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GUARDIANS OF THE WILD AND NATIVE

THE WILDLIFE AND PROTECTED AREAS INVESTMENT CATALOGUE FOR ETHIOPIA



THE WILDLIFE AND PROTECTED AREAS INVESTMENT CATALOGUE FOR ETHIOPIA

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
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Produced by
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Contents

Foreword	IX
Investing in Nature	1
Ethiopia at a Glance	2
Fast Growing Economy	4
UNESCO hotspot	4
Natural Wealth	5
Why Invest in Ethiopia?	6
Why invest in Wildlife and PAs of Ethiopia?	7
A Pathway to Prosperity	8
Nature Tourism	10
Positive Recent Initiatives	12
Ethiopia's Dynamic Nature	16
Endemic Wildlife	18
Protected Areas	20
About EWCA	22
Home of the Unique Seven	24
Ethiopian Wolf	26
Walia ibex	28
Mountain Nyala	30
Swayne's Hartebeest	32
Menelik's Bushbuck	34
Gelada Monkey	36
Bale Monkey	38
Tourism in PAs of Ethiopia	40
Conservation Benefits	42
Categories of Investment	44
Featured PAs	46
Omo National Park	48
Gambela National Park	50
Chebera Churchura National Park	52
Awash National Park	54
Halledighe Asebot National Park	56
Simien Mountains National Park	58
Bale Mountains National Park	60
Nech Sar National Park	62
Senkelle Swayne's Hartebeest Sanctuary	64
Abjiata Shalla Lakes National Park	66
Next Steps for Investors	70
The Application Process	71
Incentives for Tourism Investments	72
Investment Benefits	73

ACRONYM REFERENCES

ANP	Awash National Park
ASLNP	Abjiata Shalla Lakes National Park
BMNP	Bale Mountains National Park
CCNP	Chebera Churchura National Park
EWCA	Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IP	Interested Party
GNP	Gambela National Park
HANP	Halledighe Asebot National Park
NNP	Nech Sar National Park
ONP	Omo National Park
PA / PAs	Protected Area / Protected Areas
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
SMNP	Simien Mountains National Park
SSHS	Senkelle Swayne's Hartebeest Sanctuary
WPAIC	Wildlife and PA Investment Catalogue

DEFINITIONS

Concession	In this context, when the document refers to ‘concessions’ it is explaining the process of the government agency (EWCA) legally granting, sharing or transferring all or part of its existing right to operate and its management duties (or certain services within it) of a particular PA to a private entity (with a principal objective of conservation but also income generation to improve conservation and welfare of local communities, ecosystems and biodiversity).
Digital Match-Making Platform	Is a management tool developed for EWCA to connect investment opportunities in protected areas and wildlife tourism opportunities with the prospective investor. http://dmmp.ewca.gov.et
Environmental Impact Assessment/ Strategic Environmental Assessment	Before any public or private project can be signed of for development it must undergo an EIA or SEA (or both) to mitigate against the potential impacts on the environment. SEAs are broader documents developed at the planning stage and an EIA is employed later at the approval process stage.
Endemic Species	Endemism is the state of a species only being found in a single defined geographic location, such as an island, state, nation, country or other defined zone; organisms that are indigenous to a place are not endemic to it if they are also found elsewhere
General Management Plan	A strategic document that sets a long-term vision for the protected area. It outlines clear objectives of how to develop and protect its resources
Interested Party	Any individuals, groups of legal entities and/or individuals, or consortia interested in engaging in the tender process are considered natural persons.
Investment Opportunity	This presents an opportunity to engage in investments related to wildlife and protected areas under the jurisdiction of EWCA. The digital matchmaking platform established by EWCA will facilitate public access to all available investment opportunities. Prospective Investors are encouraged by EWCA to make inquiries regarding unpublished opportunities, provided that their investment proposals align with the specified criteria and requirements outlined in the Policy document.
Nature-based Tourism or Nature Tourism	Used as a catch all phrase to encompass tourism which is based on the natural attractions of a given area. It consists of responsible travel to experience natural areas and their landscape, plants and animals, protecting the environment and improving the quality of life of locals. Ecotourism can be considered a more focused sub-set of nature tourism. It differs only in its deeper considerations of and emphasis on sustainability, conservation and responsible travel.

Protected Areas	The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), defines a protected area as: a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature. The use of hunting licenses within PAs and buffer zones must be carefully restricted and monitored in order to meet the principal conservation objectives.
Public Private Partnership	Most often referred to as PPP, a public–private partnership is a long-term arrangement between a government and private sector institutions. Typically, it involves private capital financing government projects and services up-front, and then drawing revenues from taxpayers and/or users for profit over the course of the PPP contract. PPP can increase the quality, the efficiency and the competitiveness of public services. It can supplement limited public sector capacities and raise additional finance in an environment of budgetary restrictions. The best use of private sector operational efficiencies can increase quality to the public and the ability to speed up infrastructure development.
Standard License Agreement	A standard license agreement for such a PPP in Ethiopia would generally include the following elements (non-exhaustive list): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties to the Agreement – Government agency, private partner) • Definitions of important aspects such as ‘management duties’ or ‘conservation objectives’ • Scope of the Agreement – the specific PAs covered and responsibilities shared or transferred • Terms of Agreement – duration and conditions for renewal or extension • Roles and Responsibilities – including conservation activities, tourism management, infrastructure development and community engagement. • Financial Arrangements – revenue sharing and investment commitments, audits etc. • Performance Metrics and Monitoring – specific performance metrics and benchmarks to evaluate the private partner’s performance and inspections. • Environmental and Social Safeguards – requirements for environmental protection, including impact assessments and mitigation measures. Social safeguards, including community involvement, benefit-sharing with local communities, and conflict resolution mechanisms. • Risk Management – identifying risks, mitigation strategies and insurance requirements, liability provisions Governing Law, Dispute Resolution, Termination etc.

FOREWORD



The EWCA has made it part of its mission to conserve the nation's natural heritage through tourism development.

Kumara Wakjira

The Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) Director General

Welcome to the Ethiopian Wildlife and Protected Areas Investment Catalogue (WPAIC), a comprehensive guide that provides the various investment opportunities within Ethiopia's Protected Areas (PAs) system. It is my great privilege to introduce you to the extraordinary wonders of our diverse wildlife resources, landscapes, natural features, and the untapped potential that awaits potential investors. Ethiopia has established several iconic protected areas that have significant national and global importance, sustaining the survival of its rare and charismatic wildlife species. Recognising the importance of nature-based tourism as a tool for ensuring social, economic, and environmental sustainability, the Ethiopian government has undertaken economic reforms in which tourism development including wildlife has been classified as one of the national economic pillars. Promoting wildlife tourism significantly contributes to increasing the number of international and domestic tourists. Diversifying and incorporating nature-based tourism, which heavily relies on PAs, is fundamental to this.

Nature-based tourism is an integral part of the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority's (EWCA) strategy to promote wildlife economy through effective conservation of wildlife and management of wildlife and protected areas. Unfortunately, the overall wildlife tourism development in Ethiopia's PAs is limited and generates minimal revenue compared to what is feasible as shown by neighbouring countries. The main constraints of wildlife tourism development in protected areas related to lack of tourism infrastructures and facilities, including accommodation facilities, road networks, and other basic amenities. To this end, the EWCA recognises the need for alternative financing mechanisms for protected areas to achieve their desired objectives. Recognising the new Public Private Partnership (PPP) proclamation and in alignment with legal provisions, the EWCA welcomes the private sector in protected areas management and the development of tourism facilities and accommodation.

The income generated from wildlife tourism has the potential to enhance the livelihoods of communities, contribute to the country's revenue, and support the development of PA management to conserve Ethiopia's biodiversity and maintain or improve ecosystem services. I, therefore, extend a warm invitation to seize this significant opportunity and join us in shaping the future of nature-based tourism and wildlife conservation in Ethiopia. Together, let us create a legacy that transcends generations and wholeheartedly celebrates the magnificence of our wildlife heritage, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of current and future Ethiopians and our esteemed international visitors.

INVESTING IN NATURE

The Ethiopian government has acknowledged the significance of investments in nature and tourism as a socio-economic development tool for poverty reduction and economic recovery. Ongoing economic reforms aim to substantially increase the number of international, regional, and domestic tourists. Nevertheless, tourism remains under-developed due to deficiencies in regional and local-level infrastructure, security concerns, and a lack of awareness.

This Investment Catalogue presents an overview of the existing opportunities for investment in PAs management, operation, and wildlife tourism in Ethiopia. In addition, it provides guidance and clarity on procedures regarding the development and conservation of Ethiopia's PAs, which are a mandatory requirement of any investment. Any Interested Party (IP) will need to follow the steps outlined in the 'Application Procedure' section of this catalogue below.



Investors who receive approval from the EWCA to proceed with a full project proposal, must comply with all the guidelines and regulations stipulated by the EWCA as part of these good governance measures.



An independent Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)/ Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) will be conducted for each full project proposal.

The IP should consider all relevant criteria when preparing both the development prospectus and the full project proposal. These criteria will be provided and communicated by the EWCA.



Once a full project proposal has been completed and approved, the IP will make formal agreements with the EWCA through a legally binding **standard license agreement**.

THE SPECIFIC AIMS OF THIS DOCUMENT INCLUDE:

1. Facilitating investment in wildlife and PAs by the private sector through concession or via the PPP model.
2. Enhancing the management and conservation of PAs and wildlife to protect Ethiopia's Natural heritage.
3. Establishing high-quality tourist infrastructure, facilities, and services within PAs and their buffer zones.
4. Generating revenues that can be allocated towards the management and conservation of PAs; and
5. Promoting nature-based tourism that fosters employment, and supports rural communities.

ETHIOPIA AT A GLANCE

Ethiopia is located in the Horn of Africa and has an economy that is heavily reliant on agriculture, while the industry and service sectors have seen recent growth. The country faces a range of difficulties including poverty, conflict, drought, and social unrest. Ethiopia is the second most populous country in Africa, with a population of approximately 123 million, of which over 60 million Ethiopians are an active labour force, trainable and available at competitive wage rates



Ethiopia
LAND OF ORIGINS



POPULATION
123+M
60M Active labour force



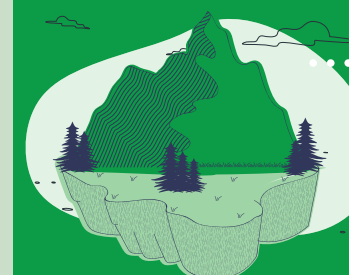
LANGUAGE
83200 dialects.
Amharic
working language



TIME
GMT +3
follows the
JULIAN CALENDAR
with
13TH MONTHS



CURRENCY
birr Units of currency
Notes
5, 10, 50, 100
AND 200 BIRR.



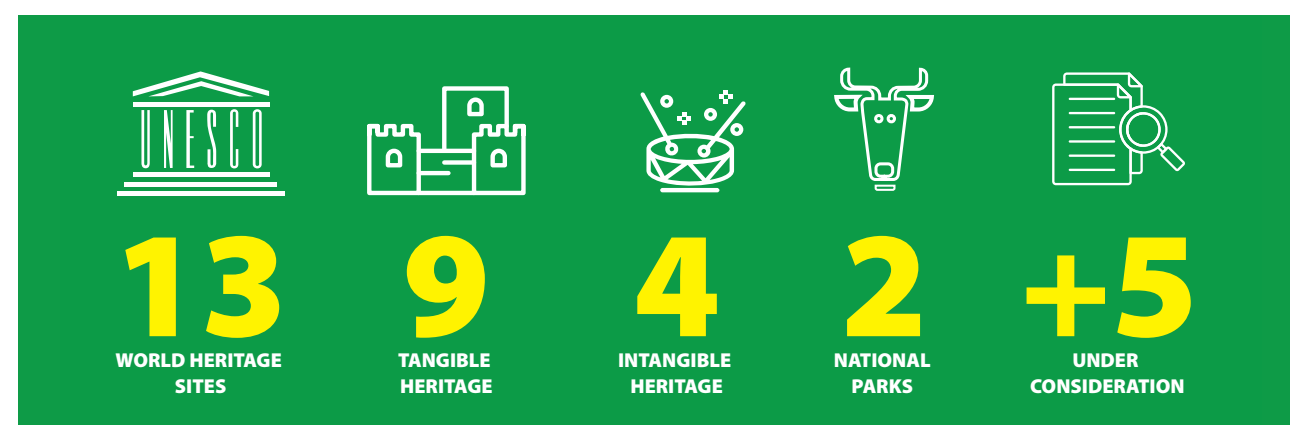
TOTAL AREA
1.112m km2
27TH biggest in the world.

