Deutsche Bank Research



Rating Buy

Asia China

Consumer

Alcohol & Tobacco

Company Wuliangye Yibin

Reuters Bloomberg 000858.SZ 000858 CH Exchange Ticker SHZ 000858

Date 28 August 2018

Results

Price at 27 Aug 2018 (CNY)	65.31
Price target - 12mth (CNY)	92.00
52-week range (CNY)	91.75 - 51.85
Shenzhen Index	1,527

1H18 - strong earnings, but weak cash flow

Strong volume growth and margin expansion in 1H18

Wuliangye reported 1H18 results with 37% sales growth and 43% earnings growth, slightly better than its preliminary result announced on Aug 13 (34%/37% for sales/PBT). We estimate the sales growth was driven by 27% growth from mainstream Wuliangye (7% ASP and 20% volume) and 10% growth from midrange Wuliangye (mainly volume). Net margin expanded 140bps yoy to 33.2%, helped mainly by lower SG&A/sales ratio with strong expense control, lower rebate and operating leverage, while partly offset by higher sales tax ratio.

On quarterly basis, Wuliangye's sales grew by 37% in 1Q18 and 38% in 2Q18, but earnings growth accelerated from 38% in 1Q18 to 55% in 2Q18, mainly due to less impact from higher sales tax ratio (the new sales tax policy was implemented May 1, 2017).

Yet operating cash flow declined significantly

Wuliangye's operating cash flow declined 81% yoy to Rmb597mn in 1H18, and in 2Q18, there's a net cash flow out of Rmb1.8bn. This is mainly due to Rmb3bn increase in tax payment and rising note receivable balance, which increased by Rmb5.8bn in 1H18 (vs. Rmb2bn increase in 1H17). Due to low channel margin, Wuliangye accepted increasing amount of bank notes from distributors. We think this implies that retail end demand might not be as strong as Wuliangye's exfactory sales.

Growth might slow from 2H18

We think Wuliangye's growth might be peaking in 2Q18 due to three reasons. First, super premium liquor is more correlated with macro environment due to its discretionary nature; slowing fixed asset investment might result in lower demand. Second, Wuliangye benefitted from Moutai's out-of-stock situation in 2017, yet Moutai's increasing supply and potential channel de-stocking might result in increasing competition. Third, distributors' procurement interest could be pressured by low channel margins. The weak operating cash flow in 1H18 could be a signal of slowing sales growth.

Maintaining Buy

We revising up our earnings forecast in 2018-20E by 6%-8% to factor in the higher sales growth in 1H18 and margin expansion in near term. While we see potential sales slowdown in near-term, we maintain our Buy rating for its long-term growth. We expect management's new channel strategy and brand building measures to

Valuation & Risks

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Key changes			
Sales (FYE)	34,044 to 34,918	\uparrow	2.6%
Op prof margin (FYE)	47.5 to 49.8	1	5.0%
Net profit (FYE)	12,426.7 to 13,400.1	1	7.8%
Source: Deutsche Bank			

Price/price relative

Performance (%)

Absolute



1m 3m 12m

-12 0 -12 1 20 7

Absolute	-12.0 -12.1 20.7
Shenzhen Index	-8.7 -19.4 -23.6
Source: Deutsche Bank	
Key indicators (FY1)	
ROE (%)	23.3
Net debt/equity (%)	-76.3
Book value/share (CNY)	16.25
Price/book (x)	4.0
Net interest cover (x)	_
Operating profit margin (%)	49.8
Source: Deutsche Bank	

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drive long-term growth. Current valuation at 14.3x 2019E P/E also implies limited downside, compared with its peers' average at 17x.



Model updated: 27 August 2018	
Running the numbers	
Asia	
China	
Alcohol & Tobacco	

Wuliangye Yibin

Reuters: 000858.SZ Bloomberg: 000858 CH

Buy

The state of the s	
Price (27 Aug 18)	CNY 65.31
Target Price	CNY 92.00
52 Week range	CNY 51.85 - 91.75
Market cap (m)	CNYm 247,915 USDm 36,016

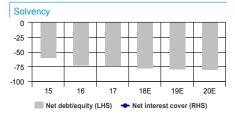
Company Profile

Wuliangye Yibin is China's leading local spirit brand/producer. Major brands under the company include "Wuliangye", "Wuliang Spring", "Wuliangchun" and "Jianzhuang".









