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Tourism Top End

FREE MAPS

EXPLORE

# THE KATHERINE REGION VISITOR GUIDE

MATARANKA – NITMILUK GORGE – PINE CREEK



Sweetwater Pool - Edith Falls

exploreOZ.com.au

# CONTENTS


**SOUTH OF KATHERINE** ..... **4-7**
- Mataranka ..... 4-5
- Elsey National Park ..... 6
- Bitter Springs ..... 7
- Cutta Cutta Caves National Park ..... 7

**KATHERINE** ..... **9-26**
- The Katherine River ..... 10
- Attractions ..... 11-15
- Accommodation ..... 20-22
- Events & Festivals ..... 18
- Shopping ..... 26

**NITMILUK NATIONAL PARK** ..... **22-27**
- Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge ..... 22
- Jawoyn People ..... 22-23
- Baruwei ..... 24
- Leliyn (Edith Falls) ..... 27
- Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park ..... 27

**Pine Creek** ..... **28**
**Travel With Pets** ..... **28**
**Road Games** ..... **29**
**Tourist Drives of the NT** ..... **30-31**

**MAPS**
- Katherine Region ..... 3
- Katherine Town Map ..... 16-17
- Mataranka ..... 5
- Nitmiluk Gorge ..... 24-25
- Nitmiluk National Park ..... 23
- Tourist Drives of the NT ..... 30




**When crossing from Queensland into the Northern Territory you need to put your clocks back ½ hour. Neither place has daylight saving.**

**South Australia and the Northern Territory usually share the same time, except from October to March, SA is one hour ahead.**

**If crossing from Western Australia into the Northern Territory add one and a half hours.**


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EXPLORE! OUTBACK SOUTH AUSTRALIA & THE FLINDERS RANGES VISITOR GUIDE

EXPLORE! THE RED CENTRE ART TRAIL

EXPLORE! TENNANT CREEK VISITOR GUIDE

EXPLORE! THE KATHERINE REGION VISITOR GUIDE

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**Some activities may be unsuitable or risky based on physical exertion or required fitness level. The information provided is a guide only and the products & services mentioned may change without notice.**


**SCAN + DOWNLOAD + LINKS!!**
Make the most of the Guide-on-line while you are in Mobile range. Easy links to NT Parks Fact Sheets, websites and other handy tips.


All information included in this guide is for general use only. Times/Fees/Dates are subject to change without notice. All images are subject to change and may not reflect each product or service.



# KATHERINE REGION

TO DARWIN: 225km
HWY
KAKADU
Goymarr
Kakadu National Park
PINE CREEK
NATURE'S WAY
STUART
92
Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park
Nitmiluk National Park
Leliyn (Edith Falls)
Marilliyum
1
Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge
Nitmiluk Visitor Centre
Nitmiluk Tours
Charles Darwin University
Kintore Caves Cons. Reserve
Florina
KATHERINE
Barunga
ARNHEM WAY
Manbulloo
Binjari
Tindal Air Base
52
Maranboy
Wugular (Beswick)
HWY
Cutta Cutta Caves Nature Park
Giwining - Flora River Nature Park
HWY
WWII Stirling Mill Site
Elsey NP
Mataranka Station
Roper River
SAVANNAH WAY
MATARANKA
Jilkminggan
ROPER HWY
Esley Cemetery
VICTORIA
CENTRAL
76
EXPLORERS WAY
Willeroo
Delamere Range Facility
BUNTINE
Gorrie
Larrimah
STUART
Western Creek
Maryfield
90
SAVANNAH WAY
AUSTRALIA
165
HWY
Sunday Creek
Kalala
Daly Waters
Killarney
Birdum
CARPENTARIA HWY
36
Birrimba
RAILWAY
Hidden Valley
Top Springs
Montejinni
Old Top Springs
BUCHANAN
181
HWY
Wayside Inn
DUNMARRA
HWY
BINNS TRACK
TO ALICE SPRINGS: 782km

- Visitor Information
- Accomodation
- Caravan Park
- Camping
- General Store
- Meals
- Fuel
- Electric Vehicle Charge Point

N

0 25 50 km

Base map and data © Custom Mapping Services, 2022
www.custommappingservices.com.au



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Airbags go off with leg-breaking force – **DON'T PUT YOUR FEET ON THE DASHBOARD!**



*Mataranka Thermal Pools*

# SOUTH OF KATHERINE

## EXPLORERS WAY

Historic points and markers, iconic Wayside Inns, termite mounds; just some of the fascinating things to make part of your journey interesting and great to explore!

## MATARANKA

Mataranka is a small pastoral town, made famous by the novel ***We of the Never Never***, written by Jeannie Gunn. The story is about the nearby Elsey Station, written in 1908, and an autobiographical novel about the author's experiences and daily life, in 1902 at the station.

Along the main street of Mataranka offers plenty of reasons to stop in and top up for a few days of adventure.

Located behind the Roper Gulf Regional Council office, wander through the 'Never Never' Museum and browse the displays featuring local Aboriginal custodians, the Mangarayi and Yangman people, Overland Telegraph Line construction, the North Australian Railway and the World War II influences.

A family friendly town, there is plenty parking near the skate park offering tables and chairs and toilets. Scattered through the park on the northern end are assorted statues depicting the people from the Elsey Station in 1902, including Aeneas Gunn and wife Jeannie and a young girl known affectionately as 'The Little Black Princess' and her dog.

### DUNMARRA WAYSIDE INN

**DUNMARRA WAYSIDE INN** is a fine example of the welcoming roadhouses scattered around the Barkly Region. There is a selection of cabins to stay in, or a camping ground to pull up at. Amenities include a restaurant and lounge to relax in. The food is renowned up and down the track. Don't miss out on treating yourself to the homemade vanilla slices!


OUT BACK BREWERY
*Coming Soon!*

The Best Vanilla Slice & Home-Made Pies & along the Explorers Way!

New Cabins!

Motel Rooms • Swimming Pool

Caravan Park – Shady Sites

Take Away Food• Dine-In Meals

Licensed Bar • Airstrip

Base yourself here and enjoy birdwatching & WWII connections all close by

DUNMARRA WAYSIDE INN

**Stuart Highway**

**358kms North of Tennant Creek**

**315kms South of Katherine**

**Ph: 08 8975 9922**

**Open: Early to Late 7 Days**




Approximately 13kms north of Mataranka, a historic site lays just off the road. The WWII Stirling Mill was in operation in 1942 and was important during the construction of the Gorrie Aerodrome, 10kms north of Larrimah.


**MATARANKA DRY SEASON MARKETS**

May – September
SUNDAYS 9AM


**BP MATARANKA ROADHOUSE AND CABINS** is your one stop shop to fuel and stock up, with a discount for seniors to take advantage of! Enjoy a wonderful art gallery, fantastic coffee & café area, all your necessary travel supplies, you can even check out their great range of camping and fishing gear.





