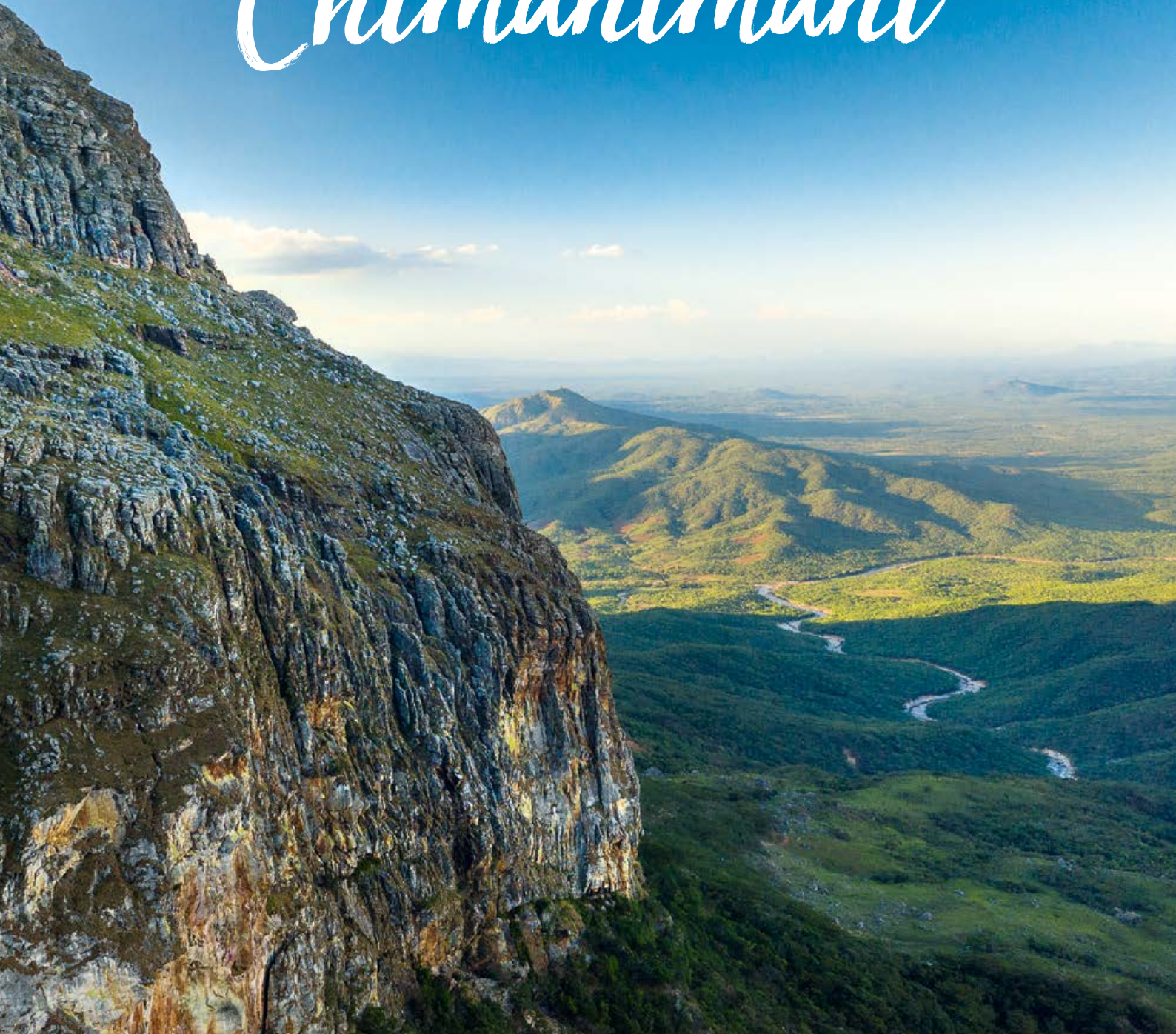




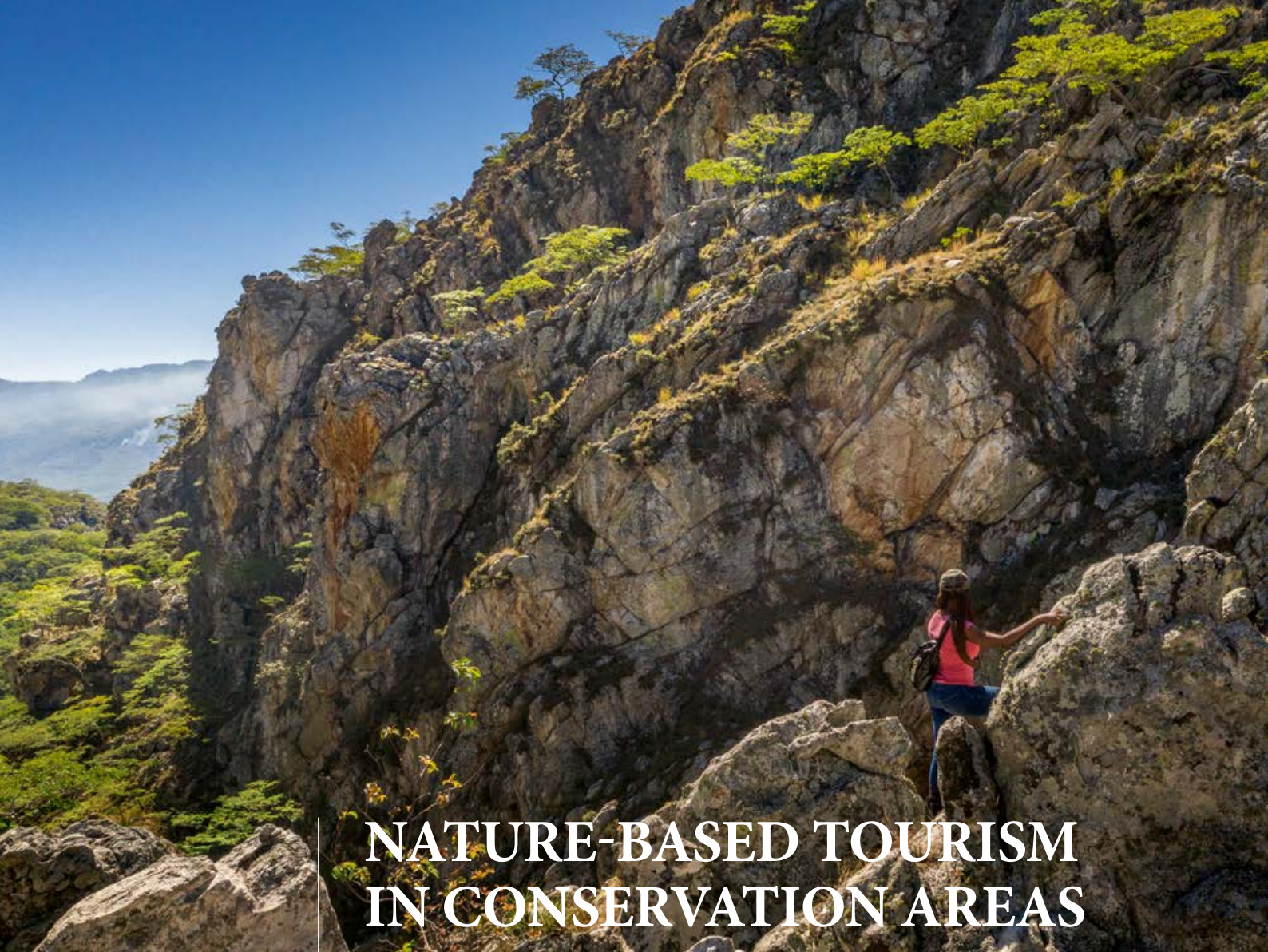
GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE

Chimanimani



TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES





NATURE-BASED TOURISM IN CONSERVATION AREAS

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Globally, governments, NGOs and the managers of protected areas are grappling with the challenge of funding the protection of wildlife species and habitats, while simultaneously ensuring local communities see the benefit of conservation areas.

Nature-based tourism is one of the solutions to addressing this dilemma. By promoting wildlife and natural spaces as attractions, countries can preserve ecosystems and create jobs for those who live closest to conservation areas. Tourism is a priority industry for the Government of Mozambique and the State is committed to opening up opportunities that harness the power of development. Before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the tourism sector employed – directly and indirectly – about 280 000 people, and contributed around 3% to the GDP, and there is undoubtedly scope for growth.

This booklet showcases the principal tourism investment opportunities in Chimanimani National Park. These concrete options for accommodation and eco-tourism activities offer commercial returns while at the same time protecting the exceptional biodiversity of this conservation area.



