

# Signage & Stone Mason Teams



1-4: Harvesting and cutting stone



5-8: Tools of the trade



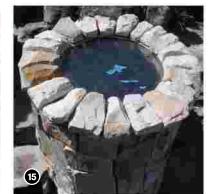
9-10: Directional signage and a stone wall

## Expanded Public Works Programme

In March 2004 the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) granted Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) R35 million to run a three-year Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). The aim of the programme is threefold:

- to create conservation and tourism-based training and skills development opportunities for 450 people from the townships bordering the Park,
- to develop a strong and durable infrastructure that will minimize the impact of the TMNP's annual 4.2 million visitors on the Park's biodiversity,
- to create a high-quality tourism infrastructure to help realise the TMNP's goal of becoming the world's premier urban National Park by 2010.

Workers who have been trained under the EPWP will all have developed skills that will enable them to compete on the open market once the programme is complete.



11-16: Construction of signage hubs



17-18: A stone bench on Chapman's Peak Drive

## Signage and Stone Mason Teams

Our focus on visitor management includes a Park-wide signage upgrade that aims to ensure that hikers are provided with comprehensive and accurate information in order to minimize the number of people who get lost on the mountain as well as to assist rescue operations. Due to the harsh nature of mountain weather it was necessary to devise a system of signs that would be durable as well as vandal proof.

This was achieved through the development of signage hubs which consist of stone bases and stainless steel information plates. A team of workers have been trained under apprenticeship to a master stone mason in all aspects of stone masonry, from harvesting the stone, cutting it to size and finally constructing the hubs. Once the EPWP is complete the workers will be competent in the field of stone masonry.