**The one stop shop, at the north end of town**

- Café & takeaway food
- Grocery store
- Fishing & camping gear
- Art gallery
- Clean amenities
- Best coffee & pies in town!

**Ph: 08 8975 4571** **matarankaroadhouse.com.au**
**10 Roper St Mataranka NT**

SENIORS CARD



*Elsey Cemetery National Park*

## ELSEY NATIONAL PARK

**Parks & Wildlife have introduced an online booking system. Check all Parks for site availability prior to arrival.**

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

This is a popular place for boating and fishing fans, along the serene Roper River. With ramps at 4 Mile and 12 Mile offering an easy launch for your canoe or boat, you can easily spend a day paddling, fishing and exploring this stunning river.

Bushwalk through pockets of rainforests, discovering the park's riverine and rainforest species, on the easy Botanical Walk.

Visit the Elsey Homestead Replica, built in the 1980's for the film adaptation of the novel, the building is a reconstruction of the original homestead.

Explore the Old Elsey Cemetery, just south of Mataranka, with graves dating back to 1926, with many final resting places of the local characters written about in the novel.

**SCAN ME**

### HOW MANY SPECIES IN ELSEY NATIONAL PARK?

| 150+ Birds | 32+ Mammals | 15 Frogs | 15+ Fish | 50+ Reptiles |
|---|---|---|---|---|

5x time Guinness World Record holder **NATHAN "WHIPPY" GRIGGS** performs 5 nights a week at Mataranka Rodeo Grounds - whip cracking as you've never seen it before. There's lights, music, audience participation and something for the whole family - you don't want to miss this iconic Territory show!





*Bitter Springs*

## BITTER SPRINGS

A short 2km drive off the Stuart Highway, Bitter Springs is a must do, for a dip or a day to two. Along the Roper River, discover clear thermal springs, famous for the blue highlights and clear waters. Set amongst tropical woodlands including paperbark forests and near pristine stands of the ***Livistona mariae*** fan palm, throughout the Elsey Park there are over 300 plant species.

The thermal pools in the park, has spring water rising from under the ground, at a rate of 30.5 million litres per day. The 34°C water is then contained in pools surrounded by paperbark and palm forests.



*Frilled Neck Lizard*

### WILDLIFE

Birds like the Common koels, Figbirds and Bowerbirds help disperse seeds and pollinate flowers along the rainforest floor. You may be lucky to see the Hooded Parrot or the endangered Gouldian Finch. Various Lizards and the harmless Brown Tree Snake are often seen with 5 species of bats, including Ghost & Horseshoe that are rarely seen. Keep a look out for Euro, Agile Wallaby and Antilopine Wallaroo.

## CUTTA CUTTA CAVES NATURE PARK

Accessed off Stuart Highway, about 75km north of Mataranka and 30km south of Katherine, Cutta Cutta Caves span nearly 1500 hectares of Nature Park, the sole publicly accessible limestone caves in Australia. Nitmiluk Tours offer cave tours for a fee. Formed millions of years ago, these caves, situated approximately 15 meters underground, are still actively growing. The karst landscape provides habitats for wildlife. Enjoy a 20-minute Tropical Woodland walk amidst tropical savannah, and access the 650m Karst Walk exclusively on tour. Cutta Cutta, meaning 'many stars' in Jawoyn, was historically off-limits to Aboriginals, who believed it housed the stars at night. Initially dubbed Smith's Cave by a stockman in 1900, it was renamed 16 Mile Cave during World War II.






# KATHERINE

Katherine has a fascinating history. Ancient Aboriginal culture blends with more recent European settlement, combining to make this town and surrounding region the special place that it is today. Situated on the Katherine River, 320kms southeast of Darwin, Katherine is known as the place where "the outback meets the tropics" and is the central hub of the Savannah Way, which stretches from Cairns in Queensland, right across to Broome, W.A.

The town site of Katherine, originally an 1870 settlement on the south bank of the river for which it was named (the present Knott's Crossing) moved 3km downstream to the north bank. This location was named Emungalan (the Indigenous name for "Place of Stone") and a railhead for the North Australian Railway operated here from 1917 to 1926. This township quickly grew to 200 people, 90% of whom were male!

The construction of the high-level railway bridge in 1926 established the final location of Katherine town, back on the south bank. Very little remains of Emungalan other than a small cemetery and a few building relics. This final settlement included a new railway station, and the town became an important transportation link. The Great Depression era followed, bringing many challenges, which continued through until World War II.

## DAGOMAN – WARDAMAN – YANGMAN

This is the traditional lands and a meeting place for Dagoman, Wardaman and Yangman tribes/people whom had similar language/ dialect, skin/ kinship, ceremonial and Lore systems. Katherine was their historical common ground meeting place for thousands of years.

### DAGOMAN WORDS

**Similar references to animals other words were also used for Wardaman and Yangman people*

| DAGOMAN WORD | WORD MEANING |
|---|---|
| **Jekban** | Plain Turkey |
| **Garngma** | Kangaroo |
| **Bardanin** | Fish |
| **Yiwung** | Black Currant |
| **Gurlid** | Green Plum |
| **Ngulu** | Skin/Kin Group |
| **Warrdija** | Crocodile |
| **Barmgoon** | Woman |
| **Ibiyan** | Man |

*Skin names Nangala, Nalyidi, Nawala, Nangari, are the same for Dagoman, Wardaman and Yangman people.*



*The Ghan*

**WORLD WAR II** saw a significant military presence in the NT, to protect Australia's northern shore from the outbreak of war in the Pacific Ocean. Katherine became the southern most point of bombing by Japanese aircraft, resulting in the largest bomb crater in Australia!

**THE HIGH-LEVEL BRIDGE** was constructed in 1976, at the cost of a million dollars. Finally, there was a reliable means of vehicle crossing of the Katherine River. The bridge was the highest road bridge built anywhere in the Northern Territory and still provides reliable crossing to larger vehicles and road trains to this day. The bridge was named the Eugene Betti bridge after one of the construction foremen in 1991.

**JOHN MCDOUALL STUART** passed through the region in 1862. Within 10 years the Katherine Telegraph Station was built. The completed Overland Telegraph Line bisected Australia and laid the groundwork for the railway from Adelaide to Darwin which commenced in 1878 but wasn't completed till 2004!

**KATHERINE RAILWAY** works were intended to link Darwin (then known as Palmerston) with Port Augusta in the south. The line made it to Pine Creek in 1889, Katherine in 1926, and 8km south of Larrimah in 1929, but work ceased, and the line closed in 1976. The dream of the north-south line languished until that final section was finished through to Alice Springs in 2004, enabling passengers to travel all the way through from Adelaide to Darwin on the famous 'Ghan.'