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Fiscal year end 31-Dec	2015	2016	2017	2018E	2019E	2020E
Financial Summary						
DB EPS (CNY) Reported EPS (CNY) DPS (CNY) BVPS (CNY)	1.63 1.63 0.80 11.4	1.79 1.79 0.90 12.4	2.55 2.55 1.33 14.1	3.53 3.53 1.84 16.3	4.56 4.56 2.38 19.0	5.69 5.69 2.97 22.3
Weighted average shares (m) Average market cap (CNYm) Enterprise value (CNYm)	3,796 95,934 69,610	3,796 117,781 83,115	3,796 201,230 160,638	3,796 247,915 199,441	3,796 247,915 189,188	3,796 247,915 177,648
Valuation Metrics						
P/E (DB) (x) P/E (Reported) (x) P/BV (x)	15.5 15.5 2.39	17.4 17.4 2.78	20.8 20.8 5.69	18.5 18.5 4.02	14.3 14.3 3.44	11.5 11.5 2.93
FCF Yield (%) Dividend Yield (%)	6.6 3.2	9.7 2.9	4.8 2.5	5.2 2.8	7.0 3.6	8.3 4.5
EV/Sales (x) EV/EBITDA (x) EV/EBIT (x)	3.5 8.6 9.3	3.7 9.2 9.9	6.0 12.5 13.0	5.7 11.1 11.5	4.3 8.1 8.4	3.3 6.1 6.3
Income Statement (CNYm)						
Sales revenue Gross profit	19,875 13,203	22,603 15,288	26,692 18,242	34,918 24,188	44,112 31,525	53,545 38,821
EBITDA Depreciation	8,099 619	9,011 573	12,892 550	18,027 623	23,270	28,971 704
Amortisation	0	0	0	0	0	0
EBIT Net interest income(expense)	7,480 732	8,438 766	12,342 891	17,405 886	22,608 1,059	28,267 1,286
Associates/affiliates Exceptionals/extraordinaries	34 0	33 0	68 0	68 0	68 0	68 0
Other pre-tax income/(expense)	41	100	91	91	91	91
Profit before tax Income tax expense	8,287 1,877	9,337 2,281	13,392 3,306	18,450 4,520	23,827 5,838	29,712 7,279
Minorities Other post-tax income/(expense)	234 0	272 0	412 0	529 0	666 0	830 0
Net profit	6,176	6,785	9,674	13,400	17,324	21,602
DB adjustments (including dilution) DB Net profit	0 6,176	0 6,785	0 9,674	0 13,400	0 17,324	0 21,602
Cash Flow (CNYm)						
Cash flow from operations Net Capex	6,691 -394	11,697 -302	9,766 -201	13,445 -517	17,879 -635	21,333 -757
Free cash flow	6,297	11,395	9,565	12,928	17,243	20,577
Equity raised/(bought back) Dividends paid	0 -2,457	0 -3,212	0 -3,618	0 -5,046	0 -6,990	-9,036
Net inc/(dec) in borrowings Other investing/financing cash flows	0 102	0 159	0 -22	0	0	0
Net cash flow	3,942	8,341	5,926	7,882	10,254	11,540
Change in working capital	-192	4,070	-742	-1,039	-704	-1,735
Balance Sheet (CNYm)	00.004	04.000	40.500	10.170	50.707	70.007
Cash and other liquid assets Tangible fixed assets	26,324 5,902	34,666 5,724	40,592 5,565	48,473 5,459	58,727 5,434	70,267 5,490
Goodwill/intangible assets Associates/investments	413 903	404 796	401 864	395 932	387 1,000	376 1,069
Other assets	19,004	20,584	23,501	29,930	35,200	41,872
Total assets Interest bearing debt	52,547 0	62,174 0	70,923 0	85,189 0	100,748 0	119,074 0
Other liabilities Total liabilities	8,201 8,201	13,969 13,969	16,248 16,248	21,632 21,632	26,191 26,191	31,121 31,121
Shareholders' equity	43,329	47,077	53,334	61,688	72,022	84,588
Minorities Total shareholders' equity Net debt	1,016 44,345 -26,324	1,129 48,206 -34,666	1,340 54,674 -40,592	1,870 63,558 -48,473	2,535 74,557 -58,727	3,365 87,953 -70,267
Key Company Metrics						
Sales growth (%)	2.0	13.7	18.1	30.8	26.3	21.4
DB EPS growth (%) EBITDA Margin (%)	5.8 40.7	9.9 39.9	42.6 48.3	38.5 51.6	29.3 52.8	24.7 54.1
EBIT Margin (%) Payout ratio (%)	37.6	37.3	46.2	49.8	51.3	52.8
ROE (%)	49.2 14.9	50.4 15.0	52.2 19.3	52.2 23.3	52.2 25.9	52.2 27.6
Capex/sales (%) Capex/depreciation (x)	2.0 0.6	1.4 0.5	0.8 0.4	1.5 0.8	1.4 1.0	1.4 1.1
Net debt/equity (%)	-59.4	-71.9	-74.2	-76.3	-78.8	-79.9
Net interest cover (x)	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm

Source: Company data, Deutsche Bank estimates



Appendix 1

Important Disclosures

*Other information available upon request

Disclosure checklist	,	,	
Company	Ticker	Recent price*	Disclosure
Wuliangve Yibin	000858.SZ	65.31 (CNY) 27 Aug 2018	NA

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Historical recommendations and target price. Wuliangye Yibin (000858.SZ)





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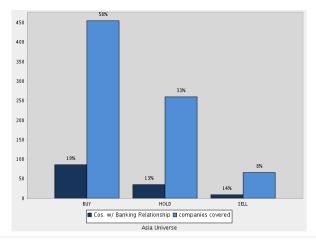
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Sell: Based on a current 12-month view of total share-holder return, we recommend that investors sell the stock.

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