TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMER DEEP DIVE SPENDING OUTLOOK by CLUSTER

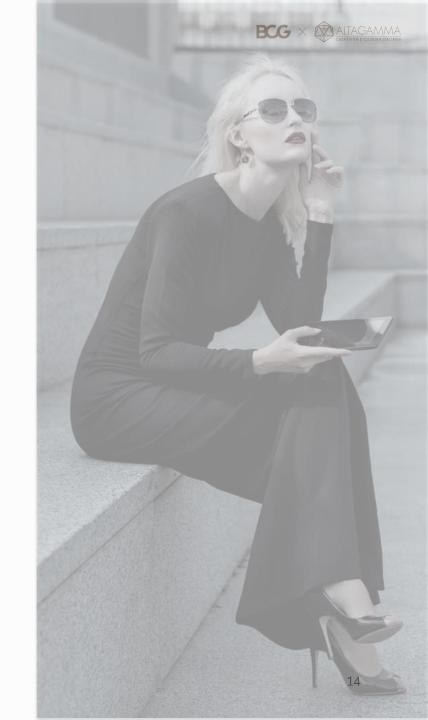
# Wealthiest customers are the key growth engine for the future

TOTAL TRUE-LU	XURY 61%	23%
5 k€ ENTRY ABS	solute 55%	17%
10 k€ ABSOLUTE	61%	21%
20 k€ TOP ABSOLUTE	40%	21%
50 k€ BEYOND MONEY	69%	33%
TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMERS CLUSTERS <sup>1</sup>	% FEEL FINANCIALLY BETTER OFF THAN A YEAR AGO	

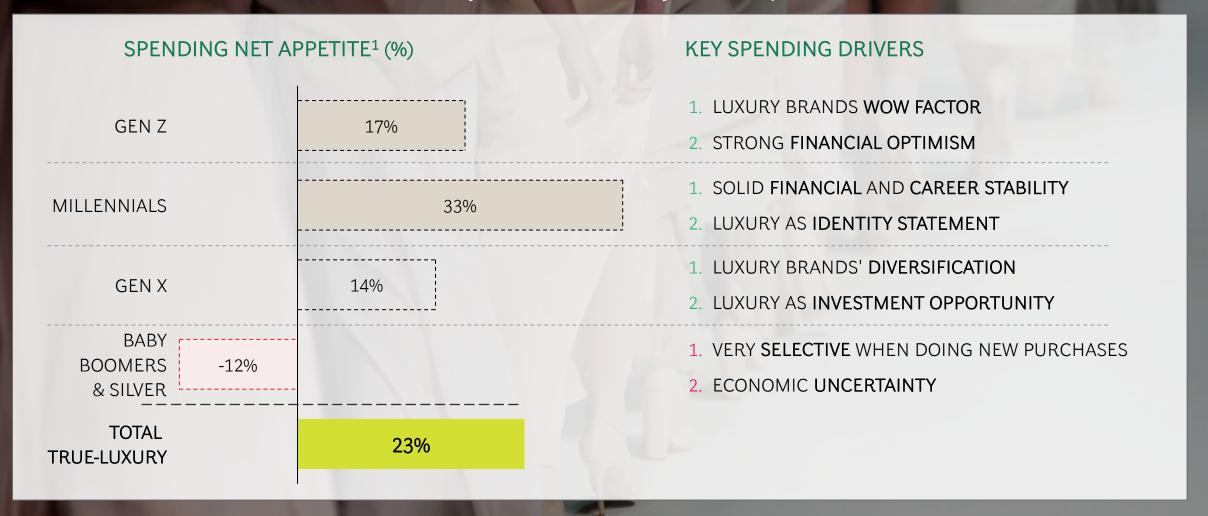
TOTAL TRUE-LUXURY 61% 23%

1. Based on annual spend in luxury which includes personal and experiential luxury, excluding cars, yachts, smartphones and smartwatches 2. Net appetite next 12 months: (% of a lot more + % of a bit more) – (% of a bit less + % of a lot less)

Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (12K respondents in 12 countries)



# Millennials show highest spending appetite, empowered by financial confidence & career stability, followed by the optimism of GenZers



<sup>1.</sup> Net appetite next 12 months: (% of a lot more + % of a bit more) – (% of a bit less + % of a lot less)
Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (12K respondents in 12 countries)
Note: Age group year of birth: Gen Z 1997-2005 – Millennial 1981-1996 – Gen X 1965-1980 – Baby Boomer 1946-1964 – Silver 1928-1945

#### MINDFUL SPENDING

True-Luxury consumers

are spending more,

exhibiting evolving

centric behavior

patterns and shifting

priorities towards more

mindful and wellbeing-

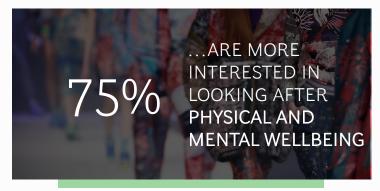
True-Luxury Consumers have higher standards and a more discerning mindset about spending behavior. They carefully consider their choices and seek out remarkable and distinctive elements





### WELLBEING-CENTRIC SPENDING

Consumers prioritize their physical and mental wellbeing, recognizing the importance of balancing their time and finances. Meaningful experiences and relationships are their priorities







# Chapter 2. TOP 10 TRENDS CEOs SHOULD STAY AHEAD OF

Snapshot of market, consumer and novel Luxury trends



#### Navigating the Luxury landscape: top 10 trends CEOs should stay ahead of

#### **EVOLVING MARKET REALITIES**

Plan to quickly react and setup to tackle challenges

- CHINA IS BACK, BUT
  PLAYBOOK IS DIFFERENT
  - KSA: IGNITE THE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL
- SHIFTS & OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SUPPLIER LANDSCAPE

#### SHIFTING CONSUMER PREFERENCES

Evolve to address consumers' needs, behaviors and taste

- LUXURY IN A CHANNEL-LESS AGE: TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMER STILL UNHAPPY
- DECODING THE GENERATIONAL DIVIDE
- SUSTAINABILITY & NEW OWNERSHIP MODELS ACCELERATION
- DOUBLE DOWN ON VIC VERY IMPORTANT CUSTOMERS VIA CLIENTELING 3.0

#### NEW(ISH) FRONTIERS REQUIRING INVESTMENT

Get prepared, experiment & invest (or be left behind)

公

- THE REVOLUTION OF GENERATIVE AI
- WEB3 & METAVERSE: VIRTUALIZATION OF FASHION & IDENTITY

10

SCALE MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

#### Top 10 trends CEOs should stay ahead of (I/IV) – Evolving Market Realities

#### **EVOLVING MARKET REALITIES**

CHINA IS BACK, BUT
PLAYBOOK IS DIFFERENT

China revamp is happening (15-20% expected growth in '23) with evolving dynamics compared to Pre-Pandemic:

- Increased local demand (82% in '23, unlikely to return to '19 level 45%)
- Thriving digital ecosystem (46% purchases online)
- Higher diversification in the consumer base with heavy spenders, younger & lower-tier cities driving growth

Brands should develop a new playbook to win the evolving consumers locally and internationally and recruit emerging groups, step-changing presence in the online ecosystem, reimagining online shopping experience and devising creative tactics across touchpoints (e.g., enrich Mini Programs, leverage localized content) KSA: IGNITE THE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

KSA is a key growth engine in Middle East, worth ~3B€ and projected to reach ~6B€ by '30 (+10-12% CAGR '22-30). This is driven by massive investments (>1T€) in local development (Vision 2030), internal pent-up demand (from ~40+% spend leakage today) and boost of luxury tourism, fostered by young (60%+ of <30y), heavy-spending, increasingly sophisticated, and digitalized KSA consumers (+17pp online penetration¹ vs avg. True-Luxury)

Specific strategy to capture growth in Saudi vs other GCC countries, incl. finding the **right local partner**, **upgrading product offer** to match international standards of the local **sophisticated consumer** and **enhancing retail footprint** to capitalize on new real estate giga-projects (e.g., Diriyah Gate)

SHIFTS & OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SUPPLIERS LANDSCAPE

Post-Covid supplier landscape has drastically changed. Increasing number of supply-focused investments & M&A both from suppliers, consolidating into specialized poles, & from brands selectively investing in upstream vertical integration. Due to rarity of competences & difficulty of access, reliable setup of local suppliers is increasingly crucial

Brand CEOs have the responsibility to actively react to shifting suppliers' dynamics, contributing to shape them. They should assess how to optimize supply chain, thinking strategically on the best make-buy setup to secure volumes, while maintaining flexibility and fostering a local made-in set-up

## Top 10 trends CEOs should stay ahead of (II/IV) – Shifting consumer preferences

#### SHIFTING CONSUMER PREFERENCES

LUXURY IN A CHANNEL- LESS AGE: TRUE- LUXURY CONSUMER STILL UNHAPPY

Luxury brands and industry experts have been actively discussing omnichannel journeys and the creation of truly seamless Customer Experiences for more than a decade. However, less than 50% of luxury consumers are truly satisfied with their overall experience.

Luxury brands have spent considerable time and resources perfecting the offline customer experience and in-store selling ceremony and, as a consequence, their in-store satisfaction level is ~x2 that of mass retailers. However, online ceremonies of luxury brands are greatly lagging behind, with luxury satisfaction level being ~ 0.8x that of mass players. This 'digital discontent' is created by two types of unmet needs: functional (like speed and availability) and emotional (like pampering & human reassurance). While functional issues are often in the forefront for both brands and customers, solving only functional tablestakes, will not allow brands to deliver a true luxury experience.

Current brand practices & misconceptions are, like the underestimation of touchpoints (which are ~x30 vs only 10 years ago) or silo-view of channels (while in reality >50% of journeys are multichannel) are further fueling the digital discontent.

In order to master CX in a channel-less age, brands will need to quickly fix the basics on functional aspects, leveraging the playbooks that are already in place and dedicating the necessary time, investments, and discipline to bridge the gap with "best in class" players on service efficiency, speed and reliability. In order to propel CX to new heights, brands will need to take the lead, writing the playbook on emotional step-change. To do so, every brand will need to strategically decide whether to "play defense" by hyper-specializing or "play offense" by hyper-personalizing. Hyper-specialization requires the definition of a specific, focused role for each touchpoint (based on its' strengths) and the guidance of each customer to the optimal touchpoint based on his or her needs. Hyper-personalization on the other hand, requires that all touchpoints are empowered to play every role and can be adapted (in real time) to individual customer needs. No matter which, in order for brands to master the new frontier of luxury experience, it is crucial not to revert back to the channel view: brands should always privilege a customer journey-view over a business channel-view.

## Top 10 trends CEOs should stay ahead of (III/IV) – Shifting consumer preferences

#### SHIFTING CONSUMER PREFERENCES

SUSTAINABILITY & NEW OWNERSHIP MODELS ACCELERATION

DOUBLE DOWN ON VIC - VERY IMPORTANT CUSTOMERS - VIA CLIENTELING 3.0

The generational surpass is finally happening: Young (Millennials & Gen Z) twice the size vs '16 and worth ~210B€ in '22, expected to almost double again by 2026. Therefore, there are 2 segments to address: Young spending more (+15% vs old), with positive future outlook (33% appetite of Millennials vs Olders -12%); Olders guaranteed growth (3x cum. spend in last 15y vs younger and 20x vs Gen Z) and worth ~190B€ today

DECODING THE GENERATIONAL DIVIDE

Brand purpose & responsibility non-negotiable anymore, accelerated by upcoming regulations especially in EU and relevance for consumers (65% influenced by Sustainability,+4pp vs 2019, 72% for Gen Z); appetite for new business models - renting & second-hand - continue to accelerate (65% interested in purchasing preowned luxury, +5pp vs 2019)

The top of the pyramid has consistently overgrown the bottom and the **2 wealthiest clusters** (Beyond Money & Top absolute), represent less than 1% of population, but account for ~**10% of sales.** Moreover, they are expected to grow at a faster rate (8+% CAGR '22-26 vs 6% avg. True-Luxury). As a consequence, the top segment ("Beyond Money") will triple in size by 2026 (vs 2016).

Looking forward, Brands should adopt a twostep strategy: in the short term, embrace a bifocal approach, capturing opportunities of both segments in the next decade with tailored solutions

In the mid-term, brands should **loyalize Gen Z & Millennials**, harvesting past years' overinvestments

ESG agenda should be pursued with urgency and, given the complexity of the landscape and the evolving regulatory environment, it is fundamental to join forces at Sector level, partnering with authorities & institutions

Key to selectively invest resources on the ESG topics which are the most impactful for each brand business model

Luxury brands have always focused on VIC, but nowadays they should place higher efforts to drive loyalty with increasingly demanding top clients, offering flawless experiences and reaching perfection in selling ceremonies, also leveraging AI-based tools to make a step change in clienteling and 1:1 personalized journeys

customers)

#### Top 10 trends CEOs should stay ahead of (IV/IV) New(ish) frontiers

#### NEW(ISH) FRONTIERS REQUIRING INVESTMENTS

THE REVOLUTION OF GENERATIVE AI

GEN AI has a tangible impact for Luxury, across (i)

**creativity** support and boost (e.g., content & product design), (iii) **complexity** & costs **reduction** (e.g., ops. &

hyper-personalization and CX enhancement, (ii)

logistics optimization) and (iv) manual tasks

automation. Specifically, GenAI will allow luxury

brands to overcome "reach vs depth" tradeoff:

scalable solutions for personalized treatments

offered to VIC only, could be extended to mid-

pyramid & aspirational customers (90%+ of Luxury

WEB3 & METAVERSE: VIRTUALIZATION OF FASHION & IDENTITY

Web3 still at early-stage in Luxury, and, despite being a new frontier, its adoption slowed down with long path ahead to mass market. However, it is expected to gain traction due to higher consumers' appetite (70+% current & prospective virtual fashion buyers) led by 2 driving engines, Young tech.

Pioneers and Escapers (e.g., from Middle East, India & Brazil) and due to higher investments in technology

#### **RELEVANT ACROSS ALL TRENDS**

SCALE MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

10

Scale has become a competitive advantage with Luxury Megabrands consistently growing ~3x vs luxury market, reaching 10-20+B€ revenues vs 2-5B€ of medium-sized brands. This is increasingly widening the gap with "followers" and contributing to strong polarization

Experiment with the technology, focusing on the highest potential business-led use cases and building technology muscle, while preparing the workforce and defining clear policies to protect the business

Since Web3 adoption is still lagging, but will definitely accelerate in the coming years, brands should be ready to capture upcoming opportunities, incl. gamified, immersive and community-based experiences which can boost consumer engagement ~5x vs traditional approach. This will allow to recruit new audiences, amplify content and nurture communities

Growth must be seen not only as a value creation source, but as an imperative to stay relevant in the market, unlocking ability to invest in marketing (i.e., digital media & content creation), retail (i.e., securing the best locations) and building an agile and AI & tech-backed operational machine.

Smaller brands should invest in creativity and find innovative channels to distinguish



# KSA: igniting the untapped potential

# The Middle East: a promising frontier of opportunities, with KSA as the regions' powerhouse, expected to double in size by 2026



#### THRIVING MARKET

Personal Luxury market in Middle East is expected to grow at >10% CAGR '22-'30

- UAE and KSA the main regional growth engines, with KSA worth ~3B€ in 2023 and projected to double in size and reach ~6B€ by '30 (+10-12% CAGR '22-30)
- Smaller markets will increasingly come into focus

#### OVERALL GROWTH DRIVERS

- 1. Increased demand from local young generations, better informed and connected
- 2. **Inbound tourism** mainly boosted by leisure development
- 3. Development of retail stores and malls
- 4. International brands with dedicated offering (collaborations, collections, events...)





#### Two main drivers fueling KSA Luxury market growth...

Why KSA is

a key

frontier of

growth for

Market (I/II)

Luxury

#### INTERNAL PENT-UP DEMAND

**Penetration:** Saudi luxury retail trails behind benchmarks. with strong room to expand

7% vs 26%

% Luxury Retail Market Penetration KSA vs Western Europe<sup>1</sup>

**Spend leakage:** Saudis tend to spend a lot on Luxury shopping when travelling outside of Kingdom

42%

Spend leakage abroad

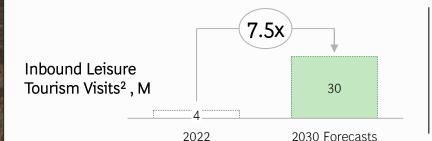
Positive future spending outlook

47% vs 39%

% True-luxury consumers expect to spend more over the next year KSA vs avg. total True-Luxury

#### SURGE IN HIGH-END TOURISM

Several high-end tourism destinations expected to open in the next five years (e.g., Diriyah Gate, Red Sea), with the objective to bring "heavy-spending" tourists to KSA



tourism-related giga-projects expected to receive  $5-10M^3$ cumulative visits by 2030

1.Based on 2021 data 2. Number of visits not including Religious, MICE and VFR segments 3. Including only the forecasted visits 25 from leisure tourism, assuming 4-7 nights stay Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr 2023 (12K); Saudi Tourism Authority; Euromonitor; GlobalData; Giga-projects press releases; Desk Research; BCG expert interviews

#### ...coupled with local development & favorable demographics

#### VISION 2030: SAUDI ARABIA BEYOND BORDERS



Strategic plan that aims to transform Saudi Arabia into a world-class destination for businesses and consumers. Designed to promote economic diversification, with massive investments (>1T€) spanning across different sectors, incl. infrastructure, healthcare, education, tourism, transportation, technology and digitalization

#### **REGULATORY EVOLUTION**

Recent regulatory changes and reforms are increasing the attractiveness for international brands to conduct business locally; opportunities to ease new business developments are being explored

#### LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Development of **retail stores** and **malls** to drive the **domestic spend** 

+500k sqm in Riyad three flagship locations<sup>3</sup>

+90% mall supply by '27 vs '22 reaching ~15Mn sqm

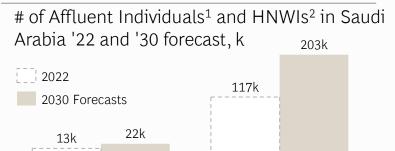
#### **DEMOGRAPHIC CONTRIBUTORS**

#### YOUNG MARKET

60%+

of Saudi population below 30 years old, highly informed and connected

#### STRONG CONCENTRATION OF HNWIS



HNWIS Affluent Adults
1.High-Net-Worth-Individual: net wealth between \$5-\$50M 2. Affluent individuals: net wealth between \$1-\$5M 3. KAFD, Diriyah Gate and

Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr 2023; Euromonitor; Press Research; Reuters; BCG expert interviews

Why KSA is a key frontier of growth for Luxury Market (II/II)



#### KSA Luxury consumer: young, sophisticated, techy and seeking innovation

# CONSUMER

- Young local consumers highly digitalized and technology-savvy
- •Solid appetite for future increase in luxury spend (30% vs. 23% globally net appetite<sup>1</sup>), fueled by young generations
- •Strong concentration of rich spenders with ~130K with a net wealth >\$1M
- •Well travelled, aware of global luxury brands, while connected to their heritage and culture, appreciating local brands

# PRODUCTS & VALUES

- Beauty, Watches & Jewelry the categories with the highest expected increase in spend (net appetite 89% for Perfumes, 88% Watches)
- •Strong appetite for smart & technological products (~60% vs. ~40% avg. True-Luxury)
- Pioneers in immersive virtual fashion purchasing (65% vs. 47% avg. True-Luxury net appetite<sup>1</sup>)
- •~75% consider sustainability for luxury purchases (vs. ~65% avg. True-Luxury)



- Multi-channel growth: mall the preferred purchase channel, yet sales on e-com expected to drive future growth (+17pp online penetration<sup>2</sup> avg. True-Luxury avg. True-Luxury)
- •KSA luxury retail mainly located in **six** malls in Riyadh, Jeddah and Dammam
- •Social media the main source of information for luxury purchases (~50%), followed by brand websites (~20%)
- •Thriving second-hand market: ~45% vs. ~30% avg. True-Luxury

## KSA is a peculiar market, requiring a specific approach for Luxury brands vis-à-vis UAE and other GCC countries

#### FIND THE RIGHT LOCAL PARTNER

A local partner is required to succeed, and different set-ups could be chosen, depending on the target growth and brand size. Typically:

- 1. New entrants rely on franchise model for a phased entry, through local (like AlMalki and Saudi Jawahir) or regional distributor (like Chalhoub and Al Tayer Insigna)
- 2. Once the brand gained a solid footprint, direct presence or joint venture could be adopted to strengthen presence

#### EXPLORE FOOTPRINT EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES

### Expand the footprint to new large-scale real estate developments

- 1. Existing downtown locations (e.g., KAFD and Diriyah Gate)
- 2. New tourist destinations (e.g., Red Sea, Al Ula and Qiddiya)
- 3. Duty-free gateways (e.g., new airport hub in Riyadh for business travels, Jeddah airport hub, cruise terminals and key land border crossings such as King Fahd Causeway

#### MATCH LUXURY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

#### Provide a comprehensive product portfolio

- 1. Include in the assortment the latest product innovations and limited-edition capsules, often not available to Saudi customers
- 2. Portfolio upgrade will unlock the unmet domestic demand of well-travelled Saudi consumers, reducing the dispersion of luxury spend abroad

#### ADDRESS LOCAL & CULTURAL RELEVANCE

### Adjust product mix to reflect local preferences and cultural norms

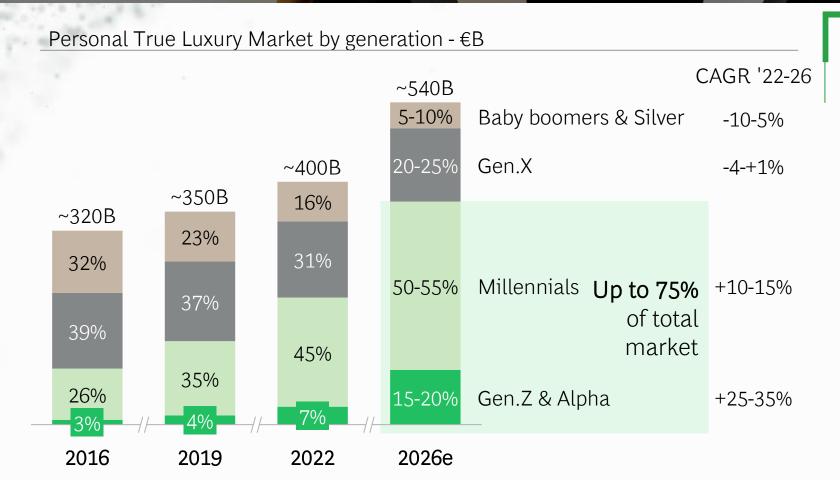
- 1. Ensure local adaptation of the assortment, incl. for ex. broader portfolio for accessories, fewer RTW options for women, ad hoc flavors for perfumes
- 2. Tailor product & marketing calendar to key local holidays:
  Develop customized campaigns, windows, events for local festive seasons incl. the two EIDs

Source: BCG expert interviews 30



# Decoding the generational divide

#### Next Gens here | Millennials and Gen Z driving the growth

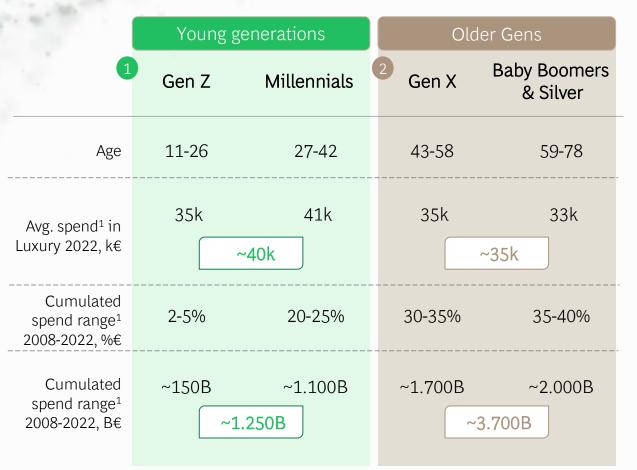


Millennials and Gen Z are digitally influencing the luxury market and driving its growth

#### **KEY DRIVERS**

- 1. High average spend per person, especially Gen Z, who starts to purchase luxury items at a younger age compared to previous generations
- 2. Average 25y consumer in 2022 spending more than the avg. 25y consumer in 2015 due to overall increasing wealth and higher influence around luxury products
- 3. Brands increasingly focusing their efforts on recruiting younger generations, allocating majority of their marketing investments to digital channels

# Young lead growth today, yet Older Gens invested over time and should not be neglected in short-term



+15% average spend 2022
Younger vs Older Gens

3x cumulated spend in last 15 years
Older Gens vs Younger
Gens and 20X vs Gen Z

Today, two segments of generations are both sizeable and relevant to address, contributing to brand value in different ways

- 1 Younger Gens exhibit higher average spending per person and are the potential future growth drivers
- 2 Older Gens are the loyal customers brands have recruited over time, who have consistently invested for years and contributed its success

<sup>1.</sup> Personal Luxury spend includes apparel, footwear, accessories, leather goods, beauty, jewelry (branded and unbranded) and watches Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (12K respondents in 12 countries); BCG Fashion & Luxury Market Model as of June 2023 Note: Age group year of birth: Gen Z 1997-2005 – Millennial 1981-1996 – Gen X 1965-1980 – Baby Boomer 1946-1964 – Silver 1928-1945; Younger Gens: Gen Z + Millennials Silver

#### Some clear differences across the two segments...

#### Younger gens

#### Older gens

#### Customer journey interactions

#### Tech -

adoption (% Showing appetite towards Metaverse & Virtual Fashion)

#### **Technological** pioneer

~60%

#### Strong sense of Community

Peers' and community's judgement ranked as top sources of guidance & information

#### TOP 1 REASON WHY POSITIVELY IMPACTED

39% Possibility to discover new  $\sim$ luxury collections in Metaverse

#### Confidence in Professionals

Professionals' reassurance & recommendations (e.g., sales staff) ranked as top sources of guidance & information

#### Tech – agnostic

TOP 1 REASON WHY **NEGATIVELY IMPACTED** 

36% Virtual fashion too far from traditional luxury experience

#### New ownership business models

#### New ownership models adopter

Have or are interested in renting luxury items

Have sold second-hand luxury items

#### Ownership oriented

Have or are interested in renting luxury items

Have sold second-hand luxury items

#### Influence of sustainability

(% influenced by sustainability when making luxury purchases)

TOP DISTINCTIVE SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

- Animal welfare
- 2. Social causes support

TOP DISTINCTIVE SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

- 1. Mindful use of resources
- 2. Sustainable innovation

...However, each generation displays very distinct peculiarities Luxury brand's values **Product categories** Personal Luxury Experiential Luxury Social Media channels

Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (12K respondents in 12 countries)

#### Values differ significantly across generations: innovation & sustainability core for younger, while timeless and unique experience for older

Top 10 values by Generation – Top 1 ranked

	Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Baby Boomers & Silver
	1. SUPERIOR QUALITY	1. SUPERIOR QUALITY	1. SUPERIOR QUALITY	1. SUPERIOR QUALITY
	2. REWARD FOR MYSELF 🚷	2. INNOVATION	2. EXCLUSIVITY	2. CRAFTSMANSHIP
	3. EXCLUSIVITY	3. EXCLUSIVITY	3. REWARD FOR MYSELF 🔯	3. TIMELESS
	4. CRAFTSMANSHIP	4. BRAND VISIBILITY	4. CRAFTSMANSHIP	4. REWARD FOR MYSELF 🔯
	5. INNOVATION	5. SUSTAINABILITY	5. TIMELESS	5. EXCLUSIVITY
	6. SUSTAINABILITY	6. CRAFTSMANSHIP	6. BRAND VISIBILITY	6. A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE 🟡
	7. TIMELESS	7. TIMELESS	7. A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE 😭	7. HERITAGE
	8. AN IDENTITY STATEMENT	8. COOL/SEXY	8. ADORNED AESTHETICS 🔯	8. AN IDENTITY STATEMENT
Shared values across gens	9. COOL/SEXY	9. REWARD FOR MYSELF	9. INNOVATION	9. BRAND VISIBILITY
Gen distinctive values	10. BRAND ICONIC PATTERNS	10. BRAND ICONIC PATTERNS	10. COOL/SEXY	10. SUSTAINABILITY



# Among Personal Luxury, higher spending of Gen Z on Tech Devices and Virtual Fashion, while Gen X on Watches and Baby Boomers on Formal

	Δ Yearly avg. spend by category vs Avg. True-Luxury	Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Baby Boomers & Silver	Cosmetics # of consumers who purchased 2022
BEAUTY & PERSONAL	PERFUMES	-14%	2%	1%	1%	Gen Z 1.4X
	COSMETICS	-5%	0%	1%	7%	
CARE	LASER AND INJECTABLES	4%	2%	-7%	4%	Baby Boomers
	SPORTSWEAR	-4%	-1%	4%	-1%	& Silver
CASUALWEAR	KNITWEAR & SWEATERS	-16%	4%	-2%	-8%	3 3117 31
& SPORTS	LOUNGEWEAR	-11%	0%	2%	7%	
& SFORTS	OUTERWEAR	-19%	3%	1%	-9%	lowolny
	PANTS & SKIRTS	-17%	0%	4%	5%	Jewelry
⇔ FODMANIA/FAD	DRESSES & SUITS	-1%	-2%	3%	10%	Penetration of GenZ
FORMALWEAR	SHIRTS & TOPWEAR	-3%	3%	-2%	-16%	54% vs 48% Avg True-
	SILK GOODS	-2%	-3%	7%	2%	Luxury consumer
** IIADD IIIVIIDV	JEWELRY	-15%	3%	0%	-5%	1
💍 HARD LUXURY	WATCHES	-19%	2%	3%	-5%	LG & ACCESSORIES
	SHOES	-21%	5%	-3%	-12%	Despite lower <b>Gen Z</b>
← LG¹ & ACCESSORIES	HANDBAGS & SMALL LG <sup>1</sup>	-16%	6%	-8%	0%	spending vs other
	SUNGLASSES	-9%	1%	2%	-7%	gens, very high
	SMARTPHONES & TABLETS	7%	1%	-2%	-9%	penetration
	SMART WATCHES	5%	2%	-8%	-7%	penetration
■ OTHER LUXURY	CARS	-4%	1%	-2%	1%	60% Gen Z
GOODS	INVESTED IN NFT	22%	-5%	7%	-5%	OO 70 Gen 2
GOOD3	LUXURY BOATS & YACHTS	-12%	2%	0%	0%	consumers purchased LG
	PURCHASED VIRTUAL FASHION	30%	0%	-4%	-11%	& accessories in 2022



# Among Experiential Luxury, older generations craving for private experiences, particularly Wellness & Spa and Luxury Hotels

. 10	Δ Υε	early avg. spend by category vs Avg. True-Luxury	Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Baby Boomers & Silver
	*	DESIGN FURNITURE	-10%	3%	-4%	-4%
10	EXPERIENTIAL	LIGHTING	-5%	2%	-3%	0%
	PRODUCTS	HOME TECHNOLOGY	10%	0%	-4%	0%
		ART GOODS	-14%	3%	4%	-18%
		RESTAURANTS	-7%	-3%	7%	6%
	PRIVATE EXPERIENCE	WINES & SPIRITS	-19%	-1%	4%	16%
Ĭ		PRIVATE ACCOMODATION	4%	-2%	2%	14%
		WELLNESS & SPA	-12%	-2%	2%	27%
		RENT LUXURY BOATS	-1%	-1%	1%	6%
		HOTELS	-10%	-2%	-1%	25%
SOCIAL EXPERIENCE	CRUISE VACATIONS	-9%	0%	0%	13%	
	RESORT VACATIONS	-7%	0%	1%	1%	
	LAFLITILINGL	LUXURY BARS & CLUBS	-7%	4%	-4%	-9%

Luxury Bar & Clubs
# of consumers
who purchased
2022

Gen Z

1.2x Millennials Also, social media channels adoption differs significantly, with TikTok top 1 for Gen Z

#### Top 5 social media to interact with luxury brands

(% consumers who ranked from 1 to 5)

Gen Z	Millennials	Gen X	Baby Boomers & Silver
1 48% TIKTOK	46% FACEBOOK	48% FACEBOOK	47% FACEBOOK
2 42% INSTAGRAM	39% INSTAGRAM	38% INSTAGRAM	38% YOUTUBE
3 39% FACEBOOK	36% TIKTOK	36% YOUTUBE	29% INSTAGRAM
4 34% YOUTUBE	36% YOUTUBE	33% TIKTOK	25% TIKTOK
5 26% WHATSAPP	19% WHATSAPP	20% TWITTER	22% TWITTER



# Different strategies for Brands required in the

short and mid-term

## **TODAY**

Adopt different strategies for product, social media and marketing, understanding the profound differences across generations

Capture the opportunities of both gens' segments:

- Overinvest on the Young which represent the bulk of growth in order to recruit them
- Nurture and capitalize on the Old ones who have built your brand over the years

## **MID-TERM**

Gain profound understanding of Gen Z & Millennials' peculiarities, fundamental to reap the rewards of the recruitment investments

However, demographic only the first step to understand customers' – personalization & GEN AI allow much more sophisticated strategies around behavioral clusters & personas



## The revolution of Generative Al



## Generative AI is a new step in the Artificial Intelligence evolution

GenAI is a new and upcoming technology ...

... with high potential for disruption

## Artificial Intelligence



the field of computer science that seeks to create intelligent machines that can replicate or exceed human intelligence

### Machine Learning



subset of AI that enables machines to learn from existing data and improve upon that data to make decisions or predictions

## Deep Learning

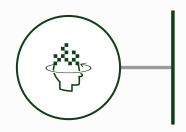


a machine learning technique in which layers of neural networks are used to process data and make decisions

### Generative Al



create new written, visual, and auditory content given prompts or existing data



GenAI can create fully original text, images, audio and more, in seconds

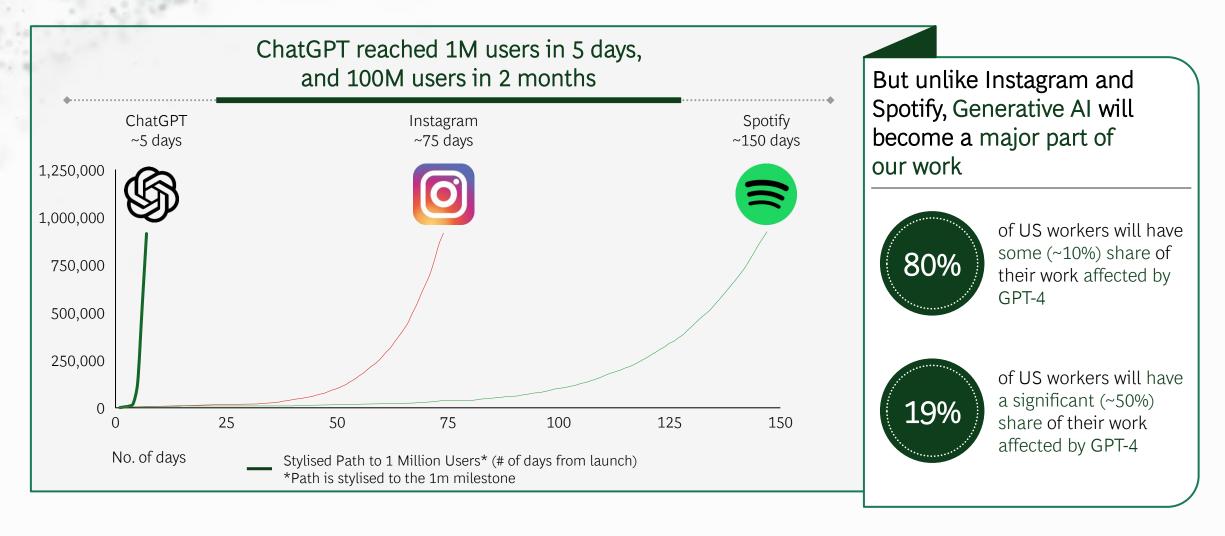


GenAI matures at unprecedented speeds, model applications and parameters have skyrocketed

Source: BCG Analysis



## It is rapidly becoming a part of our personal and professional lives



## GenAI is already having a transformative effect on many industries and is being prioritized by executives

The new technology's impact across industries is booming..

Technology

~88%

Of software developers reported higher productivity when using a Generative AI code assistant<sup>1</sup>

Insurance

~30%

Reduction of customer service costs for InsureTech platforms leveraging GenAI

Biopharma

21 days

Needed for Generative AI to identify a novel drug candidate for the treatment of IPF (vs. years with traditional methods)<sup>2</sup>

Retail

1.5X

Increase in retailer conversion rate<sup>3</sup> caused by automated on-model image generation

... and likely to see rapid adoption and massive investments

~\$20B+

of committed VC funding for Generative AI in the last three years alone<sup>4</sup>

67%

of senior IT leaders are prioritizing Gen AI within the next 18 months<sup>5</sup>

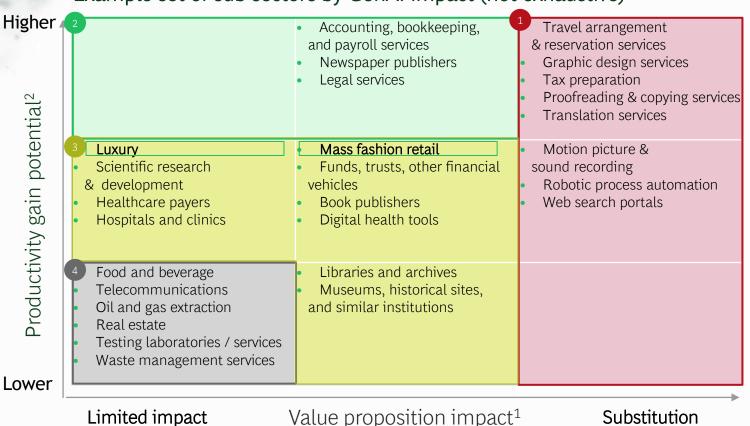
45%

of executive leaders reported ChatGPT has prompted them to increase their AI investments<sup>6</sup>



## GenAI will most disrupt content & knowledge industries – more traditional sectors like Luxury will be greatly impacted but less disrupted

Example set of sub-sectors by GenAI impact (not exhaustive)



- 1 Fundamentally disrupted sub-sectors in which value proposition has been changed, and new products / services have emerged
- 2 Highly-impacted sub-sectors focused on knowledge or content generation, where GenAl can replace / automate large portions of operations and service
- 3 Moderately-impacted sub-sectors, where many tasks can be automated, but value is provided in the form of a product or face-to-face service
- 4 Low / no impact due to high dependence on physical products, infrastructure, or face-to-face service delivery

Note: Very few industries are at risk of full substitution, but individual sub-sectors and companies may be displaced

<sup>1</sup> Top-line impacts due to improved or new products and services; 2. Greater productivity per head, driving reduced costs or improved quality of outputs & delivery

Source: BCG Analysis, Expert Interviews, GPTs are GPTs: An Early Look at the Labor Market Impact Potential of Large Language Models (arXiv:2303.10130); BCG Perspective on GenAI Impact in PE (23)



## GenAI offers four opportunities to impact the luxury industry in the immediate future











**HYPER-PERSONALIZE & ENHANCE CX** 

**AUGMENT & ASSIST CREATIVITY** 

REDUCE COMPLEXITY & COSTS

STREAMLINE & **ENHANCE MANUAL TASKS** 



E.g., Personalized product suggestions, based on conversations with GenAl chatbot

E.g., Ideation & generation of visual marketing content (e.g., social media post creation)

E.g., Bill of material standardization

E.g., Automate and streamline online product description creation

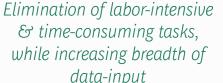




Reinvention of customer experiences, ensuring personalization & 'human touch' off-& online

Quick generation of countless variations of designs, content ideas to help keep up with demands of internet

Transformation of core processes, with impact productivity gains & reduction of complexity





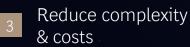
Applications of GenAI in Luxury to transform core processes & reinvent customer experiences

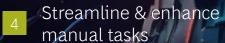
Customer segmentation at scale Customer & product trend analysis and forecasting Personalized marketing campaign ₩ creation Marketing content generation Marketing | (e.g., images, posts) CRM & Hyper-Virtual assistants with human "touch" personalization Photo-realistic virtual try-ons Personalized product recommendations \( \frac{1}{2} \) Personalized product descriptions Support to product ideation, design generation and conversion of sketches ₹ Product design to 3D models & Innovation Customization of products at scale

Supplier knowledge base & search engine Supply chain & logistics Warehouse operations & inventory mgmt. Store layout & space optimization Store location / market selection Retail & Store Augmented sales team through AI coaches operations Localized store assortment allocation Dynamic pricing & promo optimization Support functions Legal, finance & HR process optimization Potential to revolutionize product ideation & design

Hyper-personalize & enhance CX

Augment & assist creativity







through AI stronger for mass fashion players than

luxury players



## Reach vs richness | GenAI might allow Luxury brands to overcome the trade-off, creating scalable solutions for personalized VIC treatment

Until now luxury brands had to face a trade off between depth of services and scalability...

Luxury consumers Clusters

Beyond Money (2-3M customers)

Dedicated VIC teams catering to customers' needs with an exclusive concierge service

Top absolute & entry absolute (~20M customers)

Store associates with personal relationship & dedicated contact centers

Aspirational (~350M customers)

Retail store, immersive live

commerce (1 to many), social

media contact centers

...but through GenAI, some aspects of personalized VIC services could be extended to mid-pyramid & aspirational customers

Examples of client facing use cases



Personalized Content creation: images, posts for social media, tailored to customer's preferences



Personalized product recommendations & hyperrealistic virtual try on: in-store feeling also online



Conversational shopping: browsing & shopping through natural language conversation with a generative AI assistant



Augmented clienteling in store: boost in-store personalized experience for non-VIC clients



## Executives must make choices across three key pillars

#### **POTENTIAL**

Which use cases will differentiate your organization?

1

Discover your strategic advantage through experimentation

- CEOs need to experiment, discovering & deciding on the company's optimal use cases
- When use cases are identified, design a fast & reliable implementation approach
- Ensure long-term advantage through investment in talent and infrastructure

### **PEOPLE**

How should CEOs adapt org structures and prepare employees for deployment? 7

Prepare your workforce with strategic workforce planning and transforming of models

- CEOs will need to address key org questions for change management, talent and operating models
- Generative AI will redefine roles and responsibilities across the organization & CEOs need to develop a strategic workforce plan

### **POLICIES**

How will the company ensure ethical guardrails and legal protections are in place?

3

Protect your business with clear policies that address the limitations of GenAI

- Generative AI presents critical risks, which companies will need to prepare for, by preparing clear policies and training that define roles and responsibilities on how to use GenAI
- CEOs should ensure the organization adapts responsible AI norms for long term risk mitigation

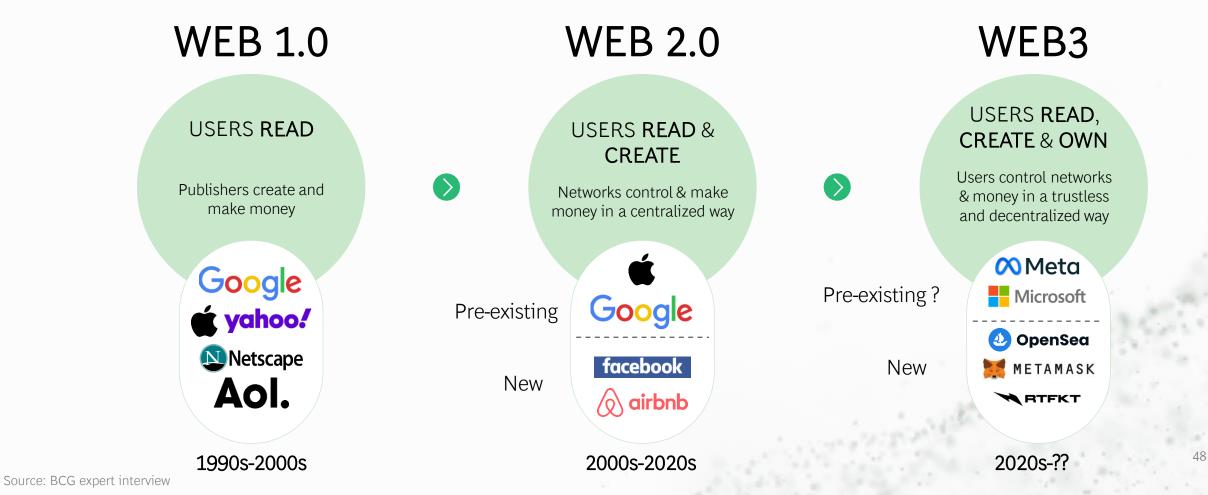
Source: BCG Analysis







## Web3 is the envisioned next version of the internet, centered around user control



## Web3 unfolds in three intertwined concepts and technologies



## The market is still at its nascent stage...

#### **STATUS**



VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE (E.G., SOCIAL GAMING, METAVERSE WORLDS)



Gaming is a thriving market, while metaverse platforms still facing tech. & graphics weaknesses



**IMMERSIVE TECH DEVICES** (AR/VR/XR)



High growth potential, but tech. development and adoption level still lagging



**WEB 3 ECONOMY INFRASTRUCTURE** (E.G., NFT, CRYPTO, BLOCKCHAIN)



Strong base of Early Adopters, but not yet permeated mass market



Very preliminary experiments of applications integrating all the three pillars



Advanced stage

## ...with some challenges to face

## LACK OF INTERCONNECTION

Data exchanges between multiple virtual worlds are complex, making presence on different platforms not user-friendly

### PARTIALLY DEFINED BUSINESS MODELS

Effective monetization strategies and synergy creation with core business still to b developed

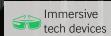
### REGULATORY UNCERTAINTY

Regulations around consumer data protection in Web3 still evolving

### LOW UTILIZED DIGITAL CONTENT

Short and highly-codified digital formats, usually exported with low quality to social media

## However, 3 key reasons to believe there is a strong potential to be unlocked









### **GROWING INVESTMENT IN TECHNOLOGY**

Tech giants are increasingly investing in Web3 development, launching tech. products to enhance its features, applications & experiences







**\$70B** Microsoft acquisition of Activision Blizzard, US videogame manufacturer & distributor

+\$10B Meta annual plan investment in metaverse

\$13B total global VC & PE investments in metaverse in 2021

**Apple Vision Pro** announcement release in 2024





Available early next year in the U.S.



### PROMISING BUSINESS **OPPORTUNITY**

Several effective B2B and B2C use cases and applications have potential for generating new business opportunities across industries







**\$60B** total market in game purchases 2021

**\$250M** daily NFTs<sup>1</sup> trading volume at peak

+20% '22-'27 CAGR Global Enterprise AR market

How the Metaverse Can Transform Education

By Nick Clegg, President, Global Affairs

**Augmented Reality Guides Surgeries for Johns Hopkins Patients** 



## **INCREASING CONSUMER APPETITE & ADOPTION**

Consumers spending more time socializing, creating and expressing themselves in immersive social spaces







**87%** of Gen Z and Millennials True-Luxury consumers engaged in video games

**71%** of Gen Z and Millennials True-Luxury consumers active/interested to be in metaverse

**X2.5** daily chat messages sent on Roblox vs Messenger





In-depth investigation of True-Luxury consumers detailed next

1. Not fungible token 2. Monthly Active Users

Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (12K respondents in 12 countries); Press search; BCG expert interview

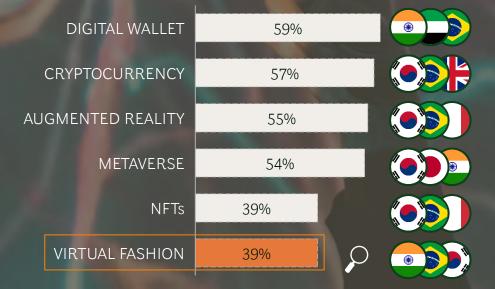
3 Despite the current technological lag, Luxury Consumers are increasingly aware and showing appetite for Virtual Fashion, NFTs & VR

### **CONSUMER AWARENESS**

There is rising awareness among True-Luxury Consumers for new technologies, particularly in South Korea, India and Brazil

"Which of the following new technologies have you heard of?"

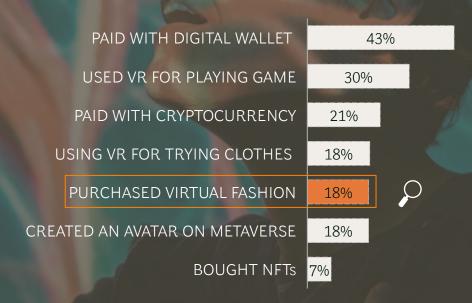




### APPETITE FOR VIRTUAL FASHION & IDENTITY

1/5 of True Luxury Consumers have paid with Cryptocurrency, purchased virtual fashion and have been active on the metaverse

"Which of the following new technologies have you used in the last 12 months?"





## Limited purchases so far, yet 70%+ as potential buyers...



71%

**CURRENT & PROSPECTIVE** VIRTUAL FASHION BUYERS



4%

55% INTERESTED

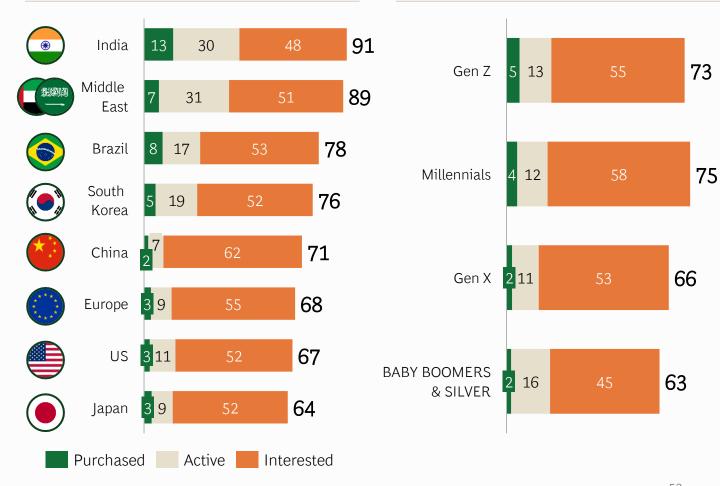
**PURCHASED** 

NOT 29% INTERESTED

## ...mainly Indian, Middle Eastern and Brazilian young gens



#### % CURRENT & PROSPECTIVE BY GEN



53

Note: Middle East includes UAE and KSA – Graphs refer to all respondents – % not interested Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (12K respondents in 12 countries)





