



LINK Is Up 200% in 60 Days. Here's Another Crypto to Triple Your Money

By Juan Villaverde with Bruce Ng



We urged you to buy **Chainlink (LINK, Weiss Liquidity/Availability Grade “B”)** on June 26, when it was trading at

\$4.68. It shot up to test \$20 before a minor pullback took it down to \$12 and change.

As we write, it’s rising again ... toward \$14!

Well done! We love seeing you pile up gains like this.

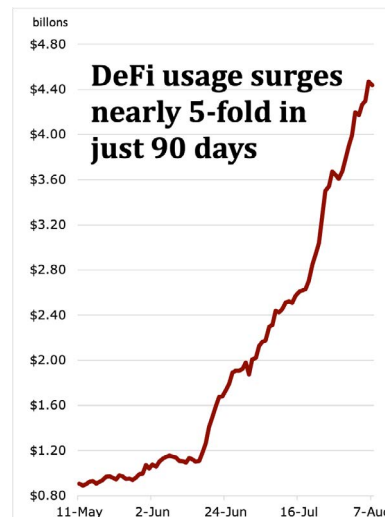
Now, we want to call your attention to **Synthetix (SNX, Weiss Liquidity/Availability Grade N/A)**, another key crypto in the red-hot Decentralized Finance (DeFi) sector.

Plus, it’s launching a new service that’s going to be a game-changer. Buy now, and you could triple your money by year’s end.

Both Chainlink and Synthetix benefit from key rolls they’ve carved out for themselves in DeFi.

DeFi is essentially borrowing, lending and trading financial assets on the blockchain. The key difference is there’s no traditional intermediary — bank, broker or stock exchange — standing in the middle and taking a slice of every transaction.

DeFi is growing like crazy because such services cost far less and require far less time than the same services from legacy providers ... like brick-and-mortar banks and human brokers.



TVL across all DeFi platforms. Source: Defipulse.com

As you can see from this chart, DeFi usage is going ballistic.

This chart tracks the total dollar value of the assets (TVL) locked up inside various DeFi platforms to collateralize loans and leveraged trading.

Over just the last three months, TVL has surged from about \$900 million to \$4.4 billion.

This a key reason your investment in Chainlink is doing so well.

(LINK, you recall, is the no. 1 supplier of market information — interest rates, asset prices, etc. — that DeFi smart contracts need to function properly. See Crypto Portfolio Update, below.)

Synthetix Occupies Another DeFi Sweet Spot

It’s a decentralized exchange where you can trade just about any asset with vastly lower transaction costs and far less time for settlement.

Take stocks, for example. When you buy shares the old-fashioned way, a parade of intermediaries — brokers, dealers, market-makers and custodians

Inside this Issue ...

How to Buy SNX	page 3
Crypto Portfolio Update	page 3

Stock Portfolio Update	page 7
Weiss Ratings Crypto Investor Portfolio	page 8

— typically stand between you and the seller.

Why are they there? Largely to guarantee the fairness and integrity of the transaction.

Synthetix dispenses with these intermediaries but still allows traders to do business with folks they don't know and have no reason to trust — with no fear of getting cheated. That's because the blockchain automatically ensures the integrity of every transaction, at a fraction of the cost of the army of middlemen.

Because of this, traditional asset brokers and other intermediaries face an existential threat to their business model. DeFi platforms like Synthetix are going to eat their lunch!

And it's not just traditional stockbrokers at risk. You can trade just about any asset under the sun on Synthetix, including gold, fiat currencies, all manner of crypto assets and, theoretically, even real estate.

Who Can Use Synthetix?

Answer: Anyone with an asset to trade and an Ethereum wallet address ...

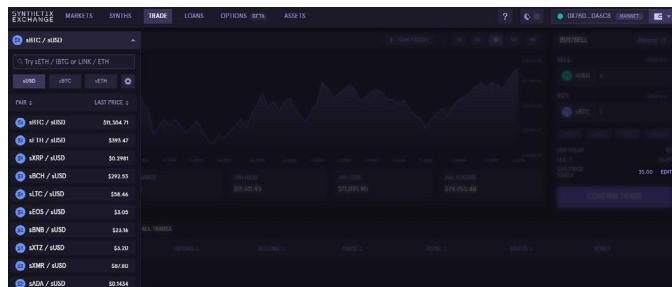
There's no verification process of any kind. Simply sign a message with your private Ethereum key, and you're good to go from anywhere in the world.

