

**THE
TERRITORY
TOP END**

**The Top End is
where you'd
rather be.**





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Live

The place

A tropical paradise paired with diverse wildlife and unique landscapes sits not far from the capital of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

This is known as the Top End Region which incorporates the north/north-east section of the Territory including the Adelaide River, Batchelor, West Daly, Tiwi Islands, and West Arnhem regions extending from Wagait in the north, to Wadeye in the west and Maningrida in the east. Close to 18,000 people live in the region.

Home to some of the oldest Aboriginal cultures in the world.

The region also boasts some of the best Barramundi fishing, hunting, and camping opportunities in the country.

250kms south of the capital you will find the World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park.

With Litchfield National Park just 115kms from the CBD. The national parks are home to an abundance

of flora and fauna paired with natural waterfalls with Kakadu well-known for its Aboriginal culture boasting rock art dating back 20,000 years. Mary River, Djukbinj and Coburg National Parks are also located within the Top End Region.

West Arnhem covers an area of almost 50,000 sqm encompassing five remote communities, including two islands and more than 100 homelands. The five communities include [Jabiru](#), [Gunbalanya](#), [Maningrida](#), [Waruwi](#) and [Minjilang](#) and are scattered across salt and fresh water. Over 6000 people reside in the West Arnhem region and more than 80 per cent population identify as Aboriginal Australians.

The town of [Batchelor](#) adjacent to the Litchfield National Park, provides a range of services such as public pools, libraries, annual art shows and more. Located around an hour from the City of Palmerston it also provides access to an additional range of facilities and services.

West Daly Region with a population of more than 3000 hosts the communities of [Wadeye](#) (Port Keats), [Peppimenarti](#) (Peppi) and [Palumpa](#).

The Tiwi Islands 80km north of Darwin is in the beautiful Arafura Sea. There are two islands, [Bathurst](#) and Melville, with a total land mass of 8320sq km.

Tropical Weather

The Top End has 2 seasons - the dry and the wet

During the dry season Top End residents enjoy sunny days paired with blue skies. With average temps around 32°C days and 20°C nights. The humidity drops to a comfortable 60-65%, making it the perfect conditions for outdoor living

The wet season generally commences around November and ends towards the end of April. Temperatures will reach the mid-30°C with the increase in humidity triggering refreshing monsoonal rains combined with spectacular thunder and lightning storms, with a drop in humidity and temperatures.

Transport

Access to [Jabiru](#) town is via two Highways. From Darwin via the Arnhem Highway heading East to Jabiru is approximately 254kms. From Pine Creek, south of Jabiru the Kakadu Highway is approximately 211kms. 2 wheel drