



## Kraken – Global Digital Asset Exchange



■ *Finance /  
Payments*

■ *Founded:  
2011*

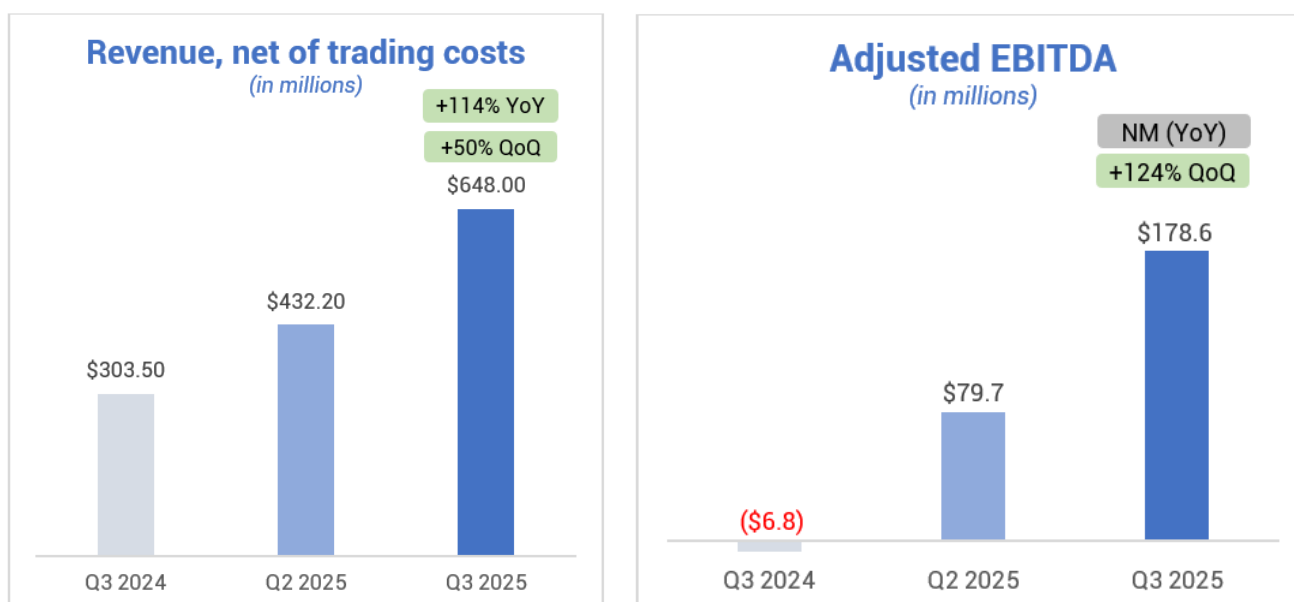
■ *Funding to Date:  
\$125.8M*

Kraken is a global digital asset exchange that allows trading on more than 50 digital assets and 7 different fiat currencies. Founded in 2011, Kraken provided one of the first digital asset exchanges to have its market data displayed on Bloomberg Terminal and one of the first exchanges to offer spot trading with margin, regulated derivatives and index services. The company is trusted by more than 5 million traders, institutions and authorities around the world.

### KRAKEN OVERVIEW

Kraken on September 2025, announced a \$500 million new funding round increasing its valuation to \$15 billion with several notable investors including Apollo global Management, Tribe Capital, Oppenheimer, Jane Street and HSG (formerly known as Sequoia Capital China). The funding is expected to fuel Kraken's next phase of growth, with increased focus on tokenized assets and institutional trading. According to MSN, one source has said the fundraising also helps pave the way for Kraken to go public in the coming months, with another source adding it is expected to confidentially file a registration statement for an initial public offering by year-end with plans to possibly go public in the first quarter of 2026.<sup>1</sup>

Kraken Q3 Highlights:



<sup>1</sup> -MSN article 10/22/2025: [www.msn.com/en-us/news/other/hsg-jane-street-among-investors-in-krakens-september-fundraising-sources-say/ar-AA1OZ9Pb](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/other/hsg-jane-street-among-investors-in-krakens-september-fundraising-sources-say/ar-AA1OZ9Pb)

YoY - year over year

QoQ - quarter over quarter

Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) is a measure of a company's overall financial performance and operational profitability



## THE PRIVATE SHARES FUND KRAKEN INVESTMENT

As of June 30, 2025, The Private Shares Fund's combined Preferred A, Preferred S and Common shares investments in Kraken were valued at approximately \$21.8 million, according to the Fund's most recent semi-annual report. This valuation was as of June 30th and does not reflect the recently closed equity round in September 2025 which valued the company at an estimated \$15 billion post-money valuation, marking a notable step-up from the previous round. Kraken is a global digital asset platform and one of the world's longest-standing cryptocurrency exchanges. Founded in 2011, the company enables individuals, traders, and institutions to buy, sell, and trade more than 200 digital assets alongside six national currencies. Recognized for its security and regulatory-first approach, Kraken has built a reputation as one of the most trusted names in crypto while rapidly expanding into new asset classes and financial services.

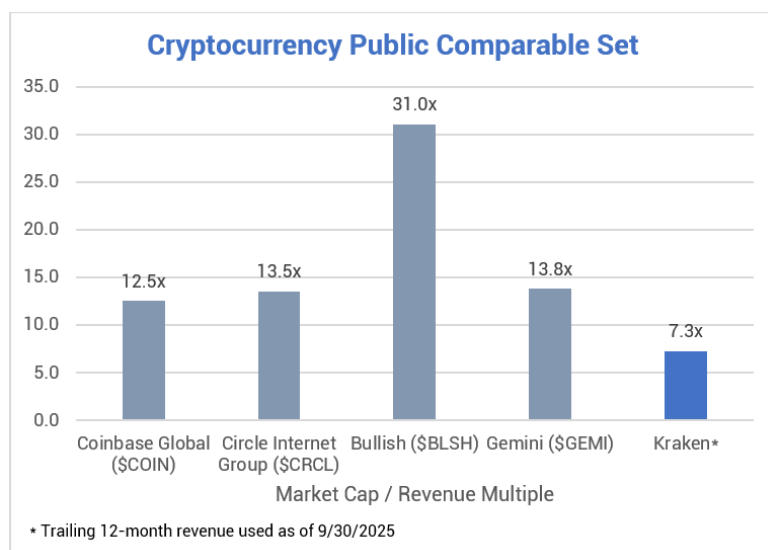
*"Crypto isn't just evolving, it's becoming the backbone for trading across asset classes, such as equities, commodities and currencies. As demand for 24/7 global access grows, clients want a seamless, all-in-one trading experience."<sup>2</sup>*

*- Arjun Seth, Kraken CEO*

## THE PRIVATE SHARES FUND PERSPECTIVE

Kraken's Q3 2025 results underscore sustained momentum and operational maturity, reinforcing our investment analysis of scaled, regulated digital-asset infrastructure. The company reported \$648 million in revenue (+114% YoY) and ~\$178 million in adjusted EBITDA, with trading volumes above \$560 billion and client assets nearing \$59 billion.<sup>3</sup> Growth remains broad-based across trading, staking, and custody—demonstrating durable engagement and platform diversification.

The \$500 million financing round in September, valuing Kraken at ~\$15 billion, further strengthens its balance sheet ahead of a possible IPO in early 2026. Participation from Apollo Global Management, Jane Street, and HSG highlights growing institutional conviction in regulated digital-asset firms, following listings by Circle, Gemini, and Bullish.<sup>1</sup>



Sources: Yahoo Finance; Kraken

For The Private Shares Fund, Kraken represents a late-stage, IPO-ready platform with clear regulatory positioning, scalable infrastructure, and public-market comparables currently trading at materially higher multiples. The company's expansion into regulated derivatives, tokenized assets, and payment rails positions it to potentially benefit from accelerating institutional adoption and convergence between digital assets and traditional finance. We view its continued performance as strong validation of our investment analysis and a catalyst for potential upside as the likelihood of public-market visibility increases.

2 - Reuters Press Release 4/14/2025: [www.reuters.com/technology/kraken-announces-launch-commission-free-trading-2025-04-14/](https://www.reuters.com/technology/kraken-announces-launch-commission-free-trading-2025-04-14/)

3 - Kraken Blog 10/22/2025: [blog.kraken.com/news/q3-2025-financial-highlights](https://blog.kraken.com/news/q3-2025-financial-highlights)

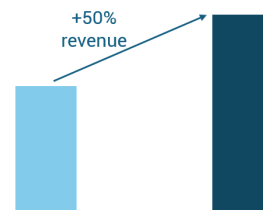
Market Cap/Revenue Multiple also known as the price-to-sales ratio, is a valuation metric that divides a company's market capitalization by its total revenue to show how much investors are willing to pay for each dollar of sales.



## RECENT NEWS EVENTS

### 10/22/2025 - \$648 million reported total revenue 3Q 2025

Kraken reports \$648 million in total revenue for the third quarter of 2025, a company record for quarterly earnings and 50% increase in revenues quarter-over-quarter. Adjusted EBTIDA reached \$178.6 million in the third quarter of 2025, increasing 124% quarter over quarter with a 9-point margin increase. Assets in the third quarter grew to \$59.3 billion with total transaction volumes increasing to \$561.9 billion across 5.2 million funded accounts.<sup>3</sup>



### 10/16/2025 - Kraken acquires Small Exchange

Kraken acquires Small Exchange, a Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CTFC)-licensed Designated Contract Market (DCM) from IG Group. The acquisition helps lay the foundation for Kraken to launch a fully U.S.-native derivatives product suite, creating a deep, sophisticated onshore venue in the world's largest capital market.<sup>4</sup>



Image Source: SmallExchange.com

### 9/17/2025 - Partnership between Kraken and Circle

Kraken and Circle Internet Group (\$CRCL) announce partnership to accelerate global access to USDC and EURC. The partnership will grant clients access to increased liquidity, reduced conversion fees and new opportunities to deploy USDC across applications.<sup>5</sup>



Image Source: Circle.com Pressroom

### 8/28/2025 - Kraken selected by U.S. Department of Commerce

U.S. Department of Commerce selects Kraken as partner in historic initiative to enhance transparency of economic data. The initiative will distribute U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) data on nine major public blockchain, marking a milestone in the use of blockchain technology to enhance transparency in economic data.<sup>6</sup>



HBHC Building

Image Source: Commerce.gov Pressroom

### 8/12/2025 - Kraken live in EEA 30 countries

Kraken is now live in all 30 countries of the European Economic Area (EEA), under the recently received Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCA) License. The company has now obtained the necessary licenses to offer regulated derivatives to advance traders across the EU and support fiat-related services and payments across the region, allowing Kraken to deliver a fully regulated experience with consistency and confidence across the EU.<sup>7</sup>



Image Source: EFTA, EEA Brochure

4 - Kraken Blog 10/16/2025: [blog.kraken.com/news/acquires-small-exchange](https://blog.kraken.com/news/acquires-small-exchange)

5 - Kraken Blog 9/17/2025: [blog.kraken.com/news/circle-partnership](https://blog.kraken.com/news/circle-partnership)

6 - Kraken Blog 8/28/2025: [blog.kraken.com/news/us-department-of-commerce](https://blog.kraken.com/news/us-department-of-commerce)

7 - Kraken Blog 8/12/2025: [blog.kraken.com/news/all-30-eea-countries-mica](https://blog.kraken.com/news/all-30-eea-countries-mica)

### 5/1/2025 - Kraken acquires NinjaTrader

Kraken completes its acquisition of NinjaTrader. The transaction marks the largest-ever deal combining traditional finance and Crypto. The completion of the transaction expands Kraken's leadership to both traditional and crypto markets, and is an important step in the company's vision to build an institutional-grade trading platform where any asset can be traded, anytime.<sup>8</sup>



Image Source: Kraken.com Pressroom

### 4/14/2025 - Kraken expands beyond crypto

Kraken completes expansion beyond crypto with commission-free trading for over 11,000 U.S.- listed stocks and exchange-traded funds.<sup>2</sup>



Image Source: Pixabay.com

## COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS<sup>9</sup>

- **Regulatory expansion:** Secured a MiCA license in Ireland and Financial Conduct Authority Electronic Money Institution (FCA EMI) authorization in the UK, unlocking unified EU coverage and strengthening fiat rails in key markets.

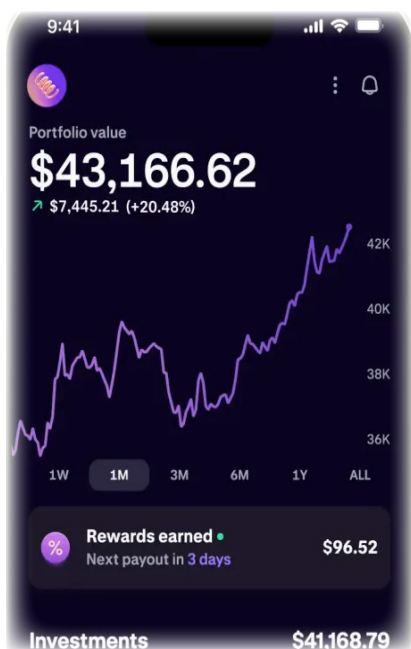


Image Source: Kraken.com

- **Diversification beyond crypto:** Rolled out commission-free U.S. equities and introduced Kraken global peer-to-peer (P2P) payments, broadening utility for retail and institutional users.
- **Strategic acquisitions:** Acquired NinjaTrader, Breakout, and Capitalise.ai, accelerating a multi-asset platform strategy with professional-grade trading tools, automation, and expanded market access.
- **Proof of trust:** Maintains independent Proof of Reserves audits on a quarterly cadence, reinforcing transparency and client confidence.
- **Best of Crypto Exchange 2024:** Kraken was awarded best Crypto Exchange by Forbes Advisor.<sup>10</sup>

8 - BusinessWire Press Release 5/1/2025: [www.businesswire.com/news/home/20250501627804/en/Kraken-Completes-Acquisition-of-NinjaTrader](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20250501627804/en/Kraken-Completes-Acquisition-of-NinjaTrader)

9 - News Archives - Kraken Blog: [blog.kraken.com/category/news?view=archive](https://blog.kraken.com/category/news?view=archive)

10 - ForbesAdvisor 8/13/2024: [www.forbes.com/advisor/investing/cryptocurrency/best-crypto-exchanges/?award=best-crypto-exchanges-award-2024-kraken](https://www.forbes.com/advisor/investing/cryptocurrency/best-crypto-exchanges/?award=best-crypto-exchanges-award-2024-kraken)



## RISKS AND DISCLOSURES

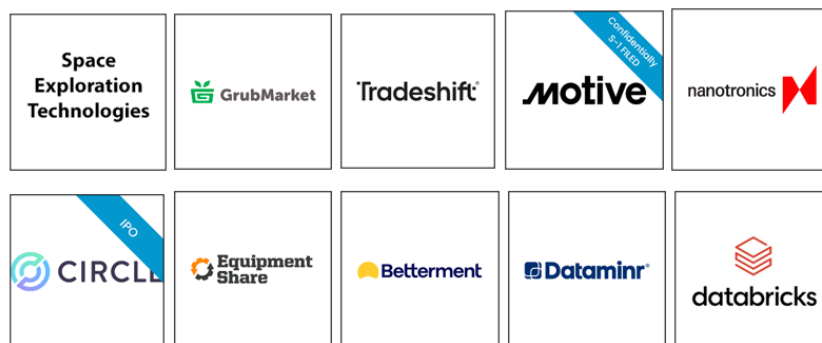
As of September 30, 2025, Kraken represented 2.15% of the Fund's portfolio.