Chimanimani NATIONAL PARK

Discover a hidden gem, wild and little explored yet relatively accessible. There is something for everyone in Chimanimani, from the adventurer who likes a challenge to couples seeking a romantic night in the forest. Its remoteness gives visitors a feeling of profound connectedness with nature. Chimanimani is the gateway to some of the wildest, most rugged views in Mozambique including the country's highest peak at Mount Binga, which reaches 2 436m above sea level. Bordering Zimbabwe, the Park forms part of the Chimanimani Transfrontier Conservation Area and has an intriguing cultural heritage – the local community is the custodian of cave paintings and ancient traditions. The area is relatively unstudied and of great interest to scientists and researchers. The Park protects grasslands and high mountain vegetation, home to at least 73 plants found nowhere else in the world. This destination is celebrated for its crystal waterfalls, lush forests and Africa's deepest quartzite caves.

UNIQUE APPEAL: Fascinating highland wilderness, cave paintings and ancient traditions.

BACKGROUND Created in 2003 as a National Reserve, with 655km². In recognition of its rich biodiversity, in 2020 it was elevated to National Park.

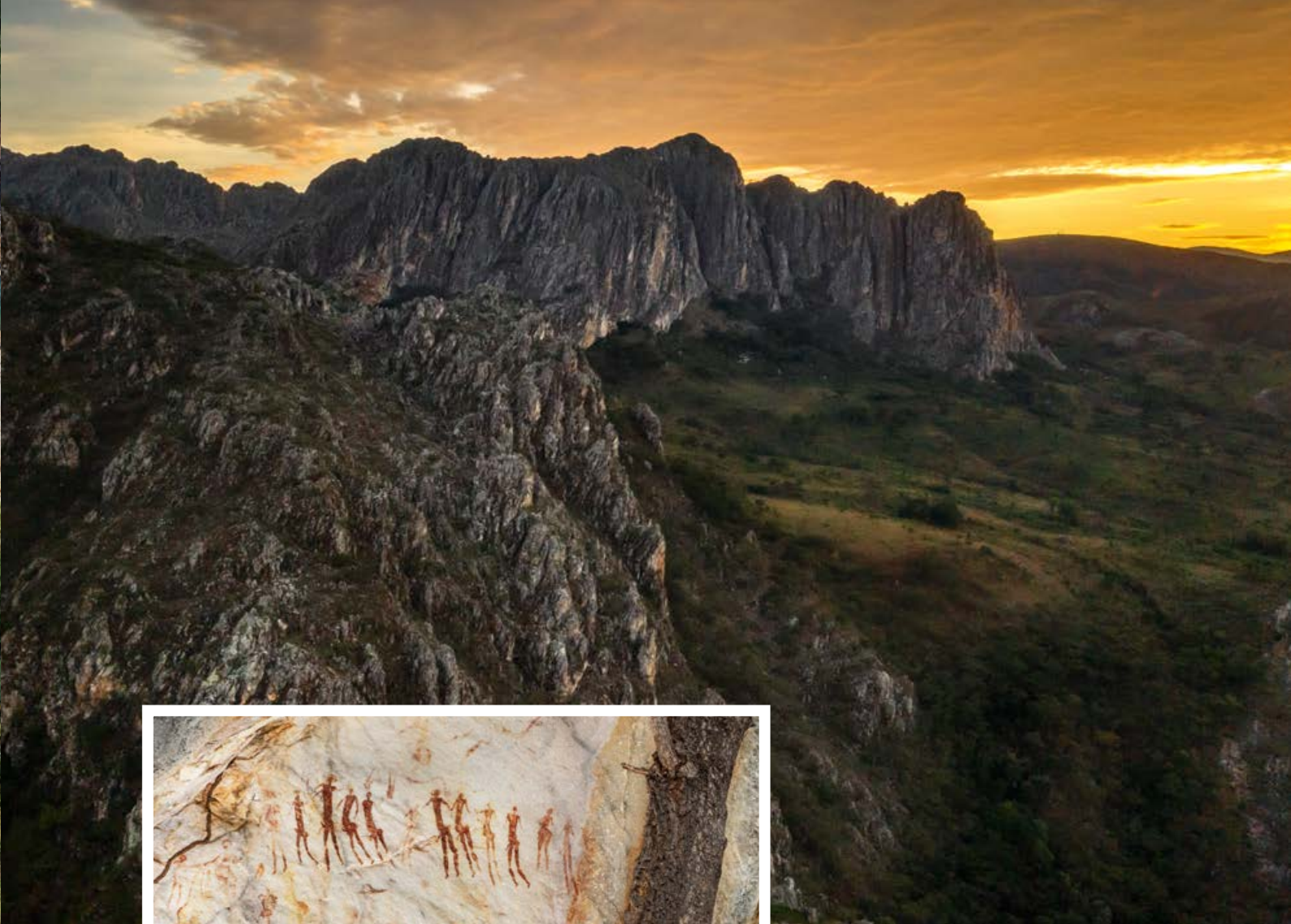
LANDSCAPE AND HABITAT

Virgin afro-montane and evergreen forests, waterfalls, rivers, marshes, montane grasslands, quartzite caves and minerals, and endemic plant species.