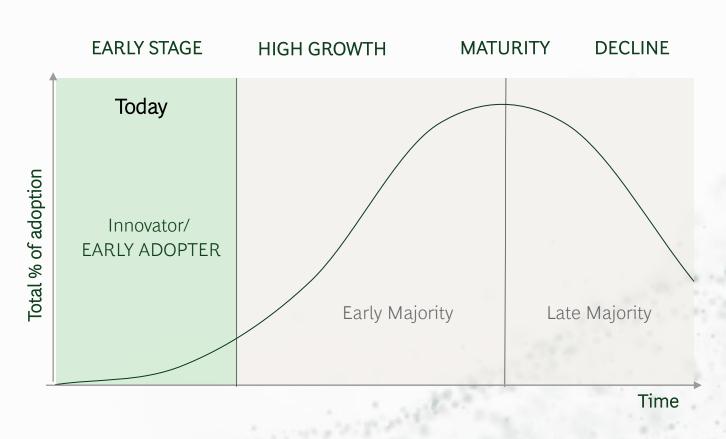
## In the current early-staged market, Early Adopters are young gens' tech pioneers and Escapers; still long path ahead to reach mass market

As of today, virtual fashion still for **Early Adopters** 

We see **two types of customers** currently active on metaverse:

- 1. Young gens Tech. Pioneers: very young technology enthusiasts
- 2. Escapers: individuals who seek to escape from underwhelming realities, immersing in alluring virtual worlds

**Faster adoption** growth to happen once the **technology** will provide fully immersive, captivating experiences







## However, 3 positive signals from customers on future evolution of Virtual Fashion





### **FUTURE INCREASE IN SPENDING**

### POSITIVE BRAND PERCEPTION

## RELEVANCE OF VIRTUAL IDENTITY ALSO FOR THE PHYSICAL WORLD

Despite current low purchase rate, **54%** of consumers stated their spend will increase over the next year, especially young generations

% of true luxury consumers that expected to increase spending in virtual fashion over next year

<40y >40y

61% 41%

Consumers perceive metaverse-active brands as cooler



of true luxury consumers have positive perception for brands developing virtual fashion

#### **KEY DRIVERS**

1. CHANCE TO DISCOVER NEW LUXURY COLLECTIONS AND EXPERIENCES

2. CHANCE TO **BETTER EXPRESS PERSONAL STYLE** THROUGH DIGITAL PERSONAS

Consumers highly value their virtual identity and recognize strong connection between choices in the physical world and avatar customization

90%

think that their virtual identity is important

88%

say that they get physical style inspiration from dressing their avatars

85%

say that their avatars dress at least somewhat like in real lifestyle

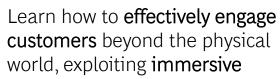


## HOW WEB3 IMPROVE LUXURY CX



Gamified content & presence in immersive worlds contribute to strengthen brand awareness and purchase intent

#### **NEXT STEPS FOR LUXURY BRANDS**



customers beyond the physical world, exploiting immersive experiences as recruitment channel for young audience



Immersive 3D-AR/VR applications provide luxury customers with engaging **experiences** throughout the marketing funnel, especially boosting conversion



Amplify marketing and content creation by incorporating 3D-AR/VR devices and smartphone augmentation solutions



Web3 tech-enabled communities are far more engaged than Web2 equivalents, showing path for brands to boost loyalty and advocacy

Create their own Web3 community and provide unique token-based experiences to nurture relationships with target audiences



Moreover, brands should be ready for a future where these 3 pillars are integrated together

What's next for

**Luxury Brands:** 

and community-

based experiences

can boost consumer

engagement ~5X vs

traditional approach

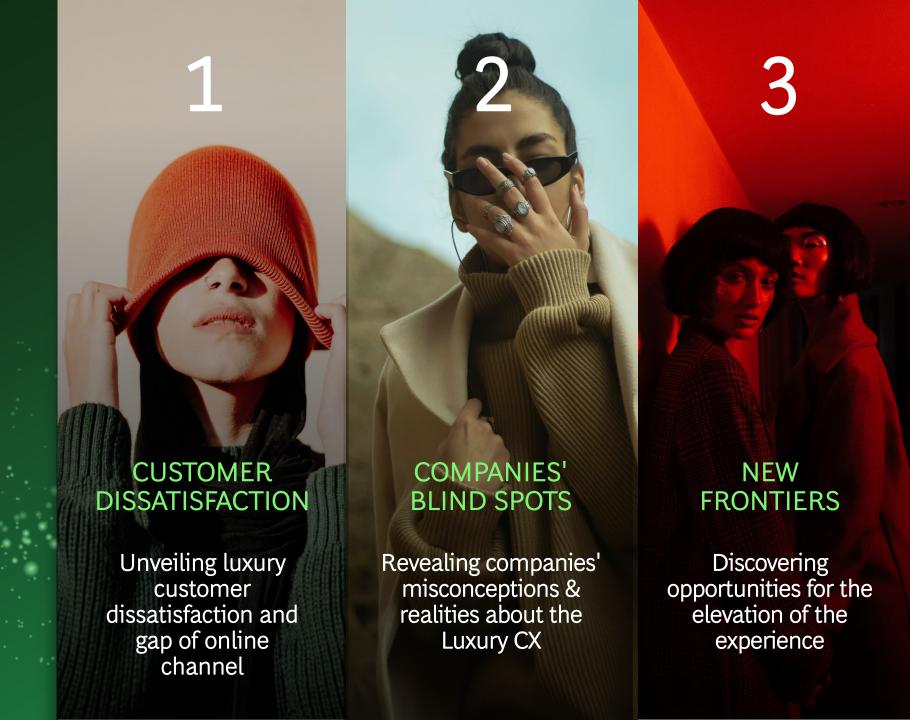
gamified, immersive

Chapter 3. LUXURY IN A CHANNEL-LESS AGE: TRUE-LUXURY CONSUMER STILL UNHAPPY

The new frontier of Luxury experience



Zoom into Luxury customer experience



Zoom into Luxury customer experience



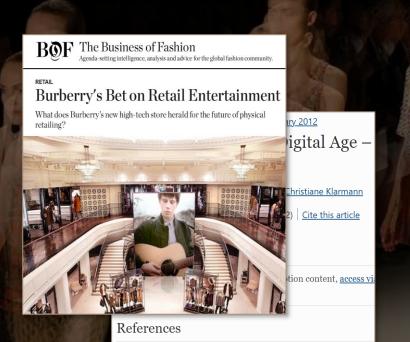
COMPANIES'
BLIND SPOTS

Revealing companies' misconceptions & realities about the Luxury CX

NEW RONTIERS

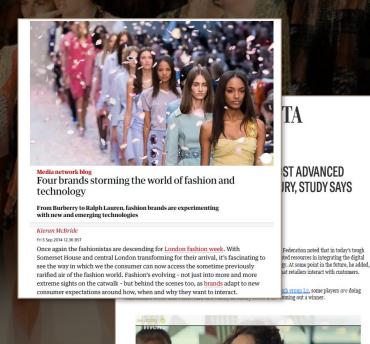
Discovering opportunities for the elevation of the experience

## We've been talking about omnichannel for more than a decade ...



Atwal, G./Williams, A. (2009): Luxury Brand Marketing -

Everything!, in: Journal of Brand Management, 16, 5/6, p





increasingly omnichannel world.

Omnichannel marketing means closing gaps in experiences across

presence, luxury brands are faced with the challenge of adapting to an

channels to offer a seamless, unified brand experience across devices and internation brand, as it has existed for the past few decades, feels ancient in the modern fashion industry.

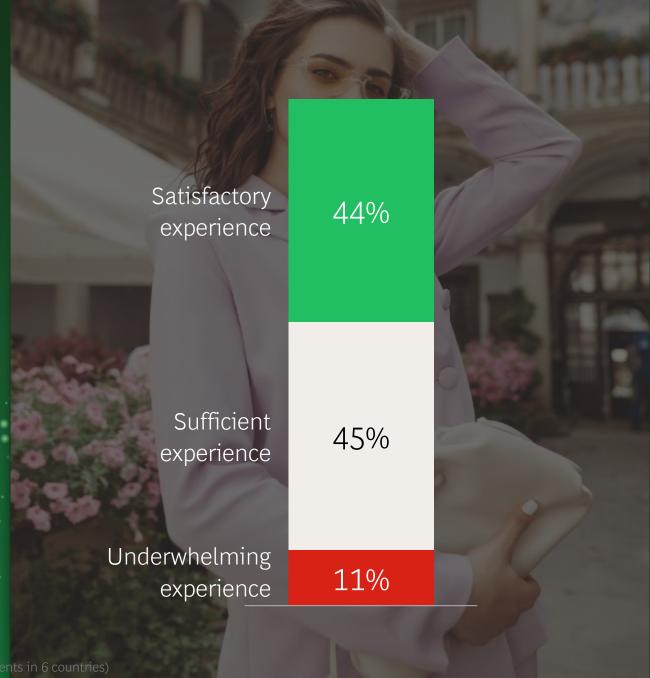
decades, reels ancient in the modern fashion mudsary.

In fashion, the term "diffusion brand" means a secondary line by a well-known designer. (Think Marc by Marc Jacobs, CK by Calvin Klein.) They are intended to reach a younger, aspirational demographic with lower price points and

2012 2014 and so on..

# ...yet customers are still not happy

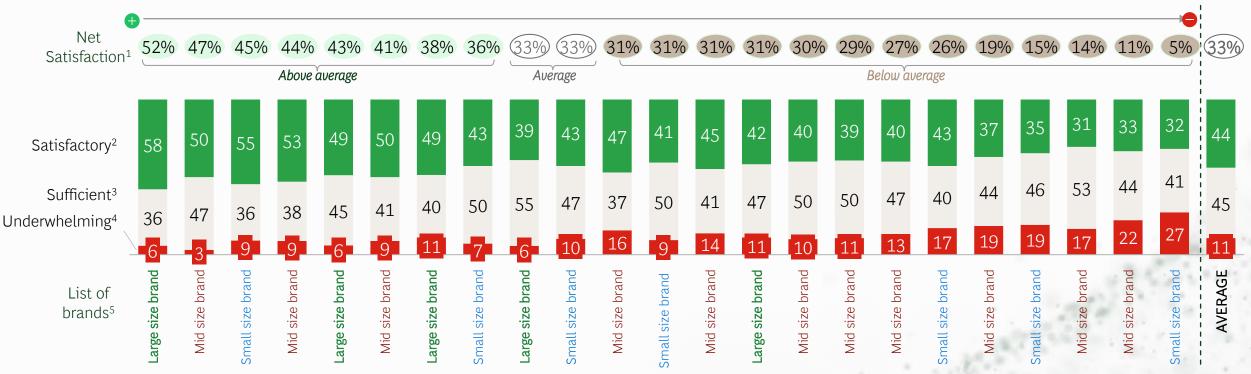
Less than half of Luxury consumers are truly satisfied with their overall experience and feel it was above expectations



## Brand temperature check | All brands struggle to reach Net Satisfaction Score above 50 and huge satisfaction gaps exist among peers

Think about the expectations you had at the beginning of your purchase experience. How much was the actual experience of buying the luxury item in line with your initial expectations?

## Satisfaction on last purchase (online & offline) by brand, %



Note: Included only Brands with at least 30 respondents who have purchased from them

<sup>1.</sup> Net Satisfaction = % Above Expectations - % Below Expectations; 2. Above expectations 3. Purchase experience in line with expectations; 4. Purchasing exp. below expectations 5. Clustering of brands based on 2022 revenues



## Luxury brands have spent decades perfecting the offline experience ...

Luxury brands beat retailers hands down in the offline experience

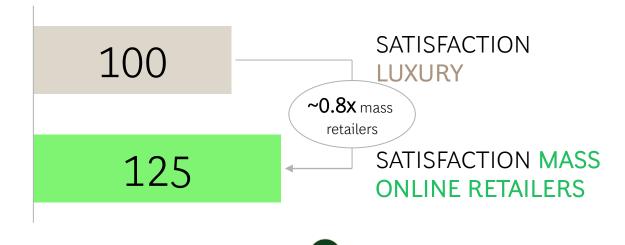


Going to my favorite stores is like treating myself – I feel pampered, I get my champagne... I'd go everyday - Anna, 48 y.o.

Note: Satisfaction based on NPS calculated as % of Promoters (9-10 ranking) minus % of Detractors (0-6) and converted to 100 Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (2.6 K respondents in 6 countries); BCG analysis

## ...yet online ceremonies are lagging behind their in-store counterparts

Instead, **online experiences** of retailers are overall comparable & even superior in terms of services



Why is my online experience the same whether I'm buying **a blue polo** or **a 10k€ travel bag** from my **favorite** Luxury brand?

- Adam, 35 y.o.



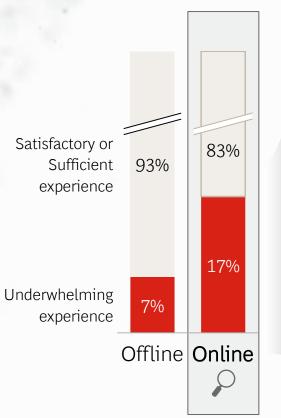
## The Digital Discontent | Dissatisfaction with the online experience most pronounced in Europe and amplified amongst GenZ

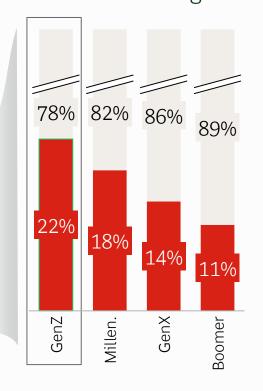
10pp higher vs offline online experience is

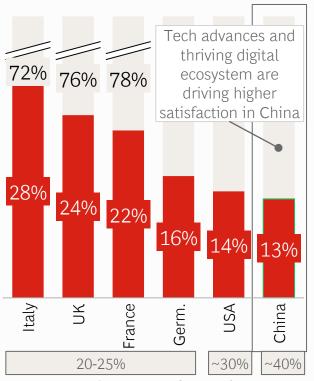
Online dissatisfaction 1 in 5 GenZers believe underwhelming

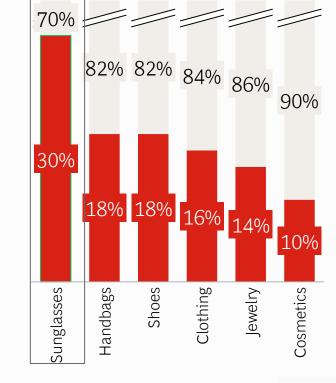
**Chinese** are more satisfied online, Europeans less content







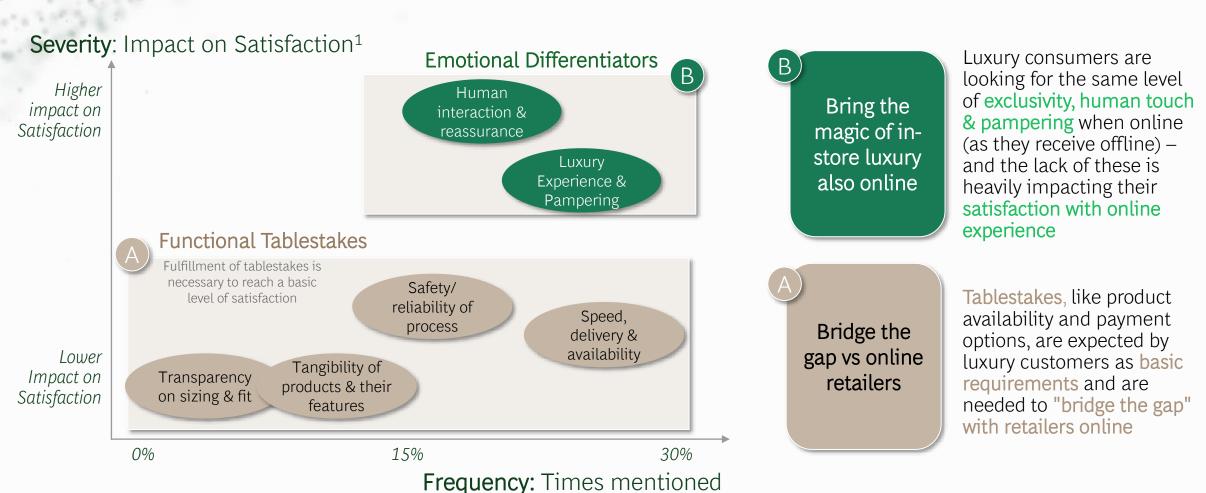




Online share of sales, '22



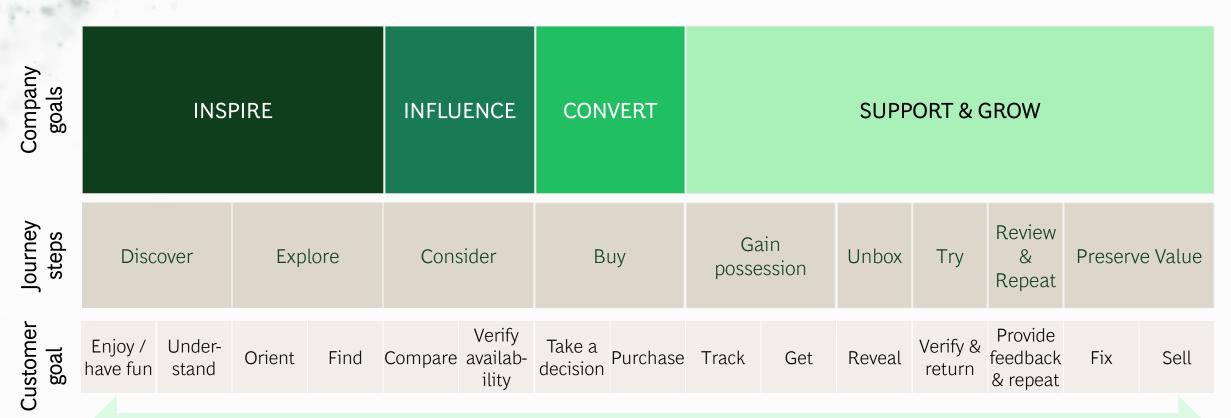
## The Digital Discontent is built on two gaps: with mass retailers on functional tablestakes & with in-store luxury on emotional differentiators



<sup>1.</sup> Level of impact that the "Unmet Need" has on the level of dissatisfaction customers experience with their online experience (measured through NPS) Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (2.6 K respondents in 6 countries)



The root causes of the digital discontent vary according to the different steps of the customer journey



These journeys are not necessarily linear but often include iterations & jumps





Illustrative



Scroll on brand.com, looking for a gift for a special occasion





Purchase a €8K luxury handbag on brand.com, 2 weeks before the occasion



Convert - Repeat



Receive email that item is no more in stock (1 week after purchase)





Receive no follow-ups from brand or sales assistants



Convert - Repeat



Go to store & find out that item was not reserved & recently sold



Convert - Repeat



Use "chat" & locate in-store availability (but with no possibility to deliver at home)

This might sound like a horror story built on a myriad of functional unmet needs...



## Solving the functional issues will not be enough to deliver a true luxury online experience

### Inspire



Scroll on brand.com, looking for a gift for a special occasion

#### Convert.



Purchase luxury handbag on brand.com

#### Convert - Repeat



Receive email that item is not in stock (1 week after purchase)

#### Convert - Repeat



Use "chat" & locate in-store availability (with no possibility to deliver at home) reserved & recently sold

### Convert - Repeat



Go to store & find out that item was not

### Support & Grow



Receive no follow-ups from brand or sales assistants

I was scrolling through 100 impersonal, flat product pages – I miss the in-store champagne and pampering...



I wanted guidance & human reassurance when selecting the item



"Click and buy" felt cheap, comparable to any nonluxury retailer



I got an impersonal, standard payment confirmation email



Noone was there to help me find an alternative



I had spent 8k on a bag and I get treated like I ordered toothpaste on Amazon



The chat was as "luxurious" as that of a car rental service



They are so regulated about what they could offer via chat; in person it would be easier



Sales assistants were judgmental and "restricted" in their possibilities to help



No-one asked me how I felt about what happened



I would have expected an email / message when the new collection of bags came out – I discovered it from my friend wearing it



Emotional

Unmet Needs



I had no idea what the material really looked like & how products would fit



"In store pickup" was not offered & delivery time was estimated at 2 weeks



I didn't get my bag & was unsure when & how the reimbursement would occur



If they have it in a store, why can't they ship it to me?



Transparency on

sizing and fit

How come the they couldn't reserve it for me between chat & store?

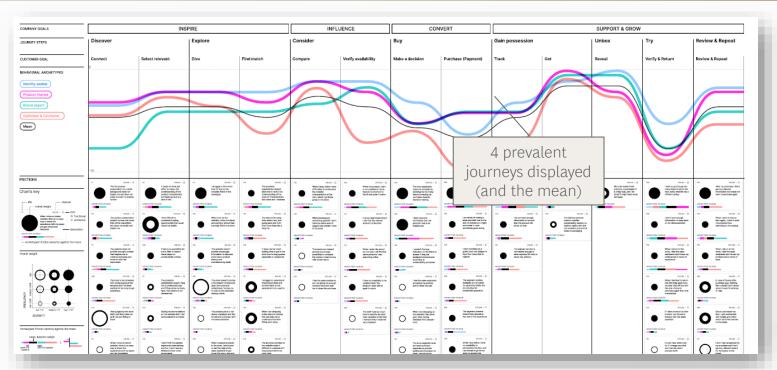
Offline TP





## Friction map | To quantify the weight of each emotional and functional friction, 2.600 individual luxury customer journeys were mapped...

Luxury Consumer Friction Map along the journey

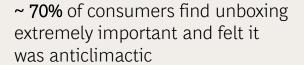


Frictions emerging along the journey are **not to be simplified** by (i) "**clustering**" based on partial differentiators (e.g., only geography) or (ii) applying a "**one-size-fits-all**" approach

Individual journeys need to be analyzed to understand each customers' individual frictions

#### Exemplary frictions in Aftersales:

At-home "unboxing" of online purchases is completely neglected by brands:



~ 65% say brands are missing to provide an "extra surprise" in their package (e.g., note, small gift)



## ...and key root causes behind unmet needs were analyzed ...

#### BRANDS ARE RELINQUISHING THEIR ROLE IN INSPIRATION...

...MAINLY BECAUSE **BRAND.COM** PERCEIVED AS **FLAT** AND UNINSPIRING

#### DIGITAL NATIVES FEEL PRESSURED BY STORE STAFF...

...AND PREFER PEER INTERACTION & FEEDBACK

## AFTERSALES IS NOT PROVIDING ENGAGING, MEANINGFUL INTERACTIONS

## ...emerging from an in-depth customer survey

of online inspiration takes place on non-owned channels

75%

find online has uninspiring product descriptions/content1

 $+400/0^2$  of digital natives<sup>3</sup> would prefer no interaction with SAs<sup>4</sup>

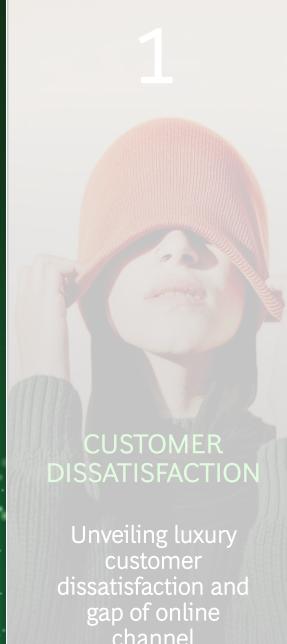
+570/0<sup>2</sup> of digital natives<sup>3</sup> want to receive feedback from peers

suffered from lack of contact from brand after purchase

Source: BCG-Altagamma True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight Survey Mar/Apr '23 (2.6 K respondents in 6 countries); BCG analy

Ranking it #1, #2 and #3 as a friction 2. Digital natives vs average luxury consumer; 3. Digital natives identified as one of four key behavioral archetypes, with strong tendencies of "identity seeking" 4. Sales Assistants

Zoom into Luxury customer experience





Discovering opportunities for the elevation of the experience

## How brands are acting vs what the reality is for customers | 4 brand misconceptions that further fuel emotional & functional unmet needs



OBSOLETE & BASIC
VIEW OF TOUCHPOINTS

NEGLECT OF THE
HUMAN INTERACTION

TRANSACTION-BASED

MEASUREMENT OF

ONLINE ROI

Brands continue to privilege a siloed channel view to measure performance & define incentives

Brands underestimate the recent increase in complexity of Customer Journeys

Brands are failing to provide human interaction & reassurance across the online journey

Brands are focusing on maximizing transactional functionalities at the expense of inspiration and are only partially measuring the success of online investments

Less than 50% of Journeys are mono-channel, and the majority of consumers switch heavily between channels

Journeys now contain up to 500 touchpoints (exponentially more than just a few years ago) and are no longer linear, but iterative

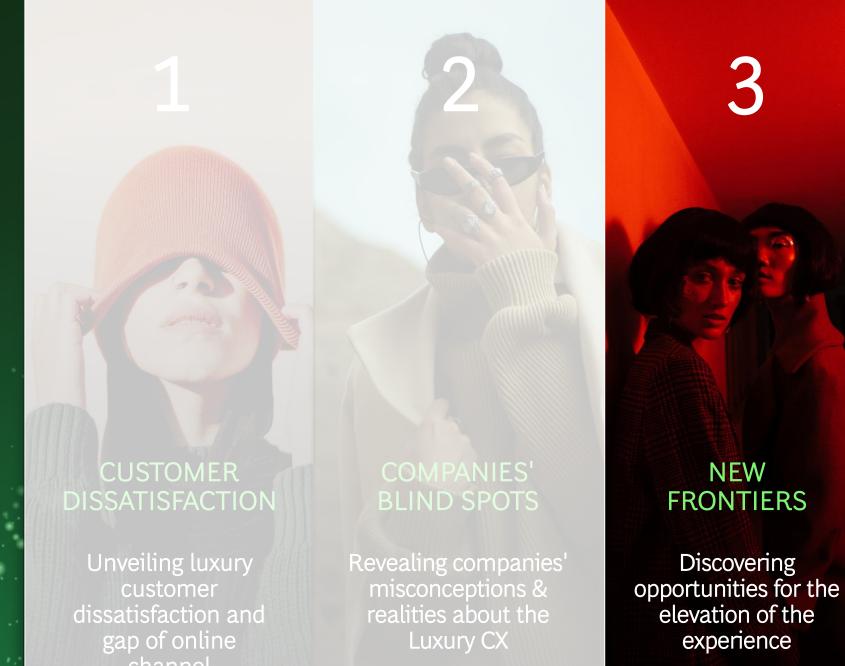
40+% of customers yearn for stronger human guidance, reassurance and care from the brand, both on and offline

Only **25%** of customers inspired on brand-owned channels purchase on brand.com – measuring ROI on transaction KPIs leads to under-use of online

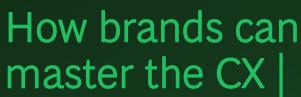
Predominantly fueling functional tablestakes

Predominantly fueling **emotional** differentiators

Zoom into Luxury customer experience







Propelling customer experience to new heights by fixing the basics on functional aspects & focusing on emotional step-change

FUNCTIONAL TABLESTAKES

A PLAYBOOK IS THERE
Leverage what's already in place

### EMOTIONAL <u>DIFFERENT</u>IATORS

- B WRITE THE PLAYBOOK
  Luxury brands need to take the lead
  - 1 Every brand needs to gain profound understanding of each journey that their customers undertake...
  - 2 ...and strategically decide what role each touchpoint and channel should play along the customer journey... Deep dive next
  - 3 ... allowing them to unlock the emotional connection across all channels, harnessing clienteling and next level customer service



## Hyper-specialization vs Hyper-personalization | Brands should strategically decide which role to play in each touchpoint

## Playing defense

## Playing offense



### **HYPER-SPECIALIZATION:**

DEFINITION OF A FOCUSED ROLE FOR EACH TOUCHPOINT & GUIDANCE OF CUSTOMERS TO THE OPTIMAL TOUCHPOINT



Identify prevalent journeys, optimize each touchpoint to fit the most frequent journeys, redesign processes, people, trainings, incentives and tech around the new touchpoints



Scale is less of an issue, investment is manageable, internal communication is straight-forward



Only the most prevalent journey is addressed (and many customers' journeys are neglected)



### **HYPER-PERSONALIZATION:**

ALL TOUCHPOINTS ARE EMPOWERED TO PLAY EVERY ROLE & CAN BE ADAPTED (IN REAL TIME) TO VARIOUS CUSTOMERS' NEEDS

Collect data on each customer (in store behavior, online browsing & 3<sup>rd</sup> party data), learn to recognize each customer and adapt TPs in real time based on customer's needs

All customer journeys are addressed, and individual preferences & frictions are catered to

Requires extensive data, tracking of single customer behavior, investments on all channels and creativity in "writing the playbook"

To master the new frontier of luxury experience and make True-Luxury consumers happy...

...don't fall into the trap of the Channel View Think in customer journeys, not in business channels



## Altagamma & BCG Team for the 9th edition of the study



















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Simone Gentili

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BCG Consultant

Sofia

Nicoletti





## BCG Luxury expert network ready to discuss in every large market the outcomes of True-Luxury Global Consumer Insight 2023

#### Americas Europe Asia Matthieu Christine Kunal Pierre Martin Nicola Sebastian Parul Cinthia Crystal Bhatia Barthel Boni Brisset Bajaj Chen Barton Dupreelle Abate Bianchi Boger An Hao Boari Joël Hazan Dominic Jinseok Yeonhee Henok Erin Mrin Stephane Stephane Olof **Patrick** Beatrice Vincent Rachit Nayak Lemucchi George Cairole Charveriat Darpo Ducasse Klemmer Jang Kim Lui Mathur Peter Stefan Akira Andreas **Andreas** Kirstin Pierre Nicola Jason Rohit Jeremy Shaddix Liedtke Mattson Naito Sporn Malby Mennella Mercier Pianon Rasch Morita Moy Ramesh Stefan Justin Drake Sarah Guia Dan Marc Matthias Javier Joan Mani Joseph Abheek Jiyeon Vincent Willersdorf Ricci Rohrhofer Sack Schelenz Schuler Singhal Singhi Watten Seara Sun Song Lars Emil Stefano Diederik Olivier Veronique **Thomas**

Solca

Sorensen

Stamp

Todescan

**Vismans** 

Wierzba

Walters

Yang

Zou

## Thank you.

BCG