FAST GROWING ECONOMY

Ethiopia's economic growth is unparalleled in the region. Although the real GDP growth rate dropped to 5.3% in 2022 from 5.6% in 2021, it continues to surpass the average for East Africa (4.7% in 2021 and 4.4% in 2022). GDP is predicted to grow by 5.8% in 2023 and 6.2% in 2024, driven by industry, private consumption, and investment. Ethiopia aims to achieve a lower-middle income status by 2030 and sustain its economic growth to achieve medium-middle and higher-middle status by 2040 and 2050 respectively.

UNESCO HOTSPOT

Ethiopia's extensive cultural and natural wealth is demonstrated by its 13 UNESCO World Heritage Sites (nine tangible and four intangible). This is the highest number of any country in Africa. Most of these are cultural sites, while Simien and Bale Mountains National Parks represent the natural sites. Furthermore, additional sites are under consideration for status by UNESCO, including Lake Tana Island Monasteries and its Adjacent Wetland Natural and Cultural Heritages, The Cultural Heritage of Yeha, Melka Kunture and Balchit, Sacred Landscapes of Tigray, Dirre Sheik Hussein Religious, Cultural and Historical Site and Holqa Sof Omar: Natural and Cultural Heritage.



NATURAL WEALTH

Ethiopia has the fifth-highest biodiversity in Africa and hosts the Eastern Afrotropical and Horn of Africa biodiversity hotspots. Ethiopia is also the centre of the East Africa region that has eleven Afrotropical ecoregions and has been designated one of the Global 200¹, an ecoregion of global importance for biodiversity conservation. This biodiversity in flora and fauna is strongly associated with the geomorphological history of the region. The country is characterized by dramatic geological landscapes and a broad range of elevations, from the Afar Depression (~125 m below sea level) in the northeast to the spectacular world heritage mountains of Ras Dejen (4533 m above sea level) inside the Simien Mountains National Park (SMNP). Furthermore, Ethiopia possesses 70% of Africa's mountains over 3000 meters above sea level. This large elevational range with its varied topography and climate has created notable habitat and species diversity, and centres of species endemism, particularly in the highlands. To ensure the conservation of these important ecosystems and charismatic wildlife species, Ethiopia has created several iconic PAs: the Awash, Bale Mountains, Gambela, Nech Sar, Omo, and Simien Mountains National Parks.

- Ethiopia has **70%** AFRICA'S MOUNTAINS over **3000m** above sea level
- HIGHEST POINT 4533m**
Ras Dejen
- LOWEST POINT -125m**
Danakil Depression
- MAJOR RIVERS**
Abay, Awash, Tekeze, Omo, Baro, Wabi-shebelle, Mereb, Gennale
- MAJOR LAKES**
Tana, Hawassa, Abijjata, Shala, Langano, Chamo, Abaya, Ziway
- NATURAL RESOURCES**
Gold, Platinum, Copper, Potash, Natural gas, Hydro power

¹ <https://www.worldwildlife.org/publications/global-200>

WHY INVEST IN ETHIOPIA



Ethiopia has become an emerging hub and a preferred destination for foreign direct investment:



Swift economic reforms



Fifth-largest economy in Africa



Attractive investment incentives and opportunities



Strong legal frameworks



Diplomatic centre



Sustainable and cost-effective electric power supply



Growing social and physical infrastructure



Favourable market access and strategic location



Active labour force, available at competitive wage rates



Home to Africa's leading Airline with comprehensive infrastructure across Ethiopia and well-connected tarmac roads

WHY INVEST IN WILDLIFE AND PAs OF ETHIOPIA?

A wealth of **biodiversity** and natural wonder



Land of **rare** and **endemic** species



Once in a lifetime **experiences**



Dramatic landscapes which possess 70% of Africa's highest mountains

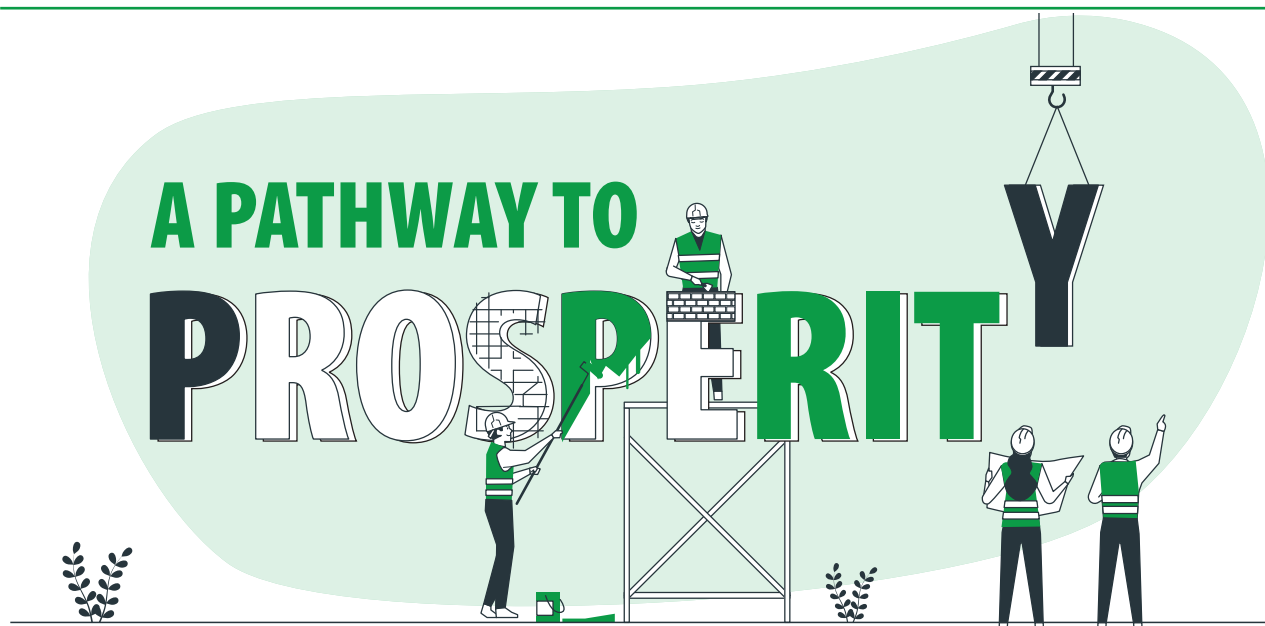


Emerging tourism industry

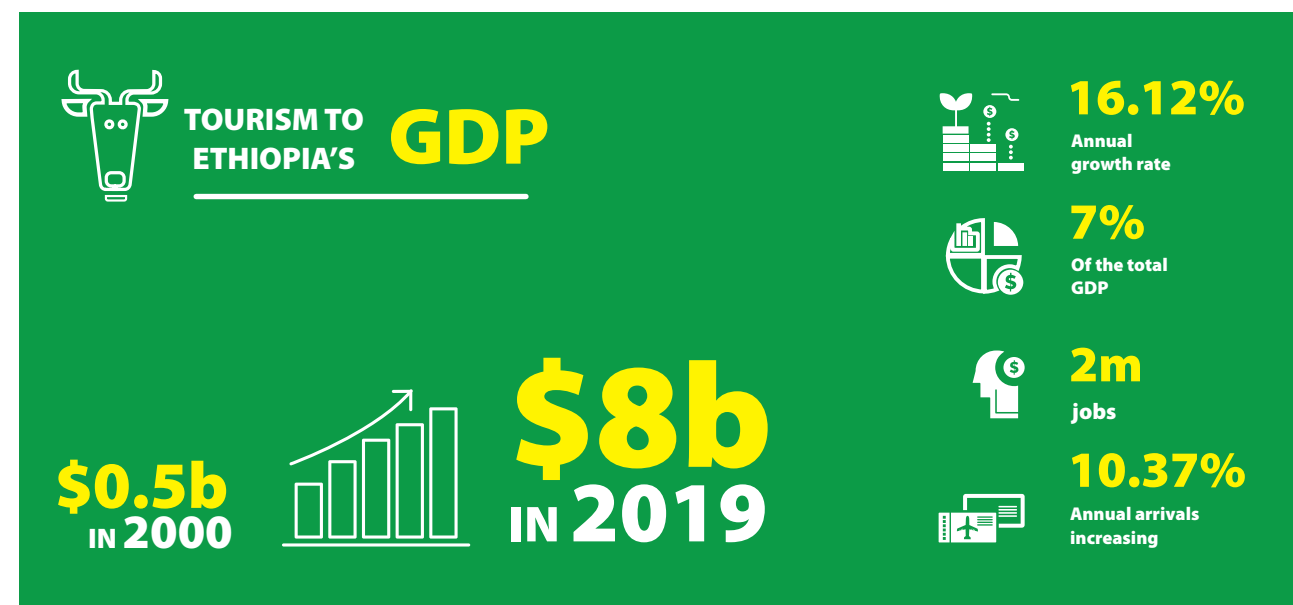


An unparalleled **cultural** and **historical** experience





The Home-Grown Economic Reform has been developed by the Ethiopian government as 'a pathway to prosperity'. It aims to ensure macroeconomic stability to sustain rapid economic growth; rebalance the public and private sector's role in the economy; and unlock new and existing sectors with growth potential. The tourism sector is a prime pillar of the economic reforms to develop high-end tourist accommodation facilities and attractions, through PPP. The Ethiopian government has acknowledged the significance of its PAs and embarrassment of natural wealth, as a socio-economic development tool for poverty reduction and economic recovery. The contribution of travel and tourism to Ethiopia's GDP has been on a consistent rise, from \$ 0.5 billion in 2000 to \$ 8 billion in 2019, at an average annual growth rate of 16.12%. In 2019, visitors' spending directly contributed \$2.4 billion to the GDP, resulting in a total impact of \$6.1 billion including indirect and induced impacts, and this constituted 7% of the total GDP while supporting 2 million jobs. The total number of arrivals has been increasing at an average annual rate of 10.37% for over two decades. However, Ethiopia's tourism sector experienced a tremendous loss of \$2 billion in recent years as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and several armed conflicts.



Nature Tourism

Nature-tourism initiatives are crucial in Ethiopia. They can create significant ecological, economic and social benefits. The economic reforms discussed above are set to increase the number of international tourists from 850 thousand in 2019 to 7.3 million by 2030. It has the potential to improve the livelihoods of communities and the country's revenue while contributing to the improved management of PAs. Tourism developments in PAs have historically provided an important narrative for both international and national-level promotion, benefiting the regions and major cities. However, despite the draw of these natural wonders and the

potential of the natural capital assets for wealth creation, the scale and productivity of services have been held back by poor tourism infrastructure across the country. The government is optimistic about utilizing tourism as a driving force for the development of Ethiopia's green economy, while prioritising local and national economies and protecting its biodiversity for present and future generations. Gambela National Park, Geralle National Park, Halledighe Asebot National Park, Kafta Shiraro National Park, Nech-Sar National Park, Omo National Park, Senkelle Sanctuary, and Simien Mountains National Park.



Positive Recent Initiatives

These recent initiatives show a positive trend of considerable government support for Ethiopia’s tourism sector, which is likely to grow as public/ private partnerships increase in number and productivity: More recently, the Ministry of Tourism (MoT) has drafted a new National Tourism Policy that outlines the responsibility of Ethiopia’s tourism sector in relation to sustainable growth.

Strides in transforming Ethiopia’s tourism through “Gebeta Lehager” projects:

these newly established tourism sites and products have become available for visitors in Addis Ababa. These include Entoto Park in the Hill of Addis Ababa and Unity Park situated within the Grand Palace of Menelik II. Other newly developed tourist destinations that are now accessible to visitors include Wonchi Crater Lake, Gorgora Port located in the northern part of Lake Tana, and Koyesha in Southwestern Ethiopia which contains Chebera Churchura National Park (CCNP), and Halala Kella.

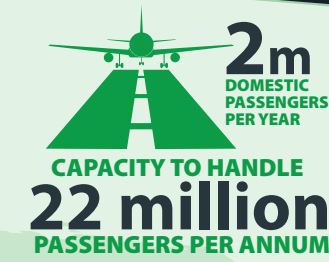
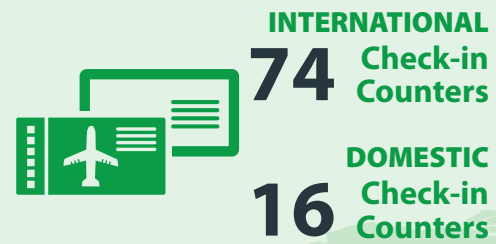




Ethiopian Airlines is a major driving force for travel and tourism growth:

The Ethiopian Airport Enterprise invests heavily in the national carrier Ethiopian Airlines, Addis Ababa Bole International, and regional airports. The carrier connects to many PAs such as Bale Mountains, Simien Mountains, Nech Sar, and Gambela.

ADDIS ABABA BOLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



ETHIOPIA'S DYNAMIC NATURE

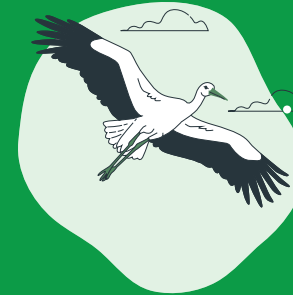


Endemic Wildlife

Ethiopia boasts an impressive mammalian fauna with approximately 340 species, including 26 endemic species, making it one of the most diverse in Africa. Additionally, Ethiopia's avifauna is equally bountiful, with more than 860 bird species recorded in the country of which 18 are endemic, making Ethiopia a premier African bird-watching destination. The reptile and amphibian populations also comprise a significant number of endemic species, and 41 of the 150 species of freshwater fish that inhabit Ethiopia are also endemic, contributing to Ethiopia's distinctive wildlife landscape.



PLANTS
7000
625 endemic species
669 near-endemic
1 endemic plant genus



AVIAN
862
18 endemic species
2 endemic genera



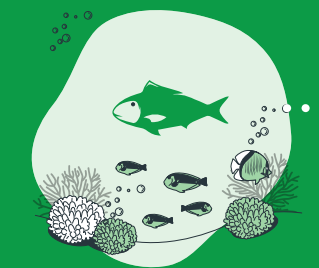
MAMMALS
340
26 endemic species



REPTILE
240
15 endemic species



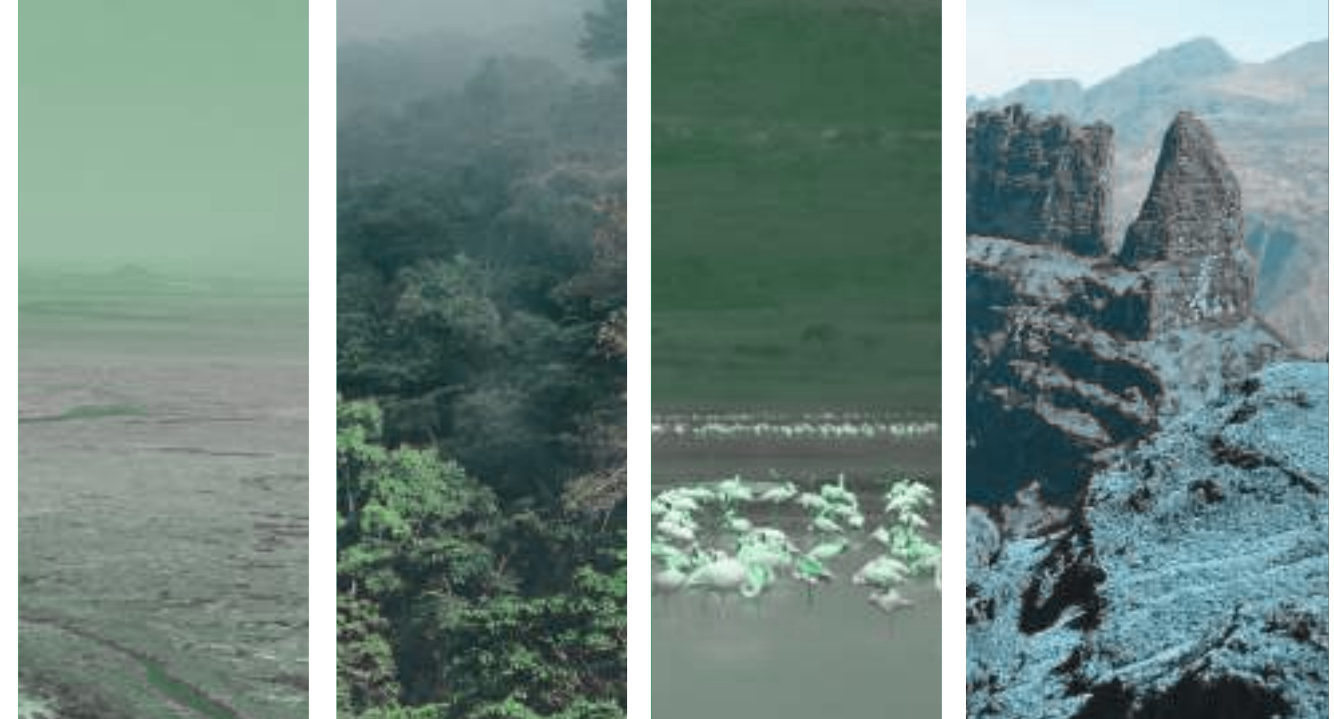
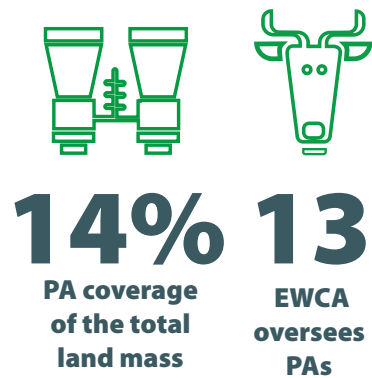
AMPHIBIANS
71
30 endemic species



FRESHWATER FISH
150
41 endemic species

Protected Areas

Ethiopia has created several renowned PAs, which are nationally and globally significant to safeguard to preserve the country's dynamic ecosystem and wildlife heritage. Overall, the PA coverage is estimated to be 14% of the total land mass of the country. The EWCA oversees the management of 13 PAs: Abjata Shala National Park, Alatish National Park, Awash National Park, Babilie Elephant Sanctuary, Bale Mountains National Park, Gambela National Park, Geralle National Park, Halledighe Asebot National Park, Kafta Shiraro National Park, Nech-Sar National Park, Omo National Park, Senkelle Sanctuary, and Simien Mountains National Park. These PAs encompass nearly all major habitat types found within the country. The biogeography of Ethiopia is characterised by four distinct regions: the Highlands, Rift Valley, Southwestern Lowlands, and Eastern Arid Areas.



HIGHLANDS



The extensive highlands of Ethiopia are unparalleled in Africa. Rugged and varied, some regions are characterised by dramatic steep escarpments and deep valleys. Rising to a height of 4,543 meters above sea level at the summit of Ras Dejen in the scenic Simien Mountains, the Highlands are truly the "Roof of Africa". Ethiopia's afro-alpine habitats are unequalled in Africa, divided by the Great East African Rift Valley to the Northwestern and

South-eastern regions. The Rift Valley crashes through the highland plateau, creating a stunning geographical mosaic with ecologically diverse ecosystems and habitats. This has contributed to the remarkably high levels of endemism. The Ethiopian highlands encompass several PAs, including the Bale Mountains, Simien Mountains, Arsi Mountains, Borena-Saynt Worehimeno National Parks, and the Menz Guassa and Abune Yosef community conservation areas.

RIFT VALLEY



The Rift Valley is arguably more accessible and contains awe-inspiring landscapes, lakes, and forests teeming with diverse communities of plants and animals, as well as numerous volcanic

features. The Rift Valley boasts iconic protected landscapes including the Yangudi-Rasa National Park in the north to Mago National Park in the south.

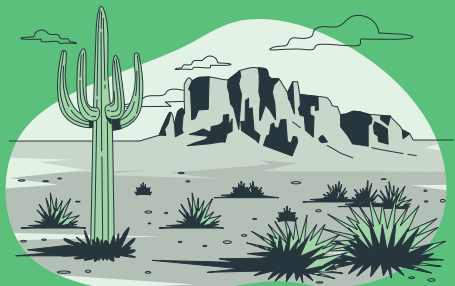
SOUTHWESTERN LOWLANDS



The Southwestern Lowlands host groups of large mammals, including a migratory population of elephants and the white-eared kob, which migrates to and from South Sudan. The Southwestern Lowland parks include Omo, Chebera-Churchura,

and Gambela National Parks, each exhibiting a migratory ecosystem.

EASTERN LOWLANDS



The Eastern Arid and semi-arid woodland areas harbour the highest flora endemism richness in Ethiopia and include species such as frankincense and myrrh, the basis of a millennia old trade.



About EWCA

EWCA is a state agency under the MoT and established under the Ethiopian Wildlife Development and Conservation Authority Establishment Proclamation (No. 575/2008).

Vision

The EWCA's vision is to improve the contribution of wildlife resources for Ethiopia's economic development.

Mission

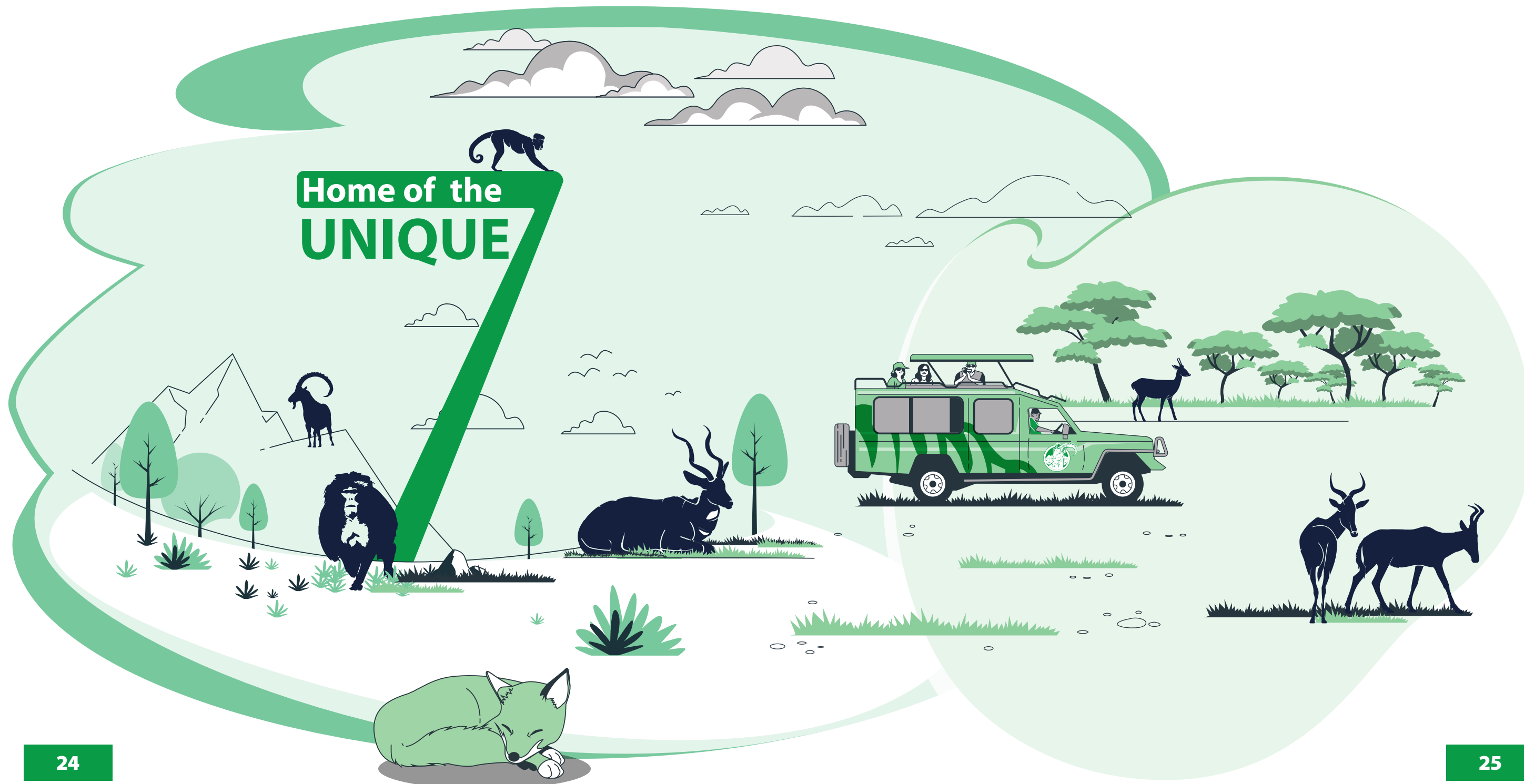
EWCA's mission is to ensure sustainable development, conservation, and wise utilization of Ethiopia's wildlife resources and their ecosystem services that promote resilience for communities across generations.