WILDLIFE The Park is home to populations of elephant, samango monkey, eland, sable antelope, waterbuck, warthog, butterflies, reptiles and several endemic species of birds (like Swynnerton's robin) and the critically endangered cave squeaker frog (*Arthroleptis troglodytes*).

ACCESS Possible by road, either from Chimoio or from the airports of Tete and Beira. There are daily direct flights from Maputo to Chimoio (1hr20). Alternatively, travel overland via the Zimbabwe border crossing at Machipanda.

TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Due to its rich biodiversity and well-preserved cultural traditions, Chimanimani National Park could become a bastion of scientific, academic, volunteer and educational (SAVE) tourism. The Park's **management plan** provides a framework that helps to ensure tourism development without posing a risk to the habitats and biodiversity the Park seeks to protect. This framework has served as the basis for identifying the principal tourism investment opportunities in Chimanimani, which are set out below:

1 MUSSAPA NHAHOMBA Camp
Strategically located at the Park's main entrance, its riverside position guarantees tranquillity and easy access to the miombo woodlands

■ **CONCEPT:** Maximum of 6 fixed tents (12 beds); campsite with ablutions; reception, restaurant, shop and activity centre; service/workers' area

■ **CAPACITY:** 50 beds (fixed and mobile tents)

■ **ACTIVITIES:** Hiking, birding, SAVE Tourism and mountain biking

Investor sought to develop and operate a camp with views over the Mussapa River.



2 NHABAWA Camp
As a departure point for Mount Binga, this site presents an attractive base camp for climbing and trekking expeditions. There are mountain guides available and the community is ready and able to host.

■ **CONCEPT:** Maximum of 6 fixed tents (12 beds); campsite with ablutions; reception, restaurant, shop and activity centre;

■ **CAPACITY:** 40 beds (fixed and mobile tents)

■ **ACTIVITIES:** Hiking, mountain climbing, birding, SAVE tourism and mountain biking

Concessionaire required to develop a camp aimed at hikers and birders in particular.

3 CHIKUKWA Camp
Located in the extreme west, this site is close to the border with Zimbabwe as well as the cliffs that gave rise to the name Chimanimani, the Muoha waterfalls and rock paintings.

■ **CONCEPT:** Maximum of 6 fixed tents (12 beds); campsite with ablutions; reception, restaurant, shop and activity centre;

■ **CAPACITY:** 40 beds (fixed and mobile tents)

■ **ACTIVITIES:** Hiking, mountain climbing, birding, SAVE tourism, mountain biking, historical and cultural tourism

Concessionaire required to develop a camp aimed at hikers and birders in particular.

ACTIVITY OPERATORS

Opportunities for activity operators, as an integrated part of the accommodation sites or as separate initiatives, include:

Trails, fly-camps, hiking, mountain climbing, birding, botanical interests, photographic safaris, kayaking, mountain biking, and historical and cultural tourism.

■ **Highlands area** offers challenging hiking and some rock climbing. Ample potential for mountain-biking routes, horse riding and kayaking, as well as organised courses and team-building activities.

