THREE SITES OPEN TO PUBLIC

1. CHENTCHERERE ROCK ART SITE
   - The site is located in the core zone of the World Heritage area.
   - The ancient rock paintings are found at six rock shelters on the Chentcherere hills, that are both schematic and naturalistic in styles.

2. NAMZEZE ROCK ART SITE
   - The site is located in the core zone of the World Heritage area.
   - The ancient rock paintings are found on Namzeze rock shelter, which contains extensive paintings of both red geometric designs and a series of white paintings.

3. MPHUNZI ROCK ART SITE
   - The site is located in the buffer zone of the World Heritage area.
   - The rock paintings are found on various rock shelters with zoomorphism art styles.

The site has the richest concentrations of Rock Arts in the whole of central Africa. 127 rock-painting locations have been identified. This small area of forest contains almost as many Rock Art Sites as are known in the whole of the rest of Malawi. More than just the particular density of sites, the Rock Paintings of Chongoni are of international importance because they have well-preserved rock paintings belonging to four important and rare African Rock Art traditions: two made by Chewa farmers and two by the hunter-gathering Ba-Twa Pygmies.

VALUE OF THE SITE

1. CULTURAL
   - The sites have numerous cultural significance as loci of traditional and religious ceremonies for the creators of the art as well as their descendents. Some of them are still being used for these ceremonies today.

2. HISTORICAL
   - The Rock Art sites are historical because they record very important events such as the transition from the foraging lifestyle to food production, the Ngoni invasion of the Chewa and the coming of the white man.

3. EDUCATIONAL
   - The sites have significant educational value as places where teachers and students can visit to learn about the history and cultural heritage of Malawi.

4. SCIENTIFIC
   - The site offers potential for archaeological, ethnographic and historical research, which can provide additional information to enhance the interpretation of the rock paintings.

5. ECONOMIC
   - The area has potential economic value in the sense that it creates opportunities for income generation by the local communities and other stakeholders in tourism related business activities.

6. AESTHETIC
   - The Chongoni area also has an aesthetic value in terms of the topography and vegetation. The symbolism depicted in the paintings themselves also provides special and interesting challenges.