*Old Railway Bridge*

## KATHERINE AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| High | 35° | 34° | 35° | 34° | 32° | 30° | 30° | 33° | 35° | 38° | 38° | 37° |
| Low | 24° | 24° | 23° | 20° | 17° | 14° | 13° | 16° | 20° | 24° | 25° | 24° |

## DID YOU KNOW? CROCODILES

- Replace up to 4000 teeth in their lifetime
- Lifespan of 35-75 years
- Top swimming speed 35Kph
- Can grow between 1.5 and 7 metres





*Eugene Betti Bridge*

## THE KATHERINE RIVER

The Katherine River, named by John McDouall Stuart in 1862 after James Chambers' daughter, originates in Nitmiluk National Park and flows through the town, serving as a key tributary of the Daly River. It descends 384m over 328kms. Major floods occurred in 1957 and 1974, and in 1998, Cyclone Les, rainfall in a 48 hour period, caused devastating flooding, evacuating two-thirds of the town. In 2006, a state of emergency was declared when the river peaked at 19 meters. Katherine's history is intertwined with the railway, with the town relocating twice during its construction, settling in its current location in 1926.



# SUGGESTED ITINERARIES
## FOR THE KATHERINE REGION

### 7 DAYS KATHERINE

**DAYS 1-3**
- Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge
- Spotto along the way!

**DAY 4**
- Mimi Art Gallery
- Street Art collection
- Helicopters flight

**DAY 5**
- Shopping, stock up at Tackleworld
- Low Level Nature Reserve
- Katherine Hot Springs

**DAY 6**
- Fishing

**DAY 7**
- Leliyn (Edith Falls)

### 3 DAYS MATARANKA

**DAY 1**
- Never Never Museum
- Bitter Springs Thermal Pools
- Nathan 'Whippy' Griggs Show



**DAY 2**
- Mataranka Thermal Pools
- The Elsey Homestead Replica

**DAY 3**
- Elsey National Park highlights
- Old Elsey Cemetery
- Bush Walks
- Fishing

### 1 DAY PINE CREEK

- Umbrawarra Gorge National Park
- Enterprise Mine Pit Lookout
- Historic buildings & displays



*Katherine Hot Springs*

# ATTRACTIONS

## KATHERINE HOT SPRINGS

Just a 5-minute drive from Katherine Post Office, these thermal springs offer a refreshing dip. Nestled along the banks of the Katherine River, the springs consist of clear pools, with the top pool being the direct source. Water temperatures range from 25-30 degrees Celsius. Take a swim and unwind in the thermal waters.

Before or after your swim, explore a scenic walking trail with informative signage. Relax with a picnic in a shaded grass area, equipped with tables, chairs, toilets, and a Pop-Up Café. Open daily from 7am to 7pm. Note: Access may be limited during the Wet Season (September - April) due to river levels. The main pool is wheelchair accessible with handrails and rock-formed steps.

The main pool has a wheelchair access ramp, stainless steel hand rails and steps formed out of rock.

## LOW LEVEL NATURE RESERVE

Known as Gowutjima to the local Aboriginal people, this area has been a vital resource hub for generations. In the 1930s, travelers shifted to the Low Level river crossing from Knotts Crossing. The Low Level Bridge, constructed during World War II, facilitated traffic over the Katherine River. Beneath it lies a concrete weir, offering stunning photo opportunities as water cascades to the lower level. The area is inaccessible during the wet season (Dec - April) but perfect for swimming during the Dry season, with depths of 1-2 meters along the banks. Families can enjoy rock pools and a grassy picnic area with playground, BBQ, and toilets on the western side.

**SCAN ME**



*Low Level Crossing*




## KATHERINE HELICOPTERS

is a helicopter tour operator based in Katherine, Northern Territory. Operating two Bell Helicopters we offer a range of services, from tour flights up the serene Katherine Gorge to bespoke Heli-Fishing trips through-out the Top End of Australia. With the ability to carry up to six passengers in one aircraft, Katherine Helicopters are sure to be able to cater for all your helicopter needs.

**SCAN ME**






**A locally owned family business offering helicopter scenic flights throughout Katherine and the Top End.**

- Katherine Gorge
- 17 Mile Valley
- Edith Falls
- Kakadu
- Remote Landing at Sunset with Champagne and Cheese Platter









*Dr. Clyde Fenton OBE*

## HISTORIC HOUSES, INTERESTING ICONS AND A MEDICAL MAN



The history of a region can offer an insight to what it took to establish the thriving community you see today. The pioneers of a town, are people who do what they can do, the best they can, and the whole community benefits and grows. Katherine is full of characters, reminders and memories, and shares them well. It's makes it easy to explore so many of them.

**DR CLYDE FENTON OBE** was a self-taught pilot who flew without navigation aids. He funded his own aircraft and served as the Government Medical Officer in Katherine from March 1934. His aerial rescue service evolved into the Northern Territory Areal Medical Service. During WWII, he joined the RAAF, making emergency medical flights from Manbulloo airstrip. His legacy includes a primary school named after him.

**See Katherine Museum Heritage Trail Points of Interest on page 16–17**



The O'Keeffe Residence

**THE O'KEEFFE RESIDENCE**, restored by the National Trust in 1988, was built in 1942 amid post-war housing shortages. Constructed from local materials like Cypress pine, iron sheeting, bark ceilings, and flywire, it exemplifies bush innovation. Named after its last occupants, John & Olive O'Keeffe, dedicated locals who contributed greatly to the community.

**THE BRONZE HORSEMAN** at Katherine's southern entrance honors Peter Sing - Sabu, a pioneering stockman. Born in 1940 to Wardaman woman Maggie Jaman and station cook Harry Kim Sing, he was raised by Tom Fisher at Manbulloo Station. Fluent in multiple Indigenous languages, Sabu excelled as head stockman at Wave Hill, known for his expertise in handling horses and bush craft skills.





*Katherine Outback Experience*

## KATHERINE OUTBACK EXPERIENCE

Owned by Golden Guitar winning singer songwriter, Tom Curtain, the national award-winning Outback Show celebrates life in the outback through real horse training and working dog demonstrations entwined with humorous bush tales. The two-hour Show is raw and real and an experience for all. See why it has been awarded NT's Best Tourist Attraction for the last four years.




Katherine Outback Experience







**Experience the real Australian Outback**

Owned by national award-winning singer songwriter Tom Curtain, the 2-hour Outback Show celebrates life on the land through real horse-starting, live music, working dog demonstrations and story-telling.

*Bookings essential*

BOOK ONLINE

**Katherine Outback Experience** 115 Collins Road, Uralla, Katherine | Ph: 1300 818 612
Email: bookings@katherineoutback.com.au katherineoutbackexperience.com.au

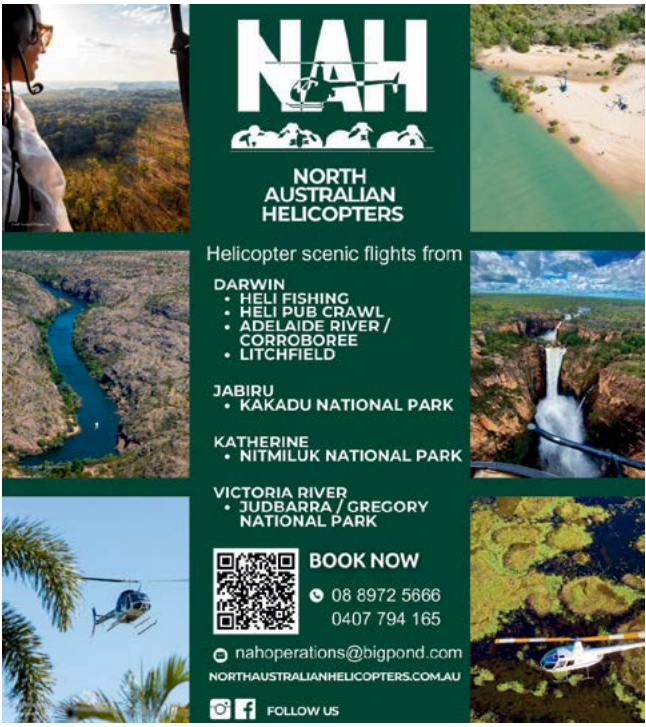


*North Australian Helicopters*

## NORTH AUSTRALIAN HELICOPTERS

With 3 bases, in Darwin, Jabiru and Katherine, North Australia Helicopters offer Dry & Wet Season tours over iconic landscapes, specialising in Katherine Gorge and Kakadu, just to name a few. For those short on time or needing transfers to connect you to fishing charters or remote tour operators or those unique accommodation properties, enjoy the stunning views while reaching your destination.






KATHERINE MUSEUM HERITAGE TRAIL
1 B11 Overland Telegraph Pylons 1870's
2 C9 Gallon Licence Store
3 C9 Knotts Crossing 1870's
4 E8 Old DCA Building
5 C10 Old Katherine Cemetery
6 D8 Hospital Site 1930's
7 E8 Old Airstrip 1930's
8 K6 Old Works Dept Site 1950's Hostel
9 C13 Railway Workshops 1940's
10 F17 Catholic Church Site 1950's
11 E14 Butchers Shop. M. Alwight's House 1947
12 F15 1930's House (Car Parts Store)
13 E13 Uniting Church
14 G14 Old Town Hall 1930's (CWA Building)
15 F13 Katherine Stores 1926
16 F13 Commercial Hotel (Crossways) – Currently Stuart Hotel
17 F13 Picture Theatre, Dynasty's Rest 1950's
18 G13 1926 Railway Station
ROAD
Knotts Crossing
Katherine Memorial Cemetery
STREET
Katherine Museum
EMUNGALAN
NATURE'S WAY
EXPLORERS WAY
TO PINE CREEK: 92km
Katherine School of the Air
ROAD
STUART
HWY
Emungalan Cemetery
Katherine Town Council
River
GILES
LOCKHEED
DR
O'SHEA
TCE
FOURTH
CHAMBERS
Katherine Sports Ground
DRIVE
golf course
Katherine Country Club
Katherine
HWY
RIVERBANK
rodeo
arena
showgrounds
racecourse
ROAD
Katherine Hot Springs
Speedway
ZIMIN
DRIVE
ROAD
BICENTENNIAL
SHADFORTH
VICTORIA
Katherine Low Level Nature Res.
SAVANNAH WAY
Manbulloo Homestead 9km




**Accommodation**
1 A17 Cicada Lodge / Nitmiluk Cabins
2 D18 Beagle Hotel
3 U4 Manbulloo Homestead

**Services**
4 E15 Rod & Rifle Tackle World

**Attractions**
5 A17 Nitmiluk (Katherine) Gorge
6 P18 Cutta Cutta Caves Nature Park
7 Q18 Katherine Outback Experience
8 B6 Katherine Helicopters
9 Q18 North Australian Helicopters

**Art**
10 G12 Mimi Art Gallery
11 G13 Street Art - Railway Terrace

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*Barunga Festival*

# KATHERINE REGION EVENTS 2024

## MAY 2024

**Big Horse Creek Barra Classic**
3 - 5 May
kgfc.net.au

**Mataranka Never Never Festival**
11 - 12 May

**Mataranka Campdraft**
17 - 19 May

**Katherine Run Festival**
19 May
kmsc.com.au

**Katherine Multicultural Festival**
26 May
katherine.nt.gov.au/events

## JUNE 2024

**Junk Festival**
1 June
katherineregionalarts.org.au




**Barunga Festival**
7-10 June
barungafest.com.au

## JULY 2024



**Territory Day**
July 1
territoryday.nt.gov.au

**4 Hour MTB**
6 July
kmsc.com.au

**NAIDOC Week Celebrations**
7-14 July
www.naidoc.org.au

**Katherine Show**
19-20 July
www.katherineshow.org.au

**Doggy Day 2024**
28 July
katherine.nt.gov.au/events

## AUGUST 2024

**Katherine Ultra Challenge**
4 August
kmsc.com.au

**Katherine Cup Race Day**
17 August
katherineturfclub.com.au



*Great Billed Heron*



*Hooded Parrot*



*Gouldian Finch*



*Crested Shrike-tit*

## FLOCK TO THE KATHERINE REGION

In Katherine, spot diverse birds like Gouldian Finches and Hooded Parrots. Travel north to Edith Falls Road or Pine Creek, or southwest along the Victoria Highway for Long Tail Finches and more. Eastward, from Cutta Cutta Caves to Central Arnhem Highway, find Black-tailed Treecreepers and Banded Honeyeaters.


Mimi Aboriginal Art and Craft

## MIMI ABORIGINAL ART & CRAFT



Our artwork is as diverse as the lands and people it represents. Spanning the entire Katherine region, from the Tanami Desert in the west, up to the Kimberly and across to Arnhem Land.

We proudly display and stock the diverse styles and mediums Indigenous to these lands.

Mimi Aboriginal Art and Craft is a 100% Aboriginal community-owned not-for-profit art centre, visitors can often enjoy the experience of watching and chatting with artists while they paint and create. We take pride in providing a sustainable way for our artists to sell and an ethical way for our guests to purchase authentic Indigenous artwork.

Come and discover our exciting new Art Centre and Gallery space.


Mimi
ABORIGINAL ART & CRAFT

Ethical Aboriginal art from the Top End to the Desert.