Here's how it works.

Owners of SNX, Synthetix's native token, stake their coins to create synthetic instruments called "synths" — which are used for trading on the platform. (Staking means coin-holders can participate in enabling and validating transactions and claim the rewards for doing so.)

- sUSD is a synth that's pegged to the U.S. dollar, much like the stablecoin DAI. sJPY and sEUR are stablecoins pegged to the Japanese yen and the euro, respectively.
- sBTC and sETH are synths representing Bitcoin and Ethereum.
- sFTSE and sNIKKEI are synths representing the London Stock Exchange's FTSE stock index and the Tokyo Stock Exchange's Nikkei stock index.

- sXAU and sXAG are synths pegged to gold and silver.



A Synthetix trading screen with list of assets on the left.

These synths (as shown in the left column) are all available for trading. Synthetix does not use the order book model for trades. Instead, liquidity depends on the amount of SNX collateralized. The more collateral put in, the more synths can be generated, the more liquid the corresponding trading pair.

Three Reasons to Be Bullish on SNX

Meteoric growth.

We've already noted how Synthetix's ability to offer better, faster, cheaper service is set to cannibalize old-fashioned asset broking. Buying the token allows you to share in the enormous value that's going to be created in doing this.

Despite the blistering growth of DeFi as a sector, the combined market cap of all DeFi platforms is still only \$4.1 billion. That's less than one-tenth the size of all smart-contract platforms, which run about \$45.7 billion.

That means DeFi still has tremendous room to grow. And as one of the world's top DeFi platforms, Synthetix is bound to capture a big chunk of it.

Staking rewards.

A slice of every trade — 0.3% — taking place on Synthetix goes into a sUSD fee pool, which is distributed to SNX coin holders in proportion to the size of their stakes. Synthetix staking procedures are complicated, and rewards vary with trading on the platform. But they can still be quite substantial.

On top of that, staked coins are also eligible to

receive block rewards. These are additional SNX created from time to time during Synthetix's first six years of operation to increase overall liquidity. (For the full schedule, click [here](#).)

Altogether, these rewards are so attractive that a whopping 70% to 80% of the entire SNX supply is staked. This is a big deal because coins staked as collateral for synths are sequestered on the blockchain. And that amounts to a monster subtraction from circulating supply.

And — with fewer and fewer coins available for normal buying and selling — it doesn't take much buying pressure to send prices up sharply.

Futures and leveraged trading are the golden goose of crypto.

And Synthetix is just beginning to launch them.

The market for derivatives trading is gigantic. In the case of stocks, there are \$65 to \$70 trillion of equities trading around the world. But there are probably close to \$700 trillion worth of options, futures and other derivatives trading on top of these equities.

This one-to-10 ratio shows the potential scope for growth of crypto derivatives, which today are basically still in their infancy.

And buying SNX is like buying stock in a highly liquid crypto exchange with derivatives trading. While futures and leveraged trading have not yet been launched, binary options started trading on July 1.

What happened next was instructive: Within 24 hours, 250,000 sUSD were deployed into this new market. Within a week, SNX jumped from \$1.90 to \$2.60. And, now, just 44 days later, SNX is a \$5 coin and climbing.

This is just a taste of the gains that are likely in store as Synthetix launches crypto futures and leveraged trading — sometime between now and year's end.

Combine all three of these reasons, and we think you can probably see how our forecast for SNX to triple by year end is actually quite conservative. In truth, your gains could be lots larger.

How to Buy SNX

For U.S. residents, one of the easiest ways is to download the Argent digital wallet to your smartphone by clicking [here](#).

After signing up for an account, use your charge card to buy Ethereum or stablecoin USDC. Then, from inside the wallet, you can swap it for SNX.

