MOUNTAIN OF REMEMBRANCE

to the founder of the Zulu Royal family
and dedicated to the history of the Zulu Nation

The opportunity to invest in the creation of what is destined to become one of the most identifiable landmarks in Africa.

AN OVERVIEW

It is proposed to erect a living monument to the Father of the Zulu nation, on a prominent site on the Impimbo Mountain, in the central Drakensberg range overlooking the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site.

The monument will house a museum dedicated to the history of the Zulu nation - and access to the facility will be by cableway only.

Investment potential includes the establishment and operation of the cableway, and the creation and management of the museum and visitor support services and facilities.

By focussing on Senzangakhona, father of 8 Zulu kings, the monument will not only honour a hero in South African history, it will celebrate the freedom and liberty attained by the people of the rainbow nation since this country’s first democratic elections were held in 1994.

The size and positioning of the statues is significant.

At 33 metres, the proposed statue of Senzangakhona will tower over the statues of the 8 Zulu kings descended from him.

Positioned atop a significant peak in the majestic Drakensberg Mountains (known to the Zulu people as uKahlamba – the barrier of spears) the monument is destined to become one of the most visited – and photographed – tourism landmarks in Africa.

In time, and allowing that tourism to the region continues to grow at its current accelerated pace, the statues of Senzangakhona and the 8 Zulu kings will become one of the most immediately recognisable landmarks in the world.

Significantly, the statues will face east – looking forward to each new day in Africa.
THE LOCATION

An imposing mountain range soaring to 3 500 metres, the majestic Drakensberg is a magnetic holiday destination – a place of unforgettable beauty, outdoor pleasures and entertainment.

Decades ago, entrepreneurs recognised the Drakensberg as one of the most spectacular tourism attractions in all of Africa, and today the region offers the visitor superb accommodation and stop-over options.

With hot and sunny days in summer, and a winter that brings crisp, clear days and cold, bracing nights, the Drakensberg is a year round tourism attraction.

The proposed site of the monument is Impimbo Mountain, which is situated in the central Drakensberg range, about 30 kilometres from the N3, the busiest highway in South Africa and 15kms from the Village of Winterton.

Impimbo Mountain rises some 450 metres above the surrounding area, and investigations confirm that the top of the mountain, where the statues will be erected, can easily be accessed by cableway. There is currently a gravel road to the top.
INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON

To put the proposed state of King Shaka in world perspective, it has been compared with two internationally recognised landmarks – the Statue of Liberty in New York harbour, and the statue of Christ the Redeemer, which overlooks Rio de Janeiro.

The pedestal on which the Statue of Liberty stands is 47 metres high, while the statue, from its feet to the top of the torch, stands just over 46 metres high – giving a total height of 93 metres. A symbol of the United States of America, and an expression of freedom to people all over the world, it is visited by over 2 million people every year.

The statue of Christ the Redeemer overlooks Rio de Janeiro from atop Corcovado Mountain. It can be seen from most places in the Rio area. Completed in 1931, it is constructed of concrete and soapstone, and stands 30 metres tall.

The proposed statue of Senzangakhona will stand 33 metres high, atop a mountain 450 metres high – giving it a total dominance of 483 metres – with spectacular views over 100 kilometres of the Drakensberg Mountains and an unlimited outlook to the east.

THE DESIGN

It is proposed that the monument incorporate:

- A base housing a three-storey museum dedicated to the history of the Zulu nation.
- Support visitor facilities, including restaurants and retail outlet and conference facility.
- Upper and a lower viewing platforms accessed by lifts.
- A beacon illumination of the tip of the spear at night, with the entire monument floodlit.

The statues will be constructed, in the main, from reinforced concrete, stainless steel, brass and fibreglass.

Public access from the base of Impimbo Mountain to the statues will be by cableway only.
At the base cableway station, there will be parking facilities for cars and coaches.

It is envisaged that adjoining the parking facility, a craft village will be established, offering not only authentic arts and crafts, but a Zulu experience – such as traditional dance and song, dining, entertainment and story telling.

**THE INVESTMENT REWARDS**

In addition to rewarding returns to individual investors, the proposal offers opportunities for corporate bodies and organisations to become directly involved in a venture which will become a significant and meaningful element in the future of South African tourism and regional community development.

Not only will the erection of the statue of the Royal Zulu kings unleash a new and exciting tourism attraction in a region already reaping rich rewards from domestic and international visitors; but it will make a meaningful contribution to the upliftment of the people in the region.

Rural communities will be given the opportunity to become directly involved in the operation of the project – as well as providing visitor services and arts and craft items to satisfy the curio and memento demands of the visitors to the region.

**THE INVESTMENT**

Individual and corporate investors are offered opportunities relating to:

1. The design, construction and maintenance of the statues;
2. The establishment and operation of the museum dedicated to the Zulu nation;
3. Visitor services on Impimbo Mountain, including food and beverage;
4. Construction and operation of the cableway;
5. Visitor services at the base station, including parking and catering;
6. Establishment and operation of the arts and crafts facility at the base station.

Project cost: $4 million is envisaged.