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GUARDIANS OF THE WILD AND NATIVE

HOME OF THE UNIQUE SEVEN

The EWCA recognizes the wealth in diversity of species and their distinctiveness as one of the key attractions of Ethiopia's wildlife heritage. Referring to seven distinctive and endemic large mammals found solely in Ethiopia, this diversity is being endorsed by the EWCA through an attractive national wildlife brand.



ETHIOPIAN WOLF

The Afroalpine Specialist

Among canids, the Ethiopian wolf is the rarest and world's most endangered carnivore, with a population of only approximately 500 mature individuals. A noteworthy fact is that 70% of the global population of this exceedingly rare canid species can be found within the BMNP. In 1990, it was added to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species and currently holds the designation of "Endangered". In the Simien Mountains, the Ethiopian wolves inhabit the Afro-alpine habitat situated above an elevation of 3,600 meters. Conversely, in the Bale Mountains, their presence can be observed at altitudes as low as 3,000 meters.





WALIA IBEX

Jewel of the Mountain

Owing to its exceptional, scarce and vulnerable status, the Walia ibex has emerged as the paramount emblem for wildlife conservation within the country. The Walia ibex was first discovered in 1835 by the renowned explorer Rüppell. Despite the absence of a universally accepted taxonomy for the Caprinae, the Walia ibex is generally considered a distinct species on account of its anatomy, habitat, and isolation. It is therefore regarded as an endemic species to the SMNP, primarily inhabiting the steep slopes and grassy ledges of the escarpment situated between 2,500 and 4,000 meters above sea level. Today the Walia ibex is classified as "Vulnerable" in the IUCN's Red List.

MOUNTAIN NYALA

The Flagship of Southeast Massif

The Mountain Nyala is native to the highlands of Ethiopia, south-east of the Rift Valley. A recent survey has indicated the possibility of a total population of up to 4,000, however, the number of mature individuals is likely about 2,500. It has a comparable size and shape to the Greater Kudu. However, its horns are smaller and possess a sole twist, as opposed to the Greater Kudu's two or three. The Mountain Nyala is well-known for its elegance and attractiveness and resides in herds consisting of five to ten individuals comprised of females and their offspring. Today the Mountain Nyala is classified as "Endangered" in the IUCN's Red List.





SWAYNE'S HARTEBEEST

Charm of the Plain

The Swayne's Hartebeest, a native antelope endemic to Ethiopia, is in a precarious state of existence. It was originally discovered by General Swayne, who meticulously recorded the occurrence of herds of a distinct Hartebeest species at the Somalia-Ethiopia border in 1892. These animals historically inhabited a diverse range of areas in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan but the species has been completely eradicated from its historical realms. At present, the remaining population exclusively inhabits Senkelle Sanctuary and Maze National Park located in the central Rift Valley of Ethiopia. The IUCN has listed the Swayne's hartebeest as "Endangered" due to its small population and habitat.

MENELIK'S BUSHBUCK

The Elusive Antelope

Menelik's Bushbuck is renamed after emperor Menelik II (1844 -1913) of Ethiopia. It can be classified as a distinct sub-species of bushbuck. It is native to a particular dense woodland or heather moorlands inside the BMNP and SMNP. Menelik's Bushbucks tend to be solitary creatures, although adult females will be accompanied by their young offspring for approximately one year following birth. The Menelik's Bushbuck is classified as "Endangered" by the IUCN due to its small population and habitat.





GELADA MONKEY

The Bleeding Monkey

The Gelada monkey, also known as the “bleeding monkey” is native to Ethiopia. These primates, which feature brown and grey fur exhibit certain similarities to baboons, yet contrary to baboons are strictly vegetarian. Both sexes possess voluminous, fluffy manes, in addition to conspicuous, hourglass-shaped, hairless patches of skin on their chests. They also possess the most dexterous index fingers and thumbs among all primate species. The Geladas occupy the majority of Ethiopia’s highlands stretching from the central to Northeastern highlands of Ethiopia. The IUCN classified the Gelada monkey as “Least Concern”.



BALE MONKEY

The Mysterious Bamboo Monkey

The Bale Monkey is native to Ethiopia and possesses distinguishing characteristics, such as a white chin and cheeks and a black face. These primates were discovered in 1902, so there is limited knowledge concerning their natural history. Recent discoveries indicate that the geographic range of the Bale Monkey spans from 2,200m to 3,400m inside the Bale Mountains National Park. Their primary environment is the montane bamboo forest. Astonishingly, bamboo constitutes an impressive contribution to their diet, although they also scavenge for fruits from other trees. These Monkeys typically congregate in groups, remaining silent throughout the night but emitting loud calls throughout the day, predominantly as a means of alerting others to the presence of potential danger. Due to their inherent timidity, they spend most of their time concealed within dense vegetation. The IUCN has classified the conservation status of the Bale Monkey as vulnerable.



Tourists in Ethiopia's PA



408,622
IN 2019



258,638
IN 2010

Ethiopia's striking abundance of mega and endemic large mammal species makes it stand out as an extraordinary destination for international tourists. However, despite the diversity of large mammals, their numbers have declined in several PA systems due to poor PA management. As a result, the visiting experience is relatively poor in comparison to the wildlife experiences in the 'safari' famed East-Africa region. Several other factors are constraining tourism in PAs including a lack of accommodation facilities, limited skilled labour, and insufficient or poor-quality tourism infrastructure. To address this, the EWCA is seeking to reverse this situation through improving the sustainability, quality and underlying value of PA and tourism management.

Ethiopia's PAs are a fundamental element for tourists visiting Ethiopia. About 10% of foreign tourists cite wildlife as a primary attraction. Tourist flow to PAs has been on a dramatic consistent rise before being affected by COVID-19 and conflicts in the northern part of Ethiopia, the number of tourists increased from 258,638 in 2010 to 408,622 in 2019, at an average annual growth rate of 6.44%. Investment in nature based tourism products and service development is required to increase the number of tourists and extend their stay in the PAs of Ethiopia. The EWCA recognises the need for encouraging private sector engagement, through concessions, to improve the quality and the capacity of tourist accommodation and other facilities (e.g. renovating existing campsites, development of ecolodges).





CONSERVATION BENEFITS

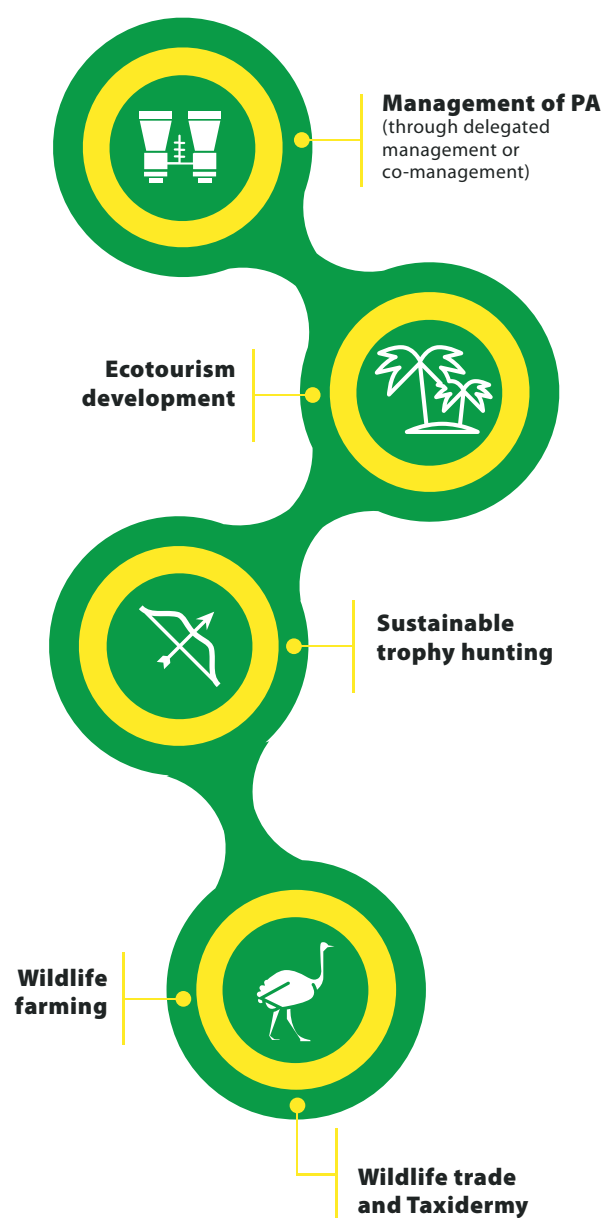
All planning for nature-based tourism must consider the conservation outcomes that will result from tourism products and markets, and how these benefits can ensure the sustainability of the iconic PAs. The primary conservation-related benefits that should be brought to the PAs through tourism development are as follows:



INVESTMENT CATEGORIES

Nature tourists place a strong emphasis on quality including wildlife numbers, visibility, and the presence of charismatic species and characters such as physical landscape and flora of the natural environment when selecting a destination. Ethiopia boasts a rich and dynamic combination of both these elements for tourists. Within and adjacent to areas of the PA system of Ethiopia, there are untapped opportunities for the development of new tourism products and services by the private sector or PPP. The primary wildlife investment categories in this regard include:

- Collaborative Management Partnership (CMP) to manage and operate in PA conservation and management through delegated management or co-management to tackle funding deficits that hinder PAs from meeting their prime objective.
- Ecotourism development includes the development of new lodges, permanent tented camps, community lodges, souvenir development, charter flights, and mountain huts.
- Wildlife farming practice is permitted to generate benefits aimed at supporting the conservation of wildlife and PAs, enhancing the economic conditions of indigenous communities, and fostering the broader socio-economic progress of the nation.





Featured PAs

1	Omo National Park
2	Gambela National Park
3	Chebera Churchura National Park
4	Awash National Park
5	Halledighe Asebot National Park
6	Simien Mountains National Park
7	Bale Mountains National Park
8	Nech Sar National Park
9	Senkelle Swayne's Hartebeest Sanctuary
10	Abjiata Shalla Lakes National Park

1

Omo National Park "True Wilderness"



HISTORY:

Omo National Park (ONP) has been named after the Omo River, which runs through its boundaries. The river and its surrounding areas are of critical importance to wildlife and local communities. The ONP lies in the recently created Southern and Southwestern regions of Ethiopia near the border with South Sudan and has become a renowned national park of remarkable ecological significance. Encompassing a landmass of roughly 406,800ha, the park is characterised by its varied ecosystems, rich biodiversity, and a diverse range of indigenous communities



ACCESS:

The ONP is situated in the southern end of the country roughly 657 km from Addis Ababa. The easiest access is by plane from Addis Ababa to Jinka, with Ethiopian Airlines usually flying five times a week. From Jinka, there is a tarmacked road to ONP.



CLIMATE:

The climate is comparatively dry with a mean annual rainfall of 784 mm. The average annual temperature ranges from 21.1°C to 35.6°C. The park is characterised by heavy rainfall during the wet season in March and April and short rain occurs between October and November.



CONSERVATION VALUE:

The park boasts a range of landscapes, from savannah plains to riverine forests and gallery woodlands. This variety of habitats contributes to the park's diverse wildlife including a multitude of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. Some of the noteworthy species found in the park include elephants, buffalo, lions, leopards, giraffes, and various antelope species.



CULTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The area is inhabited by many indigenous ethnic groups, such as the Mursi, Hamar, Karo, and Bodi people. These communities have preserved their traditional ways of life and frequently practice unique customs, art, and rituals. Visitors can engage with and learn from these indigenous groups, gaining insights into their rich cultural heritage.



ACCOMMODATION:

There is currently no accommodation inside the ONP. Very basic self-catered accommodation, with no water supply or washing facilities, is available at the park's camping ground near the headquarters









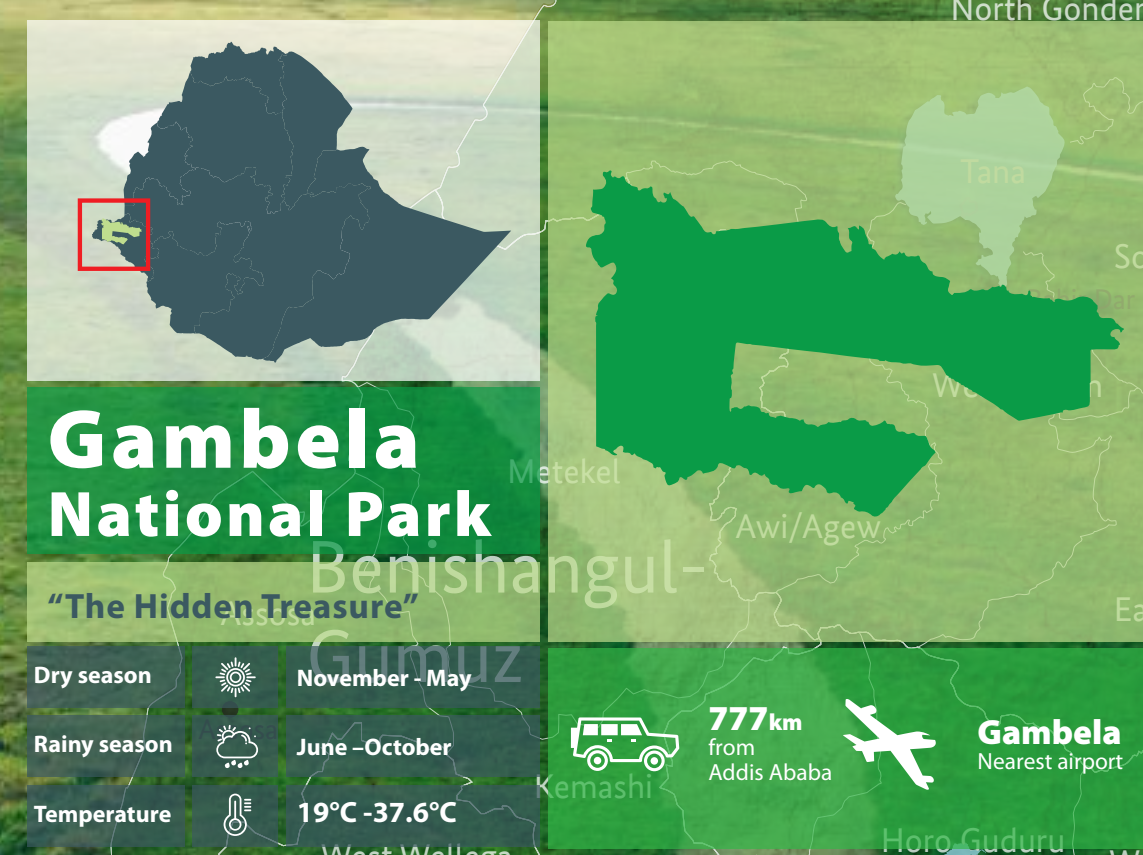
TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

ONP has received recognition from several types of tourists who have an interest in its natural and cultural heritage. Visitors often have the chance to participate in guided tours which present them with the opportunity to explore the diverse landscape of the national park, observe the charismatic wildlife, and interact with the surrounding local communities. The park is also close to different tourist attractions such as Mago National Park, and Chebera Churchura National Park. ONP faces challenges in multiple areas including inadequate and subpar tourist facilities such as poor-quality camping amenities and infrastructure and limitations in the park's staff capabilities. In addition to the general investment opportunities, the renovation and management of the existing camping site in the ONP will increase the benefits felt by both the park through tourism supply chains and the local community.






2 Gambela National Park "The Hidden Treasure"

	HISTORY:	Gambela National Park (GNP), is well-known for its rich biodiversity and distinctive ecosystems. Covering approximately 457,500 ha, it is one of the largest national parks in the country.
	ACCESS:	The GNP is situated in the western end of the country roughly 777 km from Addis Ababa. The road from the capital Addis Ababa to Gambella town is tarmacked. The other route via Wolega-Dembidolo-Gambella is also mainly tarmacked. The easiest access is by plane from Addis Ababa to Gambela, with Ethiopian Airlines usually flying twice a day.
	CLIMATE:	GNP receiving heavy rainfall during the wet season between June and October. The dry months are from November to May. The maximum monthly rainfall is 1198mm and the minimum daily temperature of 19.4°C is reached between June and August. The highest temperature is 37.6 °C, reached during the dry months.
	CONSERVATION VALUE:	<p>The GNP encompasses a diverse range of ecosystems including pristine areas of highland forests in the east and the expansive Duma wetland in the west. Most importantly, this landscape represents a transition from the East African to the Central African ecological zone. The GNP hosts some of the world's rarest species such as the Nile lechwe and the Shoebill stork. Among the notable mammals found in GNP are elephants, giraffes, buffaloes, lions, leopards, and antelopes such as the white-eared kob, Nile lechwe, tiang/topi, and roan antelope.</p> <p>Additionally, the park plays a significant role in bird conservation, attracting numerous species of avian life including waterbirds, raptors, and other bird species, of which the Shoebill stork and black-crowned crane are the most prominent ones. Furthermore, the GNP boasts the second largest and longest terrestrial mammal migration in Africa, with a million White-eared Kobs undertaking a phenomenal seasonal movement between the Gambela and Boma National Parks of South Sudan. In Gambela, the largest population of the species can be observed between December and May during the dry season when the surface flooding has receded.</p>
	ACCOMMODATION:	There is currently no accommodation inside the park. The accommodation options are mainly in Gambela town and the nearby small towns of the region.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:	Gambela offers a strong opportunity to capitalise on its wealthy natural capital with options in commercial crocodile farming, fisheries business, and charter flights





Gambela National Park

"The Hidden Treasure"

Dry season		November - May
Rainy season		June - October
Temperature		19°C - 37.6°C

777 km from Addis Ababa

  **Gambela** Nearest airport



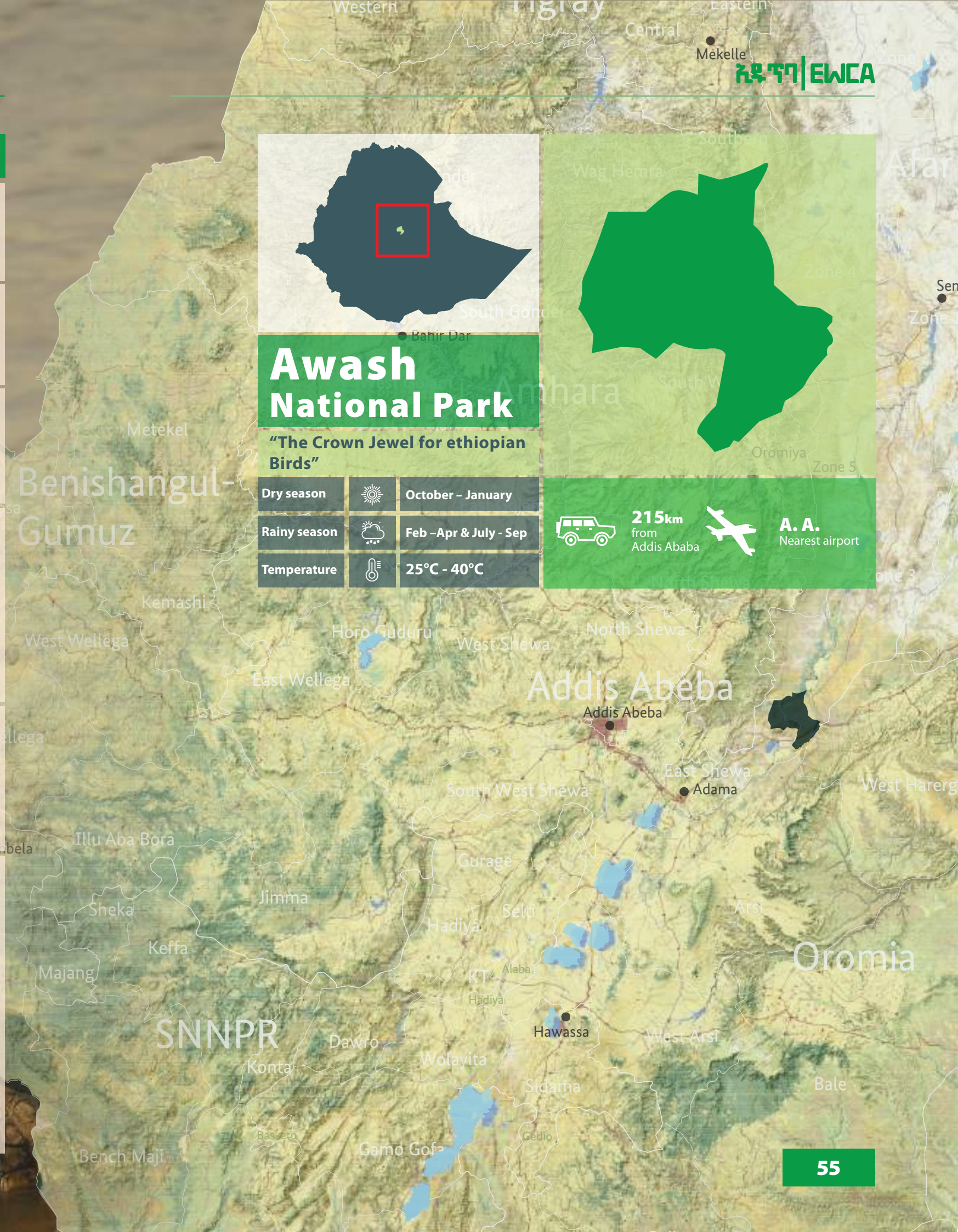
3 Chebera Churchura National Park "Home of the Big Game"

	HISTORY:	Before the creation of CCNP, the area was known as the Kulu-Konta Controlled Hunting Area and legal elephant hunting had been carried out until the fall of the Derg regime in 1991. However, in 2005 the CCNP was added to Ethiopia's strict PA system. It has an area of 125,000 ha under the management of the Southwestern region of Ethiopia.
	ACCESS:	The CCNP is situated roughly 485 km southwest of the capital Addis Ababa. The easiest access is by plane from Addis Ababa to Jimma with Ethiopian Airlines usually flying four times per day. Jimma airport is located 145 km (3 hr drive) from Tercha town, where the park has its headquarters. The other road is via Sodo to Tercha town which is 222 km from the airport (4 hr drive).
	CLIMATE:	The CCNP usually receives uniform and high levels of rainfall during the wet season between March and October. The dry season runs from November to February. The hottest months are January and February while, the coldest months are July and August with the mean maximum and minimum temperatures of 28°C and 12°C, respectively.
	CONSERVATION VALUE:	The park possesses approximately one-third of Ethiopia's elephant population. Its rugged terrain, replete with hills and valleys, further adds to its scenic allure. The Tum River, in concert with its tributaries, courses through the park to provide crucial water sources for both wildlife and vegetation. The CCNP is home to a plethora of other wildlife species, including, buffaloes, lions, leopards, various antelope species, hippos, crocodiles, and a diverse range of bird species. The park's varied habitats support this rich biodiversity, rendering it a potential haven for ecotourism and wildlife enthusiasts.
	ACCOMMODATION:	The recently opened Chebera Elephant Paw Lodge provides luxury accommodation for CCNP visitors.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:	Consisting of a mountain cloud forest, tall-grassed savannah habitat and thick woodland, the park is truly a unique and diverse national park. Hot and cold springs and historical caves are also found in the area. The park is one of the best-preserved areas in the country for elephants and buffalo. More recently, the government of Ethiopia has embarked on the development of new tourist destinations. The Koysha area is among the newest and biggest tourist destination development sites, along with Gorgora and Wonchi. Set on becoming one of the most attractive destinations in Africa, Koysha is connected with electric supply, road infrastructure, airstrips, hotels and bank services. There are good investment opportunities in the area including community lodge development, and harvesting of sustainable wild products.