6 Pearce St, Katherine
Ph: 08 8971 0036
gallery@mimiarts.com
mimiarts.com

INDIGENOUS ART CODE

Australian Government
Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support

ANKA
ARNHEM, NORTHERN AND KIMBERLEY ARTISTS ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
Working together to keep art, country and culture strong



# ACCOMMODATION

**MANBULLOO HOMESTEAD & CARAVAN PARK** is one of the only family run, locally owned parks in the region. Offering a variety of accommodation options, pet friendly, on a rural peaceful environment, with bird watching and wonderful bush walks along the Katherine River, this is your best option to base yourself to explore the region.

**SCAN ME**


Manbulloo Homestead
CARAVAN PARK
Working Cattle Property • Shady Grassed Sites
Pets Welcome • Bird Watching • Bush Walking • Fishing
PET FRIENDLY
0477 126 014 • manbulloohs@bigpond.com
www.manbulloohomesteadcaravanpark.com.au
275 Murnburlu Road (off Victoria Highway)




**DID YOU KNOW?**

Mobile phones and chargers are one of the most common items to be left behind.

**Travel Tip:** Before departing, make sure to set your plugged-in phone on top of something else you won't forget. Items that are put together in 'clusters' make them less likely to be left behind.

# CAMPING & CARAVAN ETIQUETTE

**NOISE** - Keep your music and noise to a level that is polite for your space only. If you are in a family park, which most are, children will always be children. Be tolerant.

**PETS** - Just because you love your pet, others may not. Always have your animals on a lead, fenced in, or appropriately caged. Always pick up waste after your animal.

**WATER** - Check with each park if there is a fee for filling tanks due to drought. Some places are grateful for your grey water on the ground, others not so. Check first.

**AMENITIES** - Never empty your toilet casette in the ablution block of any public toilet. Always clean up after yourself in shared bathrooms. Think of others.

**SPEED LIMITS** - Stick to the speed limit. You are on holidays. Slow down.

**MIND YOUR SPACE -** Don't cut through other people's sites, especially under their awnings, just to save a few steps. Be neighbourly.

**RUBBISH** - Dispose of your rubbish in bins provided. Otherwise dispose of it at your next opportunity.




**Parks & Wildlife have introduced an online booking system. Check all Parks for site availability prior to arrival.**

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

## BEAGLE HOTEL

BEAGLE HOTEL

Beagle Hotel offers a range of clean, comfortable and affordable accommodation options for leisure travellers, workers and families in the heart of Katherine.

**P: (08) 8972 3998**
**E: info@beaglehotel.com.au**

beaglehotel.com.au




## SHOPPING LOCAL:

- Helps local businesses support local sports & events
- Lowers environmental impact by reducing carbon footprint
- Ensures more jobs for local families



## NITMILUK (KATHERINE) GORGE

Formed over millions of years, as the Katherine River, originating in Kakadu National Park, carved through ancient sandstone forming thirteen gorges. Stunning waterfalls, rapids and magnificent vistas of escarpments look down on this amazing landscape.

Freshwater crocodiles are seen sunbaking along sandbanks, while a variety of birds and wildlife surround you in a variety of habitat areas.

There are areas specifically for swimming and canoeing, a truly magnificent way to explore this ancient region.

## ABOUT THE JAWOYN

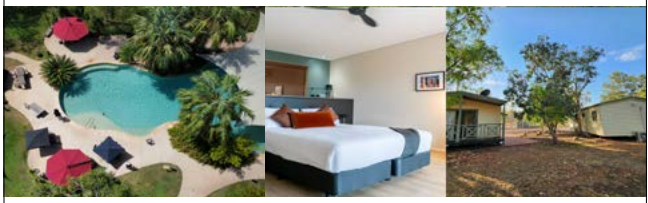
Jawoyn is recognised among Aboriginal peoples over a large area of the Northern Territory's 'Top End'. It is an all-encompassing expression used in reference to language, culture, people and territory including 17 clans making up the group.


Accommodation

**Nitmiluk**

Gorge

Stay • Cabins • Caravan Park • Cicada Lodge



**nitmiluktours.com.au**

reservations@nitmiluktours.com.au

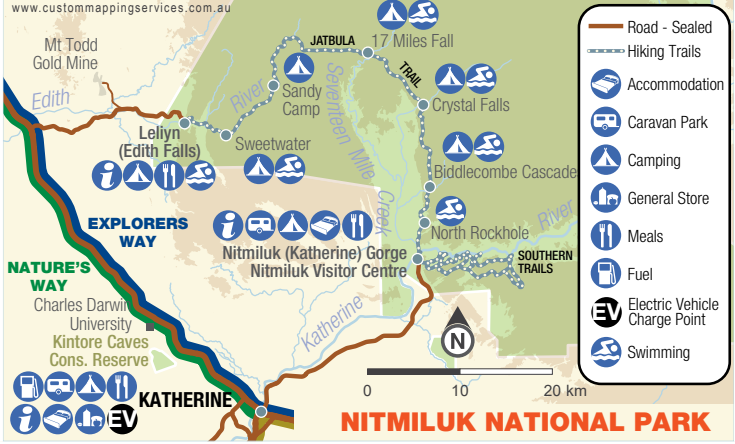
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CICADA LODGE

Nitmiluk Katherine




### JAWOYN HISTORY

Nitmiluk is the Jawoyn name for Katherine Gorge. It is pronounced Nit-me-look, and literally means Cicada Place. The name was given by Nabilil, an important figure of the Creation Time. As he travelled through the country, he came to the Gorge where he heard the song of the Cicada, "Nit, Nit, Nit!"

The Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park and Jawoyn Association logo is a painting by a deceased traditional owner of Nitmiluk. It depicts Bolung (the rainbow serpent), Nitmi (the cicada), mussels, fish and rocks. By tradition, Bolung still inhabits the deep pools of the second Gorge at Nitmiluk, and care must be taken not to disturb him.

### MODERN DAY

Today, Jawoyn invite you to visit their country and to share the experience and grandeur of Nitmiluk Gorge. The mythical figure of 'Bula' travelled this land leaving his image as paintings in rock shelters - images that depict the stories of the Jawoyn people and can still be seen and admired today.

*"Our people - the Jawoyn tribe - are the traditional owners of the area now known as Nitmiluk National Park. Since the coming of white people we have been able to keep alive our traditions and care for our country through our Law."*

## NITMILUK NATIONAL PARK

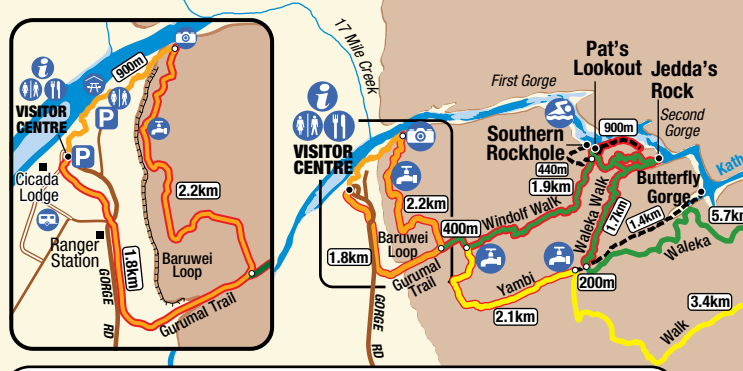
For thousands of years Nitmiluk has been the foundation of the Jawoyn Aboriginal people, providing an abundance of water and food, and a gallery of art and artefacts. Today it's a living testament of ancient Aboriginal culture.