Kraken is a privately held company that does not trade on any national securities exchange, and there is no guarantee that its shares will ever be traded on any national securities exchange.

The views expressed in this material reflect those of the Fund's Investment Advisor as of the date this is written and may not reflect its views on the date this material is first published or anytime thereafter. These views are intended to provide general information, and do not constitute investment advice or recommendation to buy or sell any security.

All current and future holdings of the Fund are subject to risk and to change. The information provided is about one security held by the Fund. As of September 30, 2025, there were 80 holdings in the Fund. A decision to invest in the Fund should consider more factors than just one holding in its portfolio.

### The Private Shares Fund Top 10 Holdings as of 9/30/25\*



\*Represents 43.39% of Fund holdings as of September 30, 2025. Holdings are subject to change. Not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold any particular security. **Current and future holdings are subject to risk.** To view the Fund's complete holdings, visit [privatesharesfund.com/portfolio](https://privatesharesfund.com/portfolio).

**Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. For a prospectus with this and other information about The Private Shares Fund (the "Fund"), please download [here](#), visit the Fund's website at [PrivateSharesFund.com](https://PrivateSharesFund.com) or call 1-855-551-5510. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.**

The Private Shares Fund is a closed-end interval fund. Investment in the Fund involves substantial risk. The Fund is not suitable for investors who cannot bear the risk of loss of all or part of their investment. The Fund is appropriate only for investors who can tolerate a high degree of risk and do not require a liquid investment. All investing involves risk including the possible loss of principal.

Shares in the Fund are highly illiquid, and can be sold by shareholders only in the quarterly repurchase program of the Fund which allows for up to 5% of the Fund's outstanding shares at NAV to be redeemed each quarter. Due to transfer restrictions and the illiquid nature of the Fund's investments, you may not be able to sell your shares when, or in the amount that, you desire. The Fund intends to primarily invest in securities of private, late-stage, venture-backed growth companies. There are significant potential risks relating to investing in such securities. Because most of the securities in which the Fund invests are not publicly traded, the Fund's investments will be valued by Liberty Street Advisors, Inc. (the "Investment Adviser") pursuant to fair valuation procedures and methodologies adopted by the Board of Trustees, as set forth in the prospectus. As a consequence, the value of the securities, and therefore the Fund's Net Asset Value (NAV), may vary.

There are significant potential risks associated with investing in venture capital and private equity-backed companies with complex capital structures. The Fund focuses its investments in a limited number of securities, which could subject it to greater risk than that of a larger, more varied portfolio. There is a greater focus in technology securities that could adversely affect the Fund's performance. The Fund's quarterly repurchase policy may require the Fund to liquidate portfolio holdings earlier than the Investment Adviser would otherwise do so and may also result in an increase in the Fund's expense ratio. Portfolio holdings of private companies that become publicly traded likely will be subject to more volatile market fluctuations than when private, and the Fund may not be able to sell shares at favorable prices. Such companies frequently impose lock-ups that would prohibit the Fund from selling shares for a period of time after an initial public offering (IPO). Market prices of public securities held by the Fund may decline substantially before the Investment Adviser is able to sell the securities.

The Fund may invest in private securities utilizing special purpose vehicles ("SPV"s), private investments in public equity ("PIPE") transactions where the issuer is a special purpose acquisition company ("SPAC"), and profit sharing agreements. The Fund will bear its pro rata portion of expenses on investments in SPVs or similar investment structures and will have no direct claim against underlying portfolio companies. PIPE transactions involve price risk, market risk, expense risk, and the Fund may not be able to sell the securities due to lock-ups or restrictions. Profit sharing agreements may expose the Fund to certain risks, including that the agreements could reduce the gain the Fund otherwise would have achieved on its investment, may be difficult to value and may result in contractual disputes. Certain conflicts of interest involving the Fund and its affiliates could impact the Fund's investment returns and limit the flexibility of its investment policies. This is not a complete enumeration of the Fund's risks. Please read the Fund prospectus for other risk factors related to the Fund.

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