4 Awash National Park "The Crown Jewel for Ethiopian Birds"

	HISTORY: Awash National Park (ANP) is situated in the Great Rift Valley, where it has significant geographical importance. It was established in 1966 with 75,600 ha of land, making it one of the oldest and best-known national parks in Ethiopia. However, due to the continued encroachment from settlement and agricultural land expansion, the park has been downsized to 59,500 ha.
	ACCESS: The ANP lies approximately 215 km, or a 4hr drive, east of Addis Ababa. Both the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Road and railways bisect the park's Illala plain. The main entrance is located between Metehara and Awash towns and the headquarters is located about 11 km south of the main entrance close to the Awash Falls.
	CLIMATE: The park lies at an altitude between 970 and 2007 meters, with Mount Fantale as its highest peak. Annual rainfall varies approximately between 400- and 700-mm. Precipitation is divided into two distinct rainy seasons. One goes from February to April, with the heaviest period from July through to September. The maximum daytime temperature can reach 40°C between June and August.
	CONSERVATION VALUE: The ANP offers a unique blend of natural beauty, diverse wildlife, and cultural heritage. ANP's diverse landscape is characterised by savannah grasslands, acacia woodlands, riverine forests, and volcanic formations. The Awash River, flows through the area, creating a lifeline for both wildlife and vegetation. The river also forms a series of waterfalls, with the most popular being the Awash Falls, which is one of the park's major attractions. ANP is home to a variety of wildlife including Besia oryx, Soemmerring's gazelle, Lion, Cheetah, as well as Lesser and Greater Kudus. The park also offers a great destination for bird enthusiasts, with over 450 species. In addition to its natural beauty, ANP holds cultural significance, with remnants of ancient settlements and historical artifacts providing insight into the region's human history.
	ACCOMMODATION: The Kuriftu Resort is the only accommodation positioned inside the ANP. It is approximately 11 km from the main entrance and overlooks Awash Falls. The Doho Lodge is situated just outside of the northern boundary of the ANP and provides a view of the hot spring. Other accommodation includes very basic self-catered facilities, with no water supply or washing facilities, available at the park's camping ground near the headquarters. Another camping ground is located close to the hot spring at the northern end of the park with limited road access, and where only 4x4 vehicles are advisable.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES: The park is situated on one of the country's tourist circuits that leads to Harar town, a UNESCO site, Hallideghi Assebot NP, Gewane NP, Hedar site where Lucy (the oldest human remains) was discovered, Dallol and Ertiale tourist sites. The park provides a multitude of opportunities for visitors. Visitors have the option to participate in a variety of activities including watching wildlife during a game drive, birdwatching and exploring the unique landscapes and viewpoints through hiking. The park's hot springs and geysers are also popular attractions. The Awash Falls, which is formed by the river plunging into a deep gorge, serves as an excellent focal point for visitors. The park's main attractions include Fentale Mountain and its volcanic crater, the Filwuha hot spring, and the Illala Sala plain. The foothills of the mountain are home to caves that are inhabited by spotted hyenas and are commonly referred to as the "hyenas caves". Within the ANP there are a range of wildlife investment opportunities including the development of wider ecotourism activities such as the development of standard lodges, permanent tented camps, cable transport, and the renovation and management of the existing camping sites.



Awash National Park

"The Crown Jewel for Ethiopian Birds"

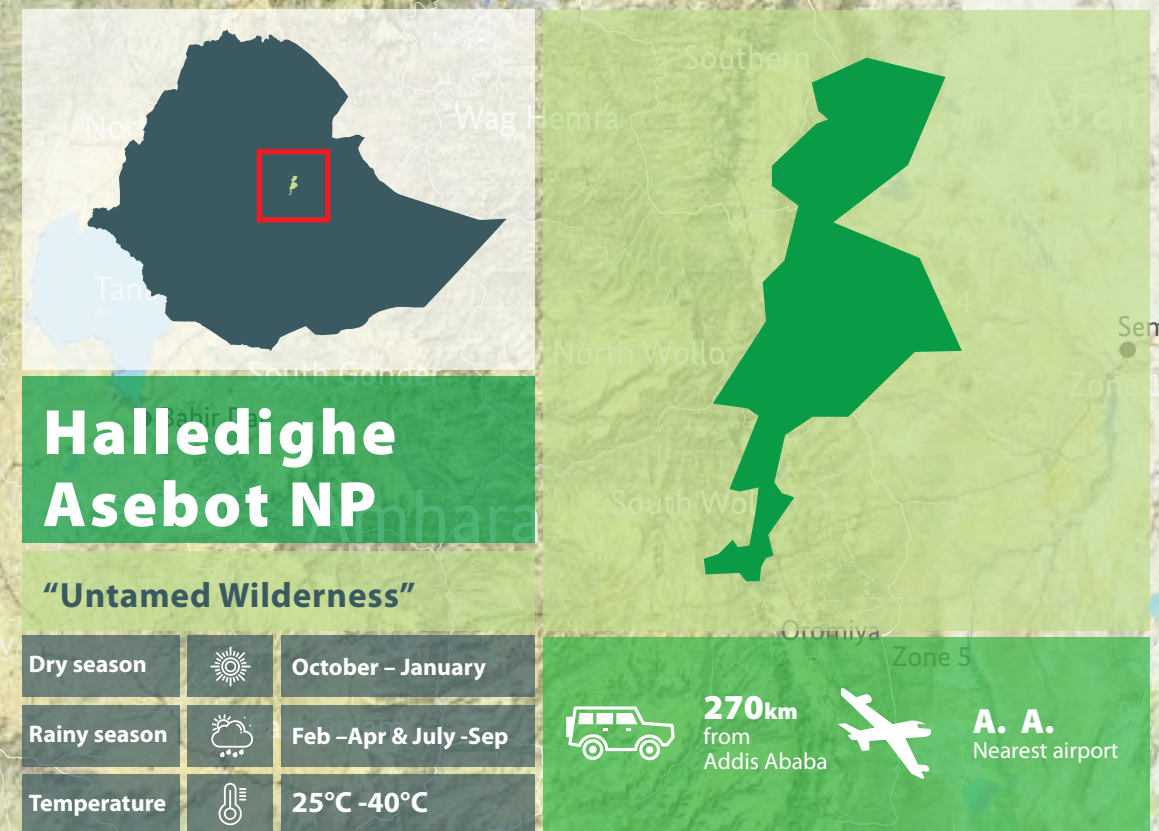
Dry season		October - January
Rainy season		Feb - Apr & July - Sep
Temperature		25°C - 40°C

215km from Addis Ababa




A. A. Nearest airport



5 Halledighe Asebot National Park "Untamed Wilderness"

	HISTORY: The Halledighe Asebot National Park (HANP) was originally established in the 1960s. Initially covering an area of 183,200 ha, the reserve recently underwent a revision of its boundaries and downsized to 110,000 ha to avoid settlements that were previously inside the park.
	ACCESS: HANP is 50 km away from Awash and can be easily accessed via the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Road. It is located 270 km from Addis Ababa and can be reached in a 5 ½ hr drive from the Bole International Airport.
	CLIMATE: Annual rainfall varies between 400- and 700 mm. Precipitation is divided into two distinct rainy seasons. One goes from February to April and the more abundant one from July through September. The maximum daytime temperature can reach 40°C between June and August.
	CONSERVATION VALUE: The HANP is home to vast plains that attract large herbivore populations. The Asebot Mountains in the southeast, covered with Acacia bushes, serve as a water catchment area critical to the hydrology of the lower grassland plain. The park currently possesses Ethiopia's largest, and Africa's most northern, population of Grevy's zebra. Other large mammal species include impressive numbers of Soemmering's gazelle, Beisa oryx, Gerenuk, lion, and cheetah. The park is also home to fascinating birdlife, such as the Somali ostrich, various bustard species, and the critically endangered Lappet-faced vulture.
	ACCOMMODATION: Currently, there is no lodging available within the HANP. The nearest option for standard accommodation is the Doho Lodge which is approximately 46 km southwest of Andido town. This Lodge is situated near the northern boundary of the ANP with a view of the Bilen hot spring. In close proximity to Andido town, where the park is headquartered, there are the Animalia and Bilen lodges. However, it is advisable to make reservations in advance as these mainly operate during the hunting season. For general tourists, there is the option of very basic self-catered accommodation, with no water supply or washing facilities, at the park's camping ground near the headquarters.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES: HANP offers numerous investment opportunities including the development of new standard lodges, a community lodge, permanent tented camps, mountain huts, and renovation and management of the existing camping site



Halledighe Asebot NP
"Untamed Wilderness"

Dry season		October – January
Rainy season		Feb – Apr & July – Sep
Temperature		25°C – 40°C

270km from Addis Ababa   **A. A.** Nearest airport



6 Simien Mountains National Park "Unique wildlife on the Roof of Africa"

	HISTORY:	<p>The Simien Mountains have always been highly regarded for their spectacular scenic and natural beauty and as an important wildlife area. Since 1944, the area was a royal hunting ground. In 1966, a core area of 13,600 ha was declared as one of the two national parks in Ethiopia along with ANP and legally recognized in 1969. Based upon SMNP's internationally important geological and wildlife values, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978. The UNESCO status only applies to the original 13,600 ha, however, the PA was expanded to the west to include Limalimo and Mesarerya wildlife reserves and east to include the peaks, Silki, Kidus Yared, and Ras Dejen, bringing the total area of SMNP to 41,200 ha.</p>
	ACCESS:	<p>The SMNP is situated in the northwestern side of the country roughly 900 km from Addis Ababa. The easiest access is by plane from Addis Ababa to Gondar, with Ethiopian Airlines usually flying six times a day. Gondar airport is located 105 km or 2 hr drive from Debarq town where the park has its headquarters.</p>
	CLIMATE:	<p>The rainy season for SMNP typically lasts from June to mid-September. The best time to trek the Simien mountains is between October and February.</p>
	CONSERVATION VALUE:	<p>The park's spectacular landscapes are characterised by jagged mountain peaks, deep gorges, and high escarpments, shaped over millions of years by tectonic forces, volcanic activity, and erosion. The highest peak in Ethiopia, Ras Dejen, is located in the Simien Mountains and offers awe-inspiring panoramic views of the surrounding landscape, having an elevation of around 4,543 meters above sea level.</p> <p>SMNP is home to a diverse array of wildlife species, many of which are endemic to the region, including the Ethiopian wolf, Walia ibex, Menelik's bushbuck, and the ever-present Gelada monkey. The park's high-altitude environment hosts a range of unique plant species adapted to harsh conditions. Apart from its natural wonders, SMNP has historical and cultural significance. The park is a popular destination for trekkers and outdoor enthusiasts, offering several hiking trails. Visitors can explore stunning landscapes and observe wildlife up close, making it a rewarding experience for nature lovers.</p>
	ACCOMMODATION:	<p>Different preferences and budgets can be catered for within the park through the provision of various levels of accommodations and camping facilities. At present, Simien and Limalimo lodges are the available accommodation options within the SMNP. In addition, the park offers basic camping facilities at its outposts located at Sankaber, Gich, and Chennek. Additionally, community lodges can be found at Adisge, Gich, Millegbasa, and Chennek.</p>
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:	<p>When visiting the SMNP, visitors need to be prepared for high-altitude conditions, changing weather, and having proper trekking gear. The park's remote location and challenging terrain contribute to its sense of adventure and make it a once in a lifetime destination. The park offers numerous hiking and trekking trails that allow visitors to explore its diverse landscapes. Within the SMNP there are a range of investment opportunities including the development of wider ecotourism activities such as high-end lodges, standard lodges, and permanent tented camps, and renovation and management of the existing camping sites and community lodges.</p>

Simien Mountains NP

"Unique wildlife on the Roof of Africa"

Dry season		October - May
Rainy season		June - September
Temperature		-5°C - 18°C

900km from Addis Ababa

Gondar Nearest airport



Bale Mountains National Park "One Park, Many Worlds"



HISTORY:

The newest UNESCO World Heritage site, the BMNP is a remarkable and diverse PA that was created in 1970. Spanning an area of 210,000 ha, the park is widely known for its rich biodiversity, unique landscapes, and significant cultural heritage. The park encompasses a wide range of ecosystems, from Afro-alpine moorlands to lush forests and grasslands.



ACCESS:

The BMNP is located 400 km southeast of Addis Ababa. The park is accessible by road and air transport. Ethiopian Airlines flies to Robe town twice a day. The road via Shashemene or Arsi Bekoji takes 7-8 hr to reach the park headquarters at Dinsho town.



CLIMATE:

Variations in climatic conditions across the BMNP are common as a result of the wide changes in altitude across the park. BMNP experiences eight months of rainfall including heavy rain from July to October (1000 -1400 mm) and smaller rains from April to June (600 -1000 mm).



CONSERVATION VALUE:

The BMNP plays a crucial role in conserving the unique biodiversity of the Ethiopian highlands. The park's varied ecosystems are due to its elevation, ranging from 1,500 meters to over 4,300 meters. These ecosystems include lowland forests, montane forests, bamboo forests, grasslands, and the noteworthy Afro-alpine moorlands. The park's diverse habitats support a wide array of plant and animal species, many of which are endemic to the region including the Ethiopian wolf, Mountain nyala, Menelik's bushbuck, Bale monkey, and Giant mole rat, and various bird species, such as wattled cranes and Rouget's rail. The Sanetti Plateau, the largest continuous area of Afro-alpine habitat in the world, is a particularly unique and visually striking part of the park. In addition to its ecological value, the park also has cultural significance to local communities, who have lived in harmony with the natural environment for generations. Their traditional practices and knowledge are closely tied to the park's unique landscapes and biodiversity.