Alternatively, you could download the Dharma wallet (click [here](#)), which is similar in form and function to the Argent wallet.

For non-U.S. residents, SNX can be purchased from the following list of centralized cryptocurrency exchanges. Of these, probably [Binance](#) and [Kucoin](#) are best known.

For your information, Weiss Ratings Crypto Investor accepts no compensation whatsoever for steering readers to any digital wallet, cryptocurrency exchange, or blockchain lending platform. (Aside from trading accounts that we may have, we have no business relationships with any we cover.)

Crypto Portfolio Update

Chainlink Soars Over 200% in 2 Months!

As stated earlier, your Chainlink skyrocketed from our entry price of about \$4.68 to \$14 and change at the time of writing.

That represents an increase of over 200%! And while those gains are terrific, they've got higher to go. It's still nowhere near time to take profits.

Chainlink is the world's no. 1 supplier of real-world data to smart contracts, which animate and empower just about every practical application that cryptocurrencies offer. This includes decentralized finance (DeFi) platforms — which are growing explosively.

But because smart contracts live only on the blockchain, they have no natural connection to the outside world. They have no way of knowing what interest rates are, what various assets used as collateral are currently worth, the current

temperature — or even what day it is.

Chainlink provides the external data like this that smart contracts need to function. And it charges for the service it provides in LINK.

While DeFi gets a lot of attention right now, it actually for only about one-tenth of the smart-contract business in crypto. And smart contracts are one of the fastest-growing sectors in the whole crypto universe.

So, naturally, Chainlink continues to acquire new partners and customers. Here's an update on the most recent additions ...

- T-Systems, a subsidiary of German telecom giant, DeutscheTelekom, has become a Chainlink node operator. Node operators take data from the real world and disseminate them to interested parties. In return, they get paid in LINK tokens.
- Top South Korean banks Hana Bank, Shinhan Bank, Nonghyup Bank and the Industrial Bank of Korea have all chosen Chainlink to supply foreign currency quotes to their blockchain apps.
- Another smart-contract blockchain aiming to compete with Ethereum, Elastos, has also formally adopted Chainlink to provide real-time price feeds.

Accordingly, it's hardly an exaggeration to say Chainlink occupies a sweet spot at the very heart of the crypto revolution, going forward. This is profoundly bullish long-term. Hold on to your coins.

232% Gain in 9 Months — and It's Still Way Too Early to Take Profits in Tezos.

Tezos (XTZ, Weiss Tech/Adoption Grade "B-") recently sprinted up to new 25-month highs near \$4.20. And, make no mistake, it has nowhere near exhausted its upside.

Tezos' main competition in crypto's fast-growing smart-contract market is Ethereum, the world's No. 2 crypto (after Bitcoin). Indeed, Ethereum is so big and widely used, it's become the de-facto

solution for countless crypto applications and platforms.

But Ethereum has no built-in governance mechanism — which is precisely why major upgrades like ETH v 2.0 take so frustratingly long to agree, and even longer to actually implement.

By contrast, Tezos boasts an advanced on-chain governance mechanism, which empowers coin-holders to propose, vote on and quickly implement upgrades to the ledger.

This should allow it to quickly copy and duplicate practically any feature lumbering giant Ethereum comes up with while running rings around it in the broader market.

So, going forward, we think XTZ has an excellent chance of peeling off a lot of business that would have otherwise gone to Emporium. Hold on to your coins for further gains.

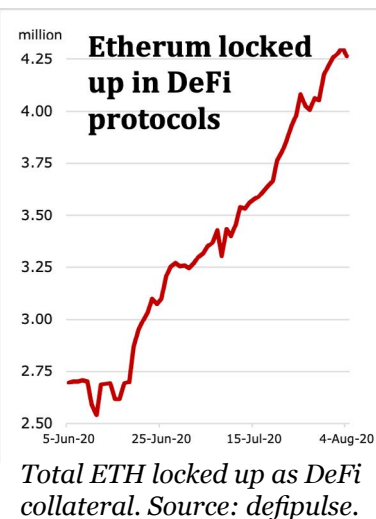
Ethereum Hits 2-Year Highs, Doubling Your Money. Further Gains Ahead.