The park's main entrance is located 30 kilometres northeast of Katherine via a sealed road. Keep a watch out for the many Wallabies - small Kangaroos - that are inquisitive of visitors.

Immerse yourself in the natural beauty and culture of Nitmiluk Gorge and National Park with an extended stay in the region or at the Nitmiluk Caravan and Camping grounds.

### WHEN TO VISIT

The most comfortable time to visit Nitmiluk National Park is from May to September. During the wet season, flooding of the Katherine River may restrict the range of activities available and in some cases prevent access to the park.




## BARUWEI

Experience a taste of what Nitmiluk's great walking network offers, even if your time is limited. On the western end of the Katherine Gorge, the Baruwei Lookout and Loop Walks provide views of the picnic area, Katherine Gorge and 17 Mile Valley. The Lookout and Loop walks have varying conditions, but are mainly a short, steep track with an average level of fitness required and are graded as moderate difficulty, so choose a walk to suit your level of fitness.


Experience

**Nitmiluk**

Gorge

Cruises • Canoe • Heli • Cultural Experiences



**nitmiluktours.com.au**

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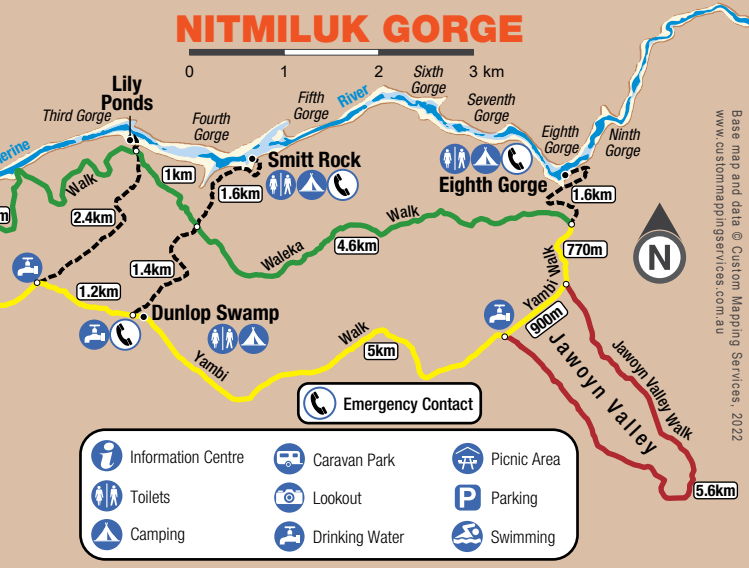
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CICADA LODGE

Nitmiluk Katherine




## JAWOYN WORDS

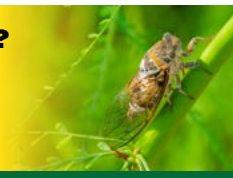
| WORD | MEANING | NOTES ON PRONOUNCIATIONS |
|---|---|---|
| Nitmi | Cicada | These letters are sounded different to the English sounds |
| Wak | Water | |
| Wurrk | Fire | **rd, rt, rn, rl:** all "*r*-rounded sounds made by holding the tongue in position for the '*r*' (tongue tip bend back) while making - *a* , *d*, *t*, *n* or *l* sound |
| Di rrt | Moon | |
| Gu po | Kangaroo | |
| Garr -ak | Red Tail Black Cockatoo | **j,tj, ny, ly:** all "*y*-coloured" sounds made by holding the tongue in the position for say 'y' (tongue tip down) while making a *j*, *ti*(-ch), *n* or *l* sound |
| Bur -dit | Bat | |
| Goy-marr | Freshwater Crocodile | **rr:** this trilled '*r*' sound is made by flapping the tongue tip against the gum ridge behind the upper front teeth) like saying a quick '*d*' sound) |
| Gee-ngah | Saltwater Crocodile | |
| Jorrl-kkan | Dingo | **g:** pronounced as in ***get*** (not George) |
| Weerrk | Northern Bushtail Possum | **ng:** pronounced as in ***sing*** (not finger) |
| Boh Boh | Goodbye | **r:** Always pronounced, even at the end of words (like in American pronunciation of ***car***) |

**Parks & Wildlife have introduced an online booking system. Check all Parks for site availability prior to arrival.**

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

## THE CICADA – DID YOU KNOW?

- Only the males sing
- Females can lay up to 600 eggs
- Their songs can reach 120 decibels
- Can live for up to 17 years in the nymph stage





## KATHERINE COMMUNITY MARKETS

Saturdays throughout dry season 8:30am - 12:30pm
Night Markets last Saturday of each month 4 - 9pm
*Closed in the wet season*
***katherinemarkets.com.au***

# SHOPPING

## BOTTLESHOP HOURS

We know the NT is warm, thirsty weather, but if you purchase take away alcohol you just need to plan ahead. Most towns in the NT are a 'dry town' meaning that you cannot consume alcohol in public places within the town region.

Other regions may have adjusted hours so it pays to check the website to check the open times: ***takeawayalcohol.nt.gov.au***

SCAN ME

**ROD N RIFLE TACKLE WORLD**, a local family business has been looking after the locals and visitors alike for all their camping, fishing and hunting needs, for over 35 years. Stocking a huge range of your favourite brands, get expert knowledge, great tips from people who are passionate about all things outdoors.

SCAN ME






*Leliyn (Edith Falls)*

## LELIYN (EDITH FALLS)

Enjoy all year round, the refreshing water of Leliyn (Edith Falls). Picturesque waterfalls flowing into great swimming pools, with stunning walks throughout.

**SCAN ME**

Located on the western side of Nitmiluk National Park, Leliyn is 60kms north of Katherine, as you travel further along the Stuart Highway.

Grassy campsites in bush settings make Leliyn a scenic spot where you can camp up for a few days or enjoy an afternoon, or day trip from Katherine, with gas BBQ's, picnic tables, toilets and showers, and a Kiosk for cool drinks and food.

Enjoy swimming in both upper and lower pools, or Sweetwater Pool if you are hiking or overnight adventure.

Leliyn is the finishing point of the 62km Jatbula Trail walking track, which begins at the Gorge end of Nitmiluk National Park.