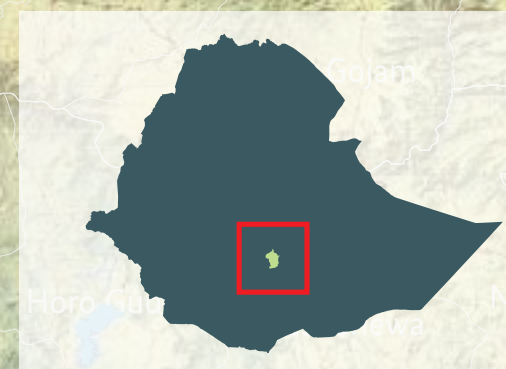
ACCOMMODATION:

Different preferences and budgets can be catered for within the park through the provision of various levels of accommodation and camping facilities. At present, Bale and Dinsho lodges are available accommodation options within the BMNP. The park also offers basic camping facilities at its outposts located at Gofengira, and community lodges can also be found at Gofengira.



TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

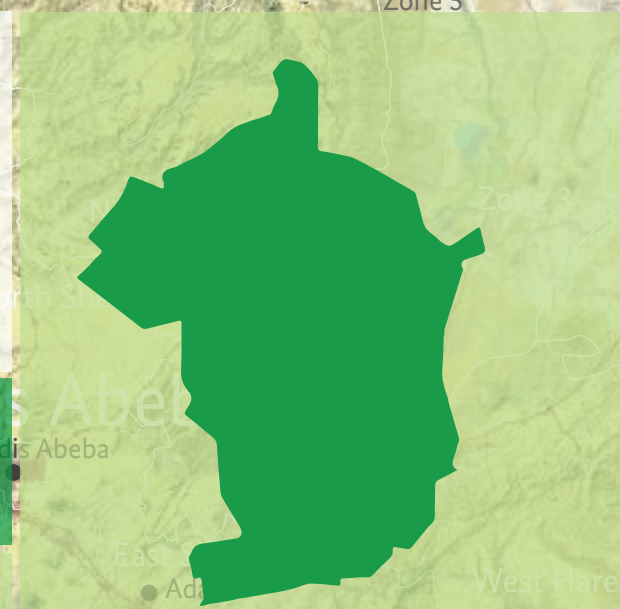
A visit to the BMNP provides a multitude of opportunities that enable visitors to experience the stunning natural beauty and unique biodiversity of the Ethiopian highlands. The park has outstanding opportunities for birdwatching and is considered among the top ten birdwatching spots on the African continent. Furthermore, the Bale mountains offer breathtaking landscapes, from towering cliffs and deep valleys to sweeping grasslands and glacial lakes. Investment opportunities include developing high-end and standard lodges, permanent tented camps, and renovation and management of the existing camping sites and community lodges.



Bale Mountains NP

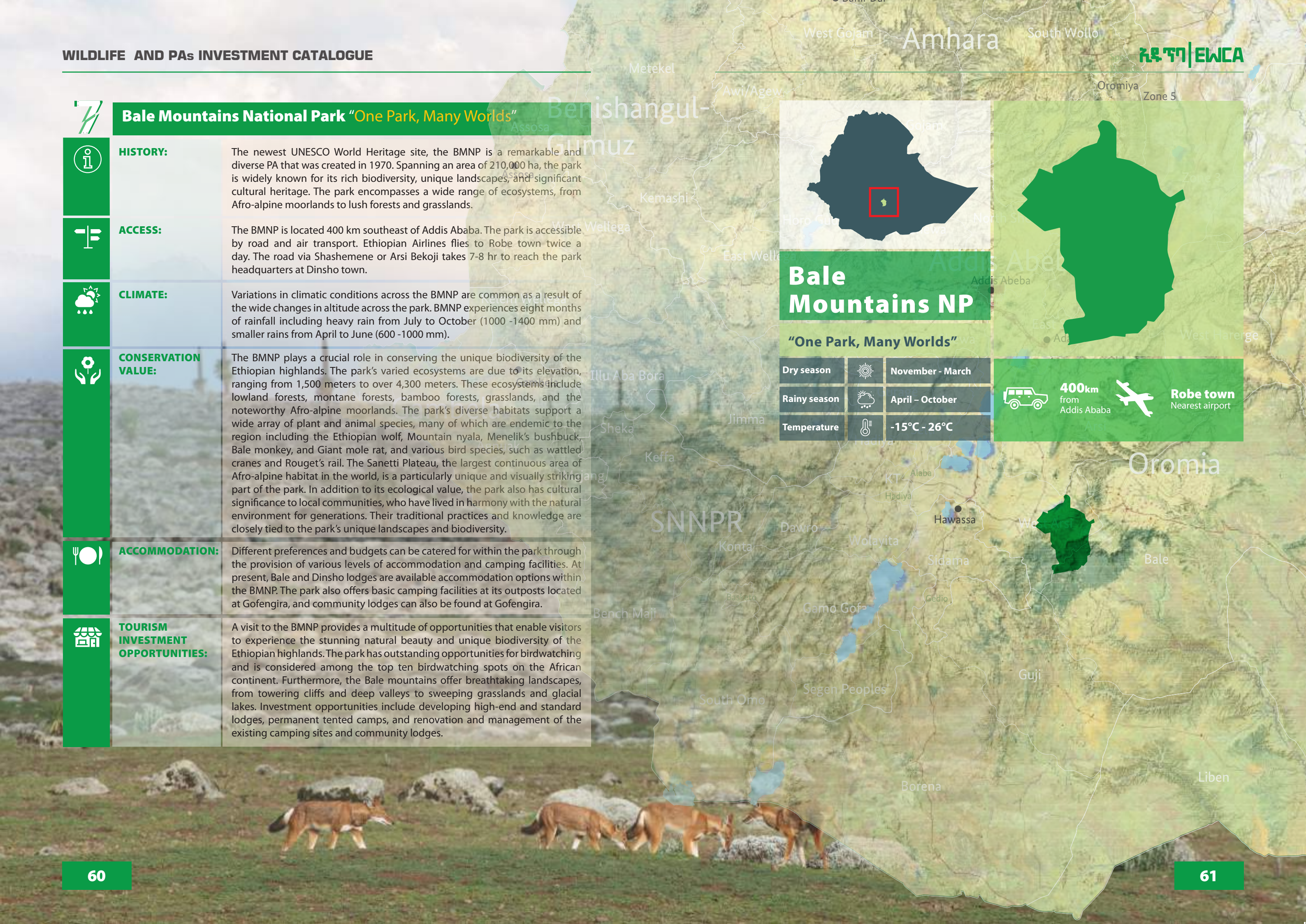
"One Park, Many Worlds"

Dry season		November - March
Rainy season		April - October
Temperature		-15°C - 26°C



400km from Addis Ababa

Robe town Nearest airport



8 Nech Sar National Park "Beauty in the Tropical Savannah"







	HISTORY:	Nech Sar National Park (NNP), was created in 1974 as a 51,400-ha wildlife PA. It has tremendous scenic beauty and is named after the white grass that covers the undulating Nechsar plains in the eastern part of the park.
	ACCESS:	The NNP is situated roughly 515 km south of Addis Ababa. The easiest access is by plane from Addis Ababa to Arba Minch with Ethiopian Airlines flying twice a day. The park is accessible in a 4x4 vehicle but during the rainy season roads become quite muddy and the eastern part of the park is accessible only by boat.
	CLIMATE:	The climate of the area can be divided into two wet seasons. The main rains are during September–November and during March–May. The average annual rainfall is a relatively low 900mm. The average maximum temperature is 30°C while the average minimum is 17°C. January to March is the hottest time of the year, while November and December are usually the coolest.
	CONSERVATION VALUE:	The park boasts a diverse wildlife population, including Burchell's zebra, Grant's gazelle, Greater kudu, Crocodiles, and Hippos, with colobus and vervet monkeys inhabiting the surrounding ground forests. The park's highlights include Lake Abaya, one of Ethiopia's largest lakes, renowned for its magnificent blue waters, and a crucial habitat for various bird species, such as pelicans, flamingos, and fish eagles. The park's landscape diversity, ranging from grassy plains to wooded hills and riverine habitats, contributes to its high biodiversity. Lake Chamo is another lake known for hosting varieties of fish including the Nile Perch. Moreover, Lake Chamo is known for harbouring some of the biggest Nile crocodile populations. The famous Crocodile Market is a sunbathing spot for a huge population of large crocodiles.
	ACCOMMODATION:	The NNP is surrounded by a significant amount of quality accommodation in Arba Minch Town. There are several high-standard hotels in Arba Minch targeting the leisure tourism sector. The hotels, which range between 20-50 rooms with prices between US\$ 50-200 per person per night, include Haile Resort, Paradise Lodge, Lewi Resort, Arba Minch Tourist Hotel, Emerald Hotel, and Bekele Mola Hotel.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:	NNP is of major economic importance to the region. Portions of Lake Abaya and Lake Chamo fall within the park's boundaries, and these serve as crucial breeding sanctuaries for fish, thus supporting a multi-million-dollar fishing industry. The park also provides stock for the local crocodile farming industry. Bordering the park to the west is the town of Arba Minch, where the existence of a rapidly expanding tourism sector is dependent upon the park and is already a significant provider of employment and driver of development. Investment opportunities includes , development of high-end and standard lodges, community lodges and permanent tented camps, crocodile farming, fishing businesses and renovation and management of the existing camping sites.



NECH SAR National Park "Beauty in the Tropical Savannah"




Dry season		December - March	515km from Addis Ababa Arba Minch Nearest airport
Rainy season		Sep - Nov & Apr - May	
Temperature		17°C - 30°C	


9 Senkelle Swayne's Hartebeest Sanctuary "Paradise for the Swayne's Hartebeest"

	HISTORY:	Senkelle Swayne's Hartebeest Sanctuary (SSHS), commonly referred to as Senkelle Sanctuary was created in 1971 as a designated wildlife conservation area to safeguard and maintain the existence of the endangered Swayne's hartebeest, a subspecies of hartebeest native to Ethiopia. The sanctuary plays a vital role in providing a secure habitat for this scarce subspecies and contributing to the broader conservation initiatives for wildlife.
	ACCESS:	The SSHS lies approximately 300 km, or a 5-hr drive, south of Addis Ababa. The newly constructed Addis Ababa–Hawassa express road will soon take you to Shashemene town. The small town of Aje is located 50 km south of Shashemene on the way to Arbaminch. The SSHS main entrance is located 14 km east of Aje town.
	CLIMATE:	The SSHS lies at an altitude between 1860 and 2208 meters above sea level. It has a moderate rainfall pattern varying between 600 and 1200 mm/year. The short rainy season starts in March and ends in April and the more abundant one goes from June through September. The maximum daytime temperature can reach 26°C between November and January.
	CONSERVATION VALUE:	Although Swayne's hartebeest is the principal focus of the sanctuary, the area also provides a habitat for a diverse range of other wildlife species, including various mammals such as Oribi, Greater kudu, Bohor reedback, Leopard, and a wide variety of birds.
	ACCOMMODATION:	There is a recently completed community lodge located close to the headquarters and the 10,000 Flamingos Lodge is closely located, inside the ASLNP.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:	The SSHS can be visited at any time. The wildlife is quite confined, and sightings of Swayne's hartebeest are likely. Visitors to Senkelle Sanctuary may have the opportunity to learn about the unique ecology of the area and observe the Swayne's hartebeest and other wildlife in their natural habitat. The SSHS offers numerous game drive and walking safari experiences that allow visitors to explore its diverse landscapes. Investment opportunities include developing standard lodges, community lodges, and permanent tented camps in the buffer areas of the sanctuary.