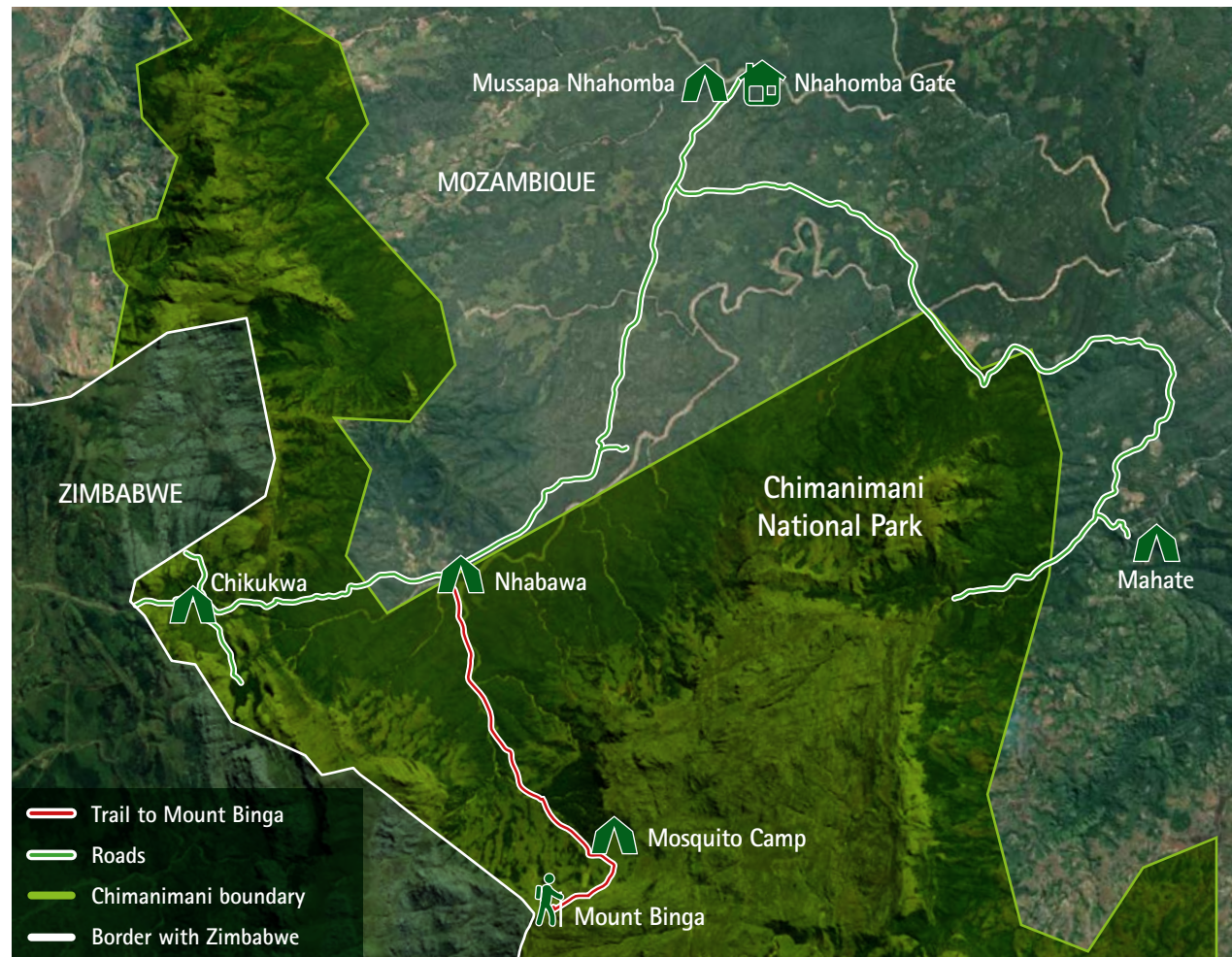
■ **Mahate, Moribane, Zomba and Maronga** present attractive hiking opportunities, from routes into the mountains to deep forest areas and other attractions including hot springs.

■ **Cultural and historical tours** offer tourism potential owing to the rock art and the Great Zimbabwe ruins in several areas. Attractive craft traditions and a vibrant living culture of music and dance make Chimanimani a prime heritage destination.

ACTIVITIES & TRAILS

Come discover and explore the stunning landscapes on offer in Chimanimani. Diverse trails and local guides will introduce visitors to unique habitats, including waterfalls, rock art and the opportunity to climb the country's highest mountain.

MAP OF THE TRAIL TO MOUNT BINGA



INFRASTRUCTURE Beyond Ndzou Camp only very basic camping. Some areas can be reached only after a long walk or 4x4 trip.



TOURISM Due in part to the limited accommodation offering, current visitor numbers are low, but there are encouraging signs of modest growth. Nearby Chimoio and Manica Province in general are the focus of significant investment, with a burgeoning middle class as well as business and NGO travellers.

THE WAY FORWARD

Interested in investing in Chimanimani National Park? The next steps are as follows:

1 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

The State issues an EOI invitation with requirements. The private party submits a brief proposal in line with the guidelines provided. Potential investors can conduct field visits to evaluate the sites and meet with stakeholders.

2 INVITATION FOR PROPOSAL

The tender committee of ANAC reviews the EOI and issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) to shortlisted candidates. The private party prepares a detailed proposal on the investment.

3 ASSESSMENT

The tender committee reviews proposals accordingly and informs successful bidders.

4 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

The terms of the contract and business plan are finalised in a negotiation between the private party, ANAC and Park Administration.

CONTACTS

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