## UMBRAWARRA GORGE NATURE PARK

This stunning gorge offers striking colours of sharp red cliffs and sandstone overhangs. Best visited early to mid-Dry season, you can swim in the rocky pools, lined with sandy beaches. An easy 1km walk along the creek into the gorge or wade, swim or rock-hop along the way.

**SCAN ME**

Look carefully and see the Wagaman Aboriginal art on the gorge walls.

The carpark of the gorge was the site of a tin mine in the early 1900's.

Located 3kms south of Pine Creek, this unsealed road can become very dusty and corrugated, with steep dips and creek crossings for 22kms.



*Umbrawarra Gorge*



*Enterprise Mine Pit Lookout*

## PINE CREEK

A quiet town full of historic charm. Explore historic sites, enjoy lunch, or stay awhile. Visit Enterprise Mine Pit Lookout for insights. It's the sole remaining gold rush town in Top End, boasting the oldest surviving prefabricated structure in NT at The National Trust Museum. Discover gold rush and Chinese history.

**Fossicking** is popular in Pine Creek. Visit ***www.minerals.nt.gov.au*** for permit and details to try your luck!

## TRAVEL WITH PETS



Travelling with our furry or feathered friends allows all the family to enjoy a holiday! Being prepared is the key to ensure every member is kept safe.

### KEEP A LOOK OUT!

New to Australia, Ehrlichiosis is a dangerous dog disease, carried by brown ticks found across northern Australia. Left untreated, it can be fatal, so please use tick prevention to keep your dog safe.

### TICK PREVENTION

- The first line of defence is a fresh tick collar. Note the date and change them as required. Most collars work best when kept dry.
- Regularly inspect your dog. Ticks hide in small crevices: inside ears, between toes and under their paws, between the pads.
- An internal tick medicine will kill any ticks living on your dog. One bite and they will drop off. Just be mindful that one bite from an infected tick can infect your dog!
- Ehrlichiosis cannot be passed simply from dog to dog, it spreads through ticks themselves. If you do find ticks on your dog, please visit a vet ASAP for treatment.

### PET TRAVEL TIPS

- Carry your pet's medical info, including vaccination records.
- Ensure your pet is safely harnessed or crated in the car.
- Carry extra water & bowls to allow for the heat.
- Remember heat affects their paws as well. Be mindful of hot ground!
- Take care when out bush, baits are used to protect stock in the NT.

## BARRAMUNDI FUN FACTS!



- Barramundi are called ***Martbiyn*** by the Jawoyn, meaning "***large-scaled silver fish***"
- Most are born male, then turn into females at 3-4yrs old
- Have been recorded over 1.2m long & weighing over 40kg
- Can produce upwards of 32million eggs in a season

# SPOTTO!

## ARE YOU DRIVING TO NITMILUK (KATHERINE) GORGE?

Get the whole family to look out for these fun points of interest, while you are heading out to Nitmiluk Gorge or back. 5 points for each box you can tick below. Add another 5 points if you are the first to see the image below and call "Spotto"!



☐ *Dog Head Rock*



☐ *Plane Crash*



☐ *Remote Bus Stop*



☐ *Shrek on a Bike*



☐ *Tonka Rockpile*




☐ *Wandering Poppy*

# FIND THE WONDER WORD!

Find every word in the list in order for the WONDERWORD to appear

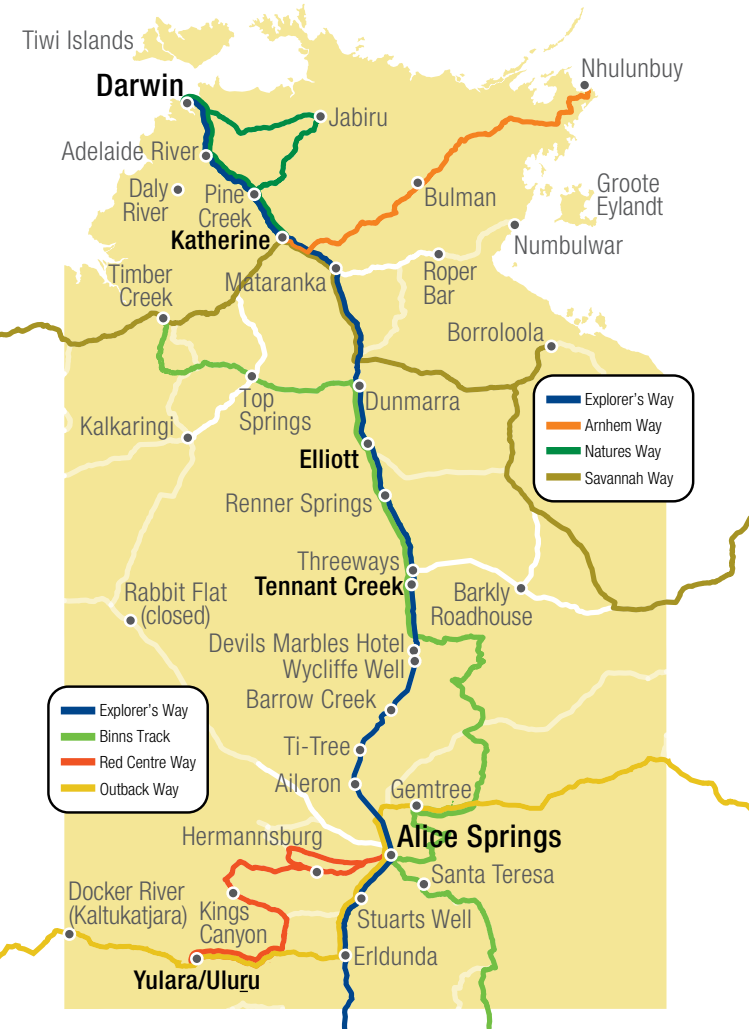
| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | L | F | A | L | L | S | P | P | M |
| S | E | E | G | R | O | G | I | E | A |
| A | L | T | X | P | N | R | N | L | T |
| D | I | A | L | I | T | I | E | I | A |
| A | Y | B | P | R | R | R | C | D | R |
| C | N | M | P | E | E | R | A | O | A |
| I | A | A | H | N | E | V | O | C | N |
| C | R | T | U | E | R | E | I | O | K |
| K | A | S | K | M | I | W | S | R | A |
| K | U | L | I | M | T | I | N | C | R |