Ethereum (ETH, Weiss Tech/Adoption Grade "A") has now broken above the \$400 level for the first time in 24 months. But there's a big difference between now and then.

Back then, ETH was sliding down the mountain — following a blow-off top in the final days of the 2017 bull market. And a long bear market lay ahead.

The situation today is precisely the opposite — major crypto assets are on the threshold of a new, months-long bull run that promises to challenge 2017-18 bull market highs.

And right now, the hottest thing on the Ethereum blockchain is DeFi, the lion's share of which runs on the



Ethereum blockchain, generating network fees in ETH.

In just the last two months, the amount of ETH locked up to collateralize DeFi protocols rose a robust 58% — from 2.7 million to 4.3 million.

This helps drive up prices, because coins pledged as collateral are a subtraction from circulating supply.

But this is only part of the bullish story. Other positive price catalysts for ETH loom between now and the end of the year. Among them:

- The advent of a major upgrade dubbed ETH 2.0 will introduce staking, with estimated yields of 5% to 10%.

In a near zero-interest-rate world, this is going to generate massive demand from yield-starved investors.

Like coins pledged as collateral, coins staked are also removed from circulating supply. Fewer coins available to buy and sell is generally bullish for prices.

- ETH 2.0 will also introduce “sharding” to increase transaction processing speed up by moving most transactions to multiple sidechains, with only summaries settling on the main Ethereum blockchain.

(“Sharding” uses multiple sidechains to simultaneously process transactions, with only summaries settling on Ethereum's main blockchain.)

Currently, ETH does about 17 transactions per second (TPS). With sharding, it should be able to do 10,000 TPS. That's a more than 58,000% increase — which implies a similar hike in transaction fees payable in ETH.

- The advent of Ethereum Improvement Proposal (EIP) 1559. EIP-1559 will burn a portion of all transaction fees, removing them permanently from circulating supply.

According to Ethereum creator Vitalik, this will effectively make Ethereum more deflationary than Bitcoin — with its hard cap of 21 million on the maximum number of coins that will ever be created.

And, in light of surging adoption of Ethereum by DeFi and other smart-contract platforms, this could be very bullish indeed long term.

So, hold on to your ETH. Much higher prices lie ahead.

Cardano Piles Up 163% Gains.

Over the last month or so, **Cardano (ADA, Weiss Tech/Adoption Grade “B+”)** went from nine cents to 14 cents, as investors anticipated the advent of major upgrade Shelley. That's a very healthy 55% move up.

Had there been any glitch, ADA would have most likely sold off. But the launch took place smoothly, and as we write, ADA continues to build support near 14 cents.

So, what's next? Glad you asked ...

Right now, Cardano can basically only do two things: transfer money and stake ADA coins for rewards.

However, Cardano founder (and Ethereum co-founder) Charles Hoskinson says smart contracts are coming to ADA "this year." Although he mentions no specific dates, we're inclined to take him at his word.

Launching smart-contract capability is a big deal. It's going to make Cardano a solid competitor to Ethereum — not only as an alternative platform for DeFi but also for any other applications that employ smart contracts (which includes practically everything cryptos do beyond just making simple payments).

Ethereum may be the no. 2 crypto after Bitcoin. But Cardano is faster and far more robust — and, therefore, more than capable of giving the Queen of Crypto a run for her money once true competition commences.

ADA was a \$1 coin back in 2017. Our long-term view is that it's eventually going to climb back to this lofty level ... and then surpass it. Hang on to your ADA. We're expecting a wild ride.

How Bitcoin Finally Bursts Through Overhead Resistance at \$10,000.

After months of false dawns, **Bitcoin (BTC, Weiss Tech/Adoption Grade “A-”)** finally made its move in early August, bursting decisively above, \$10,000 — a level it had previously banged up against many times only to fall back.