Senkelle Swayne's Hartebeest Sanctuary
"Paradise for the Swayne's Hartebeest"

Dry season		November - February
Rainy season		March - October
Temperature		12°C - 26°C







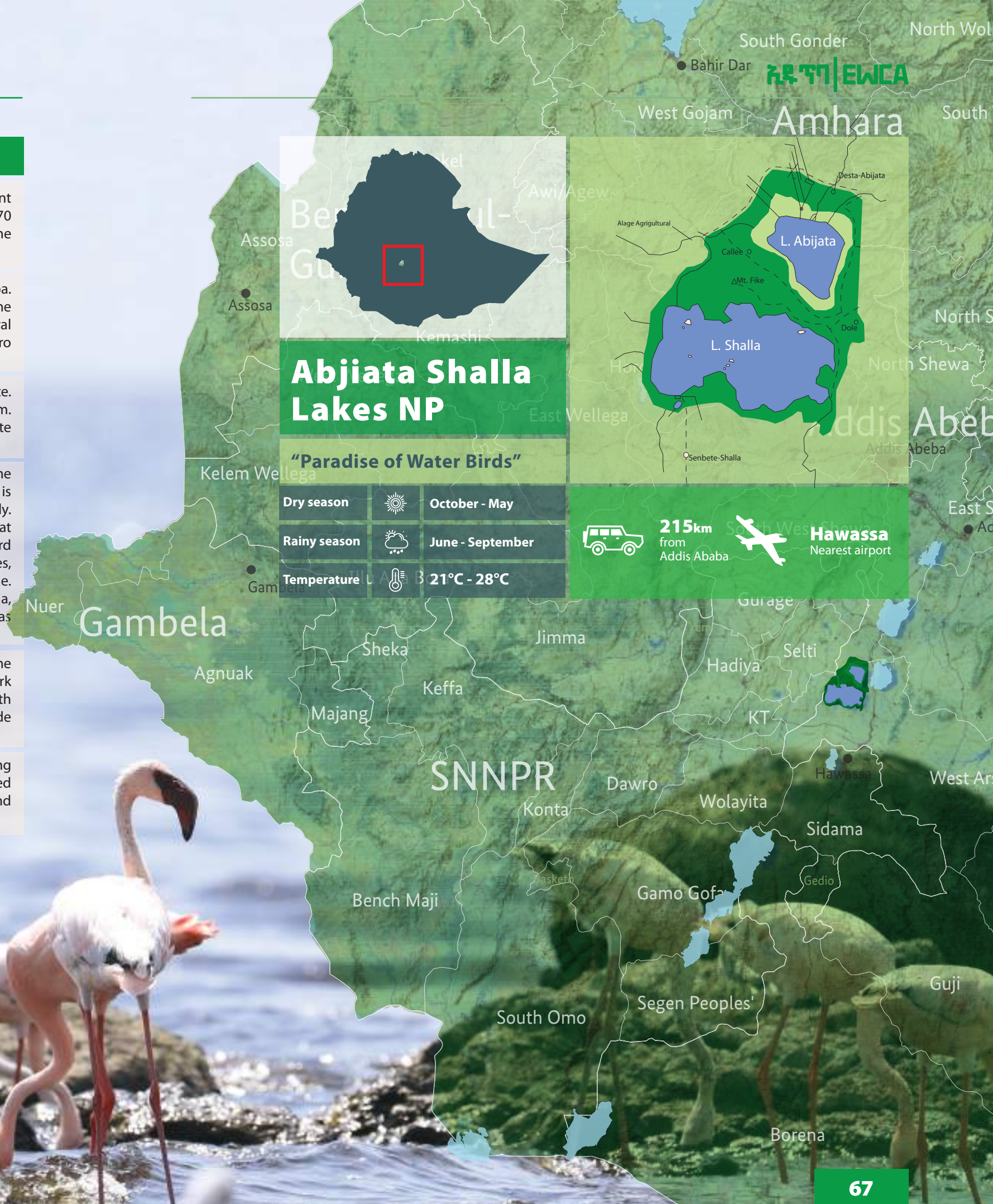
300km
from Addis Ababa



Hawassa
Nearest airport

10 Abjiata Shalla Lakes National Park "Paradise of Water Birds"

	HISTORY:	The ASLNP is situated in the Great Rift Valley, where it has significant geographical importance. It is a prominent national park established in 1970 and is 88,900 ha containing both terrestrial and water habitats, making it one of the most important bird locations in Africa.
	ACCESS:	The ASLNP lies approximately 215 km, or a 3 hr drive, south of Addis Ababa. The newly constructed Addis Ababa–Hawassa express road takes you to the ASLNP. The main entrance is located close to Langan Lake where several hotels and safari lodges can be found including Sabana Beach Resort, Karkaro Lodge, and Haro Lodge.
	CLIMATE:	The climate is classed as semi-arid to sub-humid and is warm and temperate. The average annual temperature is 19.3°C and the average rainfall is 837mm. Between July and September is an ideal month to visit, with a pleasant climate and the presence of migratory birds.
	CONSERVATION VALUE:	ASLNP is greatly esteemed for its ecological significance, particularly the preservation and survival of avian species within the Central Rift Valley. It is estimated that the park plays host to more than 20,000 birds concurrently. The park also serves as a significant breeding and feeding habitat for the Great White Pelican and Lesser Flamingos. The presence of a diverse array of bird life, coupled with the distinctive lakes adorned with flat-topped Acacia trees, has contributed substantially to the allure of the area and its tourism value. ASLNP encompasses a substantial wetland region, with Lakes Abijata, Shalla, and Chitu constituting over half of its expanse. Notably, Lake Shalla stands as one of Africa's deepest bodies of water.
	ACCOMMODATION:	The ASLNP is surrounded by a large selection of lodges and hotels in the neighbouring areas. The 10,000 Flamingos Lodge is located inside the park on top of a ridge between lakes Shalla and Chitu and is very scenic with impressive views of both lakes. In addition, there is a community lodge inside the park, close to Lake Shalla and the hot springs.
	TOURISM INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:	Within the ASLNP there are a range of wildlife investment prospects including development of high-end and standard lodges, and permanent tented camps, and renovation and management of the existing camping sites and community lodges.



Abjiata Shalla Lakes NP

"Paradise of Water Birds"

Dry season		October - May
Rainy season		June - September
Temperature		21°C - 28°C

215km from Addis Ababa   **Hawassa** Nearest airport

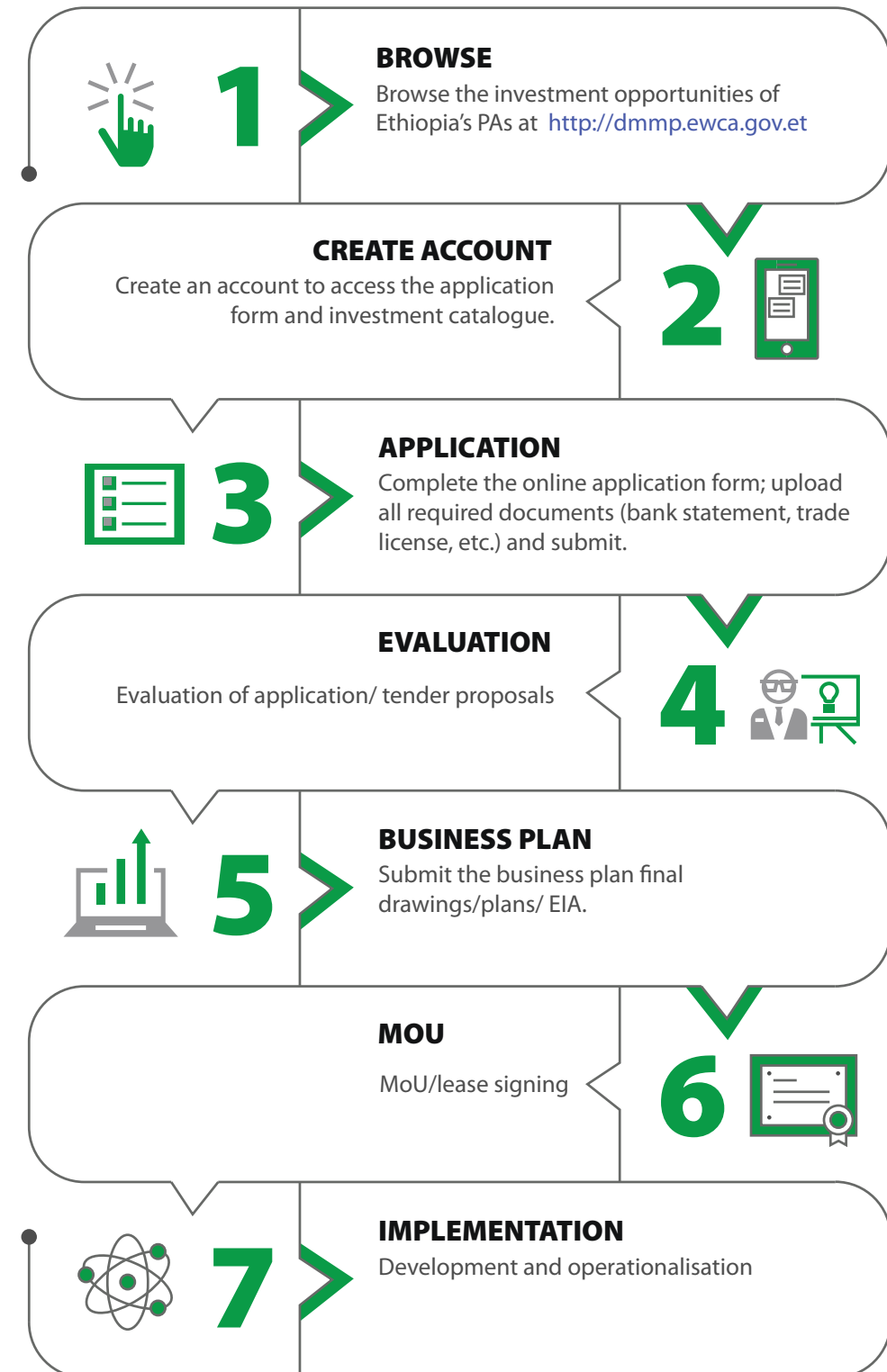


Next Steps for INVESTORS



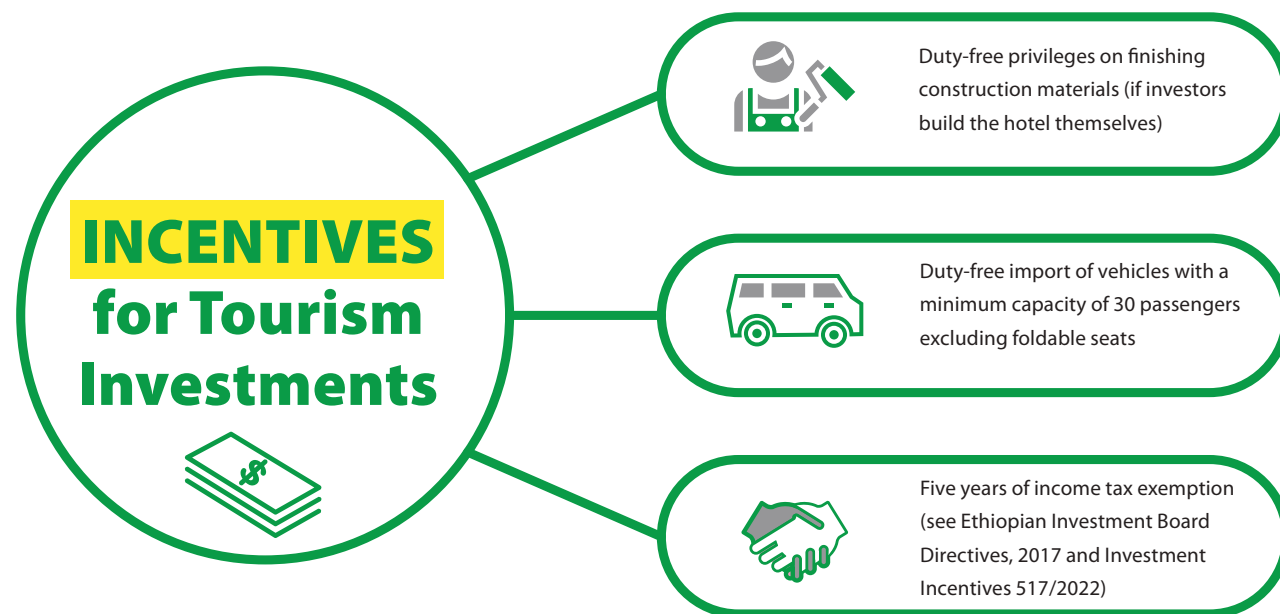
The Application Process

The EWCA digital matchmaking platform has been created to facilitate the investment application process, as outlined below:



Incentives for Tourism Investments

The Government of Ethiopia offers incentives for investors within the tourism sector:



Investment Benefits

The desired tourism products and services, if developed, will lead to the following:







Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority

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