Crocodile
Mataranka
Nitmiluk
Gorge
Bat

Leliyn
Sun
Track
Katherine
Pine

Creek
Cicadas
River
Falls
Park

Swim
Camping
Trip




| | WCLIFFE WELL | WAUCHOPE | TI TREE | TIMBER CREEK | THREEWAYS | KATHERINE | RENNER SPRINGS | PINE CREEK | MATARANKA | LARRIMAH | KULGERA | KATHERINE | JABIRU | ERLDUNDA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WCLIFFE WELL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1683 |
| WAUCHOPE | | | | | | | | | | | | | 303 | 1380 |
| TI TREE | | | | | | | | | | | | 1467 | 1770 | 87 |
| TIMBER CREEK | | | | | | | | | | | 1285 | 182 | 485 | 1198 |
| THREEWAYS | | | | 1273 | | | | | | 76 | 1361 | 106 | 409 | 1274 |
| KATHERINE | | | | 339 | 935 | | | | 197 | 273 | 1557 | 91 | 213 | 1471 |
| RENNER SPRINGS | | | | 314 | 959 | 25 | | | 405 | 329 | 955 | 512 | 814 | 869 |
| PINE CREEK | | | | 476 | 798 | 137 | 161 | | 566 | 490 | 794 | 673 | 975 | 708 |
| MATARANKA | | | | 1077 | 376 | 739 | 763 | 602 | | 466 | 818 | 649 | 951 | 732 |
| LARRIMAH | | | | 881 | 392 | 542 | 566 | 405 | 329 | | 1753 | 286 | 588 | 1666 |
| KULGERA | | | | 805 | 468 | 466 | 490 | 329 | 273 | 468 | | 480 | 987 | 393 |
| KATHERINE | | | | 480 | 1753 | 818 | 794 | 955 | 1557 | 1753 | 286 | | 1290 | 1290 |
| JABIRU | | | | 987 | 286 | 649 | 673 | 512 | 91 | 480 | 588 | 1290 | | 393 |
| ERLDUNDA | | | | 1290 | 588 | 951 | 975 | 814 | 213 | 987 | 1666 | 393 | 1290 | |

# TOURIST DRIVES OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

These iconic drives showcase an ancient culture and the natural diversity of this spectacular Territory. Follow these 'self-drive' options and when you share your memories on social media include: #ExploreKatherine #ExploreOz so we can join your journey!

## NATURES WAY

***northernterritory.com/drive/natures-way***

Darwin is your starting point, for a journey that reaches the ancient wonders of 3 National Parks, including Kakadu, Nitmiluk and Litchfield National Parks. All with their natural beauty, you can spot crocodiles along the banks of the river as you take a tour cruise along lily pad wetland, rich in bird life and stunning photo opportunities. Explore the rock art galleries, gentle and adventurous walking trails and plunge pools for cooling dips, before taking the loop back to Darwin.

## SAVANNAH WAY

***northernterritory.com/drive/savannah-way***

This incredible 3700 kilometre drive traverses rugged and challenging country, from Queensland to the beauty of the Northern Territory, then journey onto Western Australia for an ultimate outback road trip. Passing through a variety of habitats, from savannah to tropical landscapes, journey through five World Heritage listed areas and 15 National parks. Camp out under big night skies, and marvel at ancient rock art or catch a famous Barramundi.

## EXPLORERS WAY

***tinyurl.com/2p95bs5m***

Follow in explorer John McDouall Stuart's footsteps on a trail he first blazed in the 1860s, on a 3000km drive. Pass through diverse landscapes and some of Australia most famous icons, explore the rich Indigenous culture on sealed highways between Adelaide and Darwin.

## ARNHEM WAY

***northernterritory.com/drive/arnhem-way***

From Katherine to Nhulunbuy, on the Gove Peninsula, you need to be prepared for adventure. Explore one of Australia's last unspoilt areas, with pristine beaches and stunning wetlands. You may be lucky to discover rare birds and native wildlife or catch a variety of fish along the way. Be delighted by local artwork in these remote regions, strong in culture.

*A permit is required from the Northern Land Council and necessary to preserve the culture and beauty of the region.

## DISTANCE GRID

Measured in kilometres
Approximate distances only

| ELLIOTT | DUNMARRA | DARWIN | DALY WATERS | BROOME | BARROW CREEK | BARKLY HOMESTEAD | ALICE SPRINGS | ADELAIDE RIVER | ADELAIDE | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | 2911 | ADELAIDE RIVER |
| | | | | | | | | 1384 | 1531 | ALICE SPRINGS |
| | | | | | | | 719 | 1038 | 2249 | BARKLY HOMESTEAD |
| | | | | | | 456 | 286 | 1098 | 1833 | BARROW CREEK |
| | | | | | 2451 | 2432 | 2737 | 1759 | 4266 | BROOME |
| | | | | 1829 | 627 | 605 | 914 | 476 | 2443 | DALY WATERS |
| | | | 589 | 1872 | 1211 | 1190 | 1497 | 113 | 3027 | DARWIN |
| | | 631 | 48 | 1872 | 580 | 556 | 866 | 518 | 2396 | DUNMARRA |
| | 104 | 736 | 152 | 1976 | 475 | 456 | 762 | 623 | 2292 | ELLIOTT |
| 961 | 1065 | 1696 | 1113 | 2937 | 491 | 919 | 200 | 1584 | 1331 | ERLDUNDA |
| 722 | 618 | 255 | 576 | 1858 | 1198 | 1138 | 1484 | 299 | 3014 | JABIRU |
| 420 | 315 | 316 | 273 | 1556 | 895 | 875 | 1181 | 203 | 2711 | KATHERINE |
| 1047 | 1152 | 1783 | 1199 | 3023 | 572 | 1005 | 286 | 1670 | 1268 | KULGERA |
| 237 | 133 | 498 | 90 | 1739 | 712 | 653 | 999 | 385 | 2529 | LARRIMAH |
| 313 | 209 | 422 | 167 | 1663 | 768 | 729 | 1075 | 309 | 2605 | MATARANKA |
| 510 | 406 | 226 | 363 | 1646 | 985 | 965 | 1271 | 113 | 2801 | PINE CREEK |
| 92 | 196 | 828 | 244 | 2068 | 383 | 371 | 678 | 704 | 2199 | RENNER SPRINGS |
| 253 | 358 | 989 | 405 | 1801 | 222 | 211 | 508 | 876 | 2038 | KATHERINE |
| 229 | 333 | 964 | 381 | 2205 | 246 | 219 | 533 | 852 | 2063 | THREEWAYS |
| 706 | 601 | 601 | 559 | 1270 | 1181 | 1159 | 1467 | 489 | 1997 | TIMBER CREEK |
| 568 | 672 | 1303 | 719 | 2543 | 93 | 566 | 194 | 1190 | 1724 | TI TREE |
| 366 | 466 | 1100 | 515 | 2342 | 88 | 363 | 397 | 985 | 1925 | WAUCHOPE |
| 386 | 490 | 1121 | 538 | 2362 | 89 | 344 | 376 | 1009 | 1906 | WYCLIFFE WELL |
| 1207 | 1311 | 1942 | 1359 | 3183 | 731 | 1164 | 446 | 1829 | 1576 | YULARA |

# Wherever you go, take us with you




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