Looking ahead, there are two very plausible near-term scenarios:

- Bitcoin continues its ascent, punctuated by episodic profit-taking, until it finally challenges its all-time high near \$20,000. Or ...
- It slips back into back into range-bound trading, albeit at higher levels — most likely between \$11,000 and \$13,000.

In our view, one key thing makes the first alternative far more probable. And it's the furious boom presently underway in platforms and cryptos that support DeFi.

Assets controlled by smart contracts operating on various DeFi platforms have shot up a blistering 600% — just since last August.

This reminds us of a key antecedent to the epic bull market of 2017 — which took Bitcoin from \$1,000 to \$20,000. Back then, one of the big things investors first got excited about — and later, manic — was an unprecedented flood of initial coin offerings (ICOs).

All these projects were full of promises, but most never amounted to a hill of beans. A few delivered on their promises ... only to discover they had built a super-highway no one wanted to drive on — to a destination no one wanted to visit.

In other words, they were projects with near zero real-world appeal, adoption and usage.

Could today's DeFi boom ignite Bitcoin's next epic surge — like ICOs helped fuel the first?

Yes, it could. In fact, this is far from a crazy idea. For one thing, there's a lot more substance to DeFi

today than there ever was in the ICO bubble. No crypto ghost towns here, or highways to nowhere.

And, thanks to near-zero interest rates, investors are finding positive — sometimes even double-digit — yields offered by DeFi on crypto are practically impossible to pass up.

As a consequence, DeFi adoption and usage are surging. And these are two of the most important indicators of long-term success in the crypto world.

Beyond that, there's also a good chance the DeFi boom will open wide the floodgates for venture capital and hedge-fund money to pour into crypto.

If that happens, Bitcoin's next epic bull run is going to make 2017 look like small potatoes, by comparison.

This Smartphone App Tracks Crypto Trades and Prices — and Then Some!

It's a free-to-download app called Blockfolio. And there are lots of reasons we like it.

First, it manages and tracks multiple crypto portfolios. For example, if you're like us, you probably have several crypto exchange accounts and digital wallets — with a handful of coins scattered among them, some in more than one location.

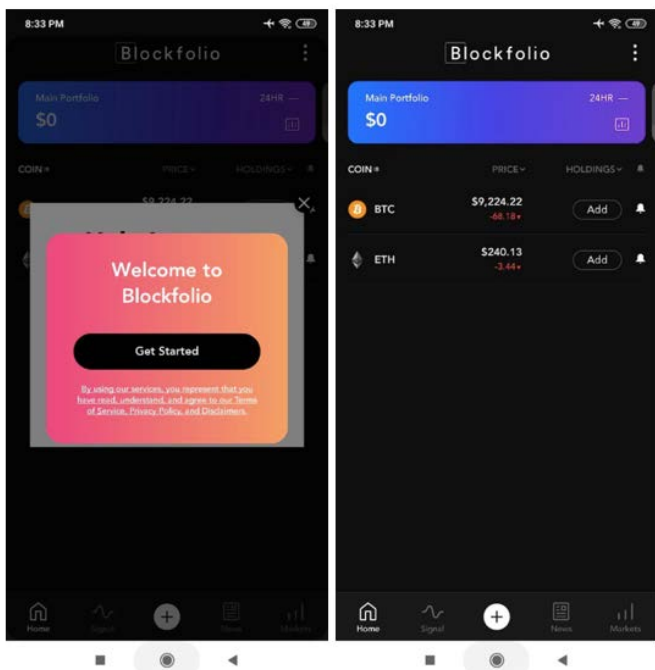
Simply tracking our overall portfolios with a manual spread sheet quickly became a pain in the neck. But Blockfolio took care of it in a snap.

Blockfolio also tracks over 10,000 coins in real time.

Why bother with so many tiny, unknown cryptos? Well, low- and micro-cap cryptos are a bit like penny stocks.

Most of them are junk. But, from time to time, you can also find undiscovered gems among the detritus. Blockfolio makes these tiny, unknown cryptos visible and trackable.

You can also set up real-time price alerts for each coin — just remember to enable notifications on your smartphone for Blockfolio.



Blockfolio homepage

In addition to price alerts, Blockfolio delivers breaking news — on your specific coins or the crypto industry in general — straight to your smartphone screen.

This way, even if the price of your crypto assets hasn't changed yet, you'll be in the know about any events that could potentially affect your portfolio.

Finally, Blockfolio logs your trades in a manner that's automatically exportable to leading tax-reporting apps. We all hate thinking about it. But, in most countries, every time you sell (or swap) a crypto you create a taxable event.

Tax reporting can easily turn into a nightmare if you have to do it manually. Blockfolio helps automate the whole thing.

We looked into multiple tax reporting plug-ins, and found Cointracker had the most seamless integration with Blockfolio. Hit this [link](#) to see how to export your Blockfolio trade records.

Please note that you will need to separately create an account at Cointracker to take advantage of this.

Please be reminded that Weiss Crypto Investor does not recommend or make referrals to brokerage firms, crypto exchanges, or lending platforms. (Aside from trading accounts we may have, we have

no business relationships with any that we cover.)

This information on Blockfolio is provided purely for educational purposes. We hope you can use it to determine the best way for you to hold and trade crypto assets.

Stock Portfolio Update

It wasn't that long ago, 2013 to be exact, that **Exxon Mobile Corp. (NYSE: XOM, Rated "D+")** was the most valuable company in the world, as defined by market cap. For 92 years, Exxon Mobile had been one of the 30 Dow Jones Industrial Average stocks.

Not anymore.

Exxon Mobile has been booted from the Dow Jones Industrial Average and replaced with **salesforce.com (NYSE: CRM, Rated "C-")** at the end of August.

Proponents applaud the change as recognition that our economy is transforming into an information-based, technology-focused machine.

What the change tells me is how overblown the "everything bubble" has gotten, why the stock market (especially tech stocks) have rallied beyond nosebleed territory and why it is time to take our chips off the Wall Street casino table.

We've been gradually harvesting profits as the Nasdaq has soared and I want to now sell our last two tech positions, both of which have gigantic open profits. Here's what to do:

Order 1: Sell Amazon.com (Nasdaq: AMZN, Rated "B") at the market.

Order 2: Sell Microsoft Corp. (Nasdaq: MSFT, Rated "B+") at the market.

Order 3: Sell Crown Castle International Corp. (NYSE: CCI) at the market.

Weiss Ratings Crypto Investor Portfolio

Recommendations	Reco Date	\$ Cost	Current Quote (\$) as of 08/26/20	Total % Gain
Crypto Positions				
Cardano (ADA/USD) **	9/12/18	\$0.05368758	\$0.11715100	118.2%
Bitcoin (BTC/USD)*	4/26/19	\$8,629.30	\$11,494.95	33.2%
Ethereum (ETH/USD)***	8/7/19	\$206.04	\$388.72	88.7%
Tezos (XTZ/USD)	11/27/19	\$1.25753900	\$3.47	175.9%
Chainlink (LINK/USD)	6/26/20	\$4.72	\$15.21	222.2%
Synthetic (SNX/USD)	8/28/20	-	Buy @ market	
Stock Positions				
Amazon.com (AMZN)	8/30/19	\$1,776.29	Sell @ market	
Microsoft Corp. (MSFT)	10/2/19	\$134.65	Sell @ market	
Crown Castl International Corp. (CCI)	3/27/20	\$136.89	Sell @ market	
* Bitcoin's \$ Cost and Total % Gain columns reflect average of initial purchase 4/26/19 (\$5,217.25) and subsequent buys 8/7/19 (\$11,901.45), 8/30/19 (\$9,584.37), 10/2/19 (\$8,266.70), 11/1/19 (\$9255.15), 4/24/20, (7,550.90)				
*** Ethereum \$ Cost and Total % Gain columns reflect average of initial purchase 8/7/19 (\$224.51) and subsequent buy 4/24/20 (\$187.57).				
** Cardano \$ Cost and Total % Gain columns reflect average of initial purchase 9/12/18 (\$0.06840000) and subsequent buy 11/27/19 (\$0.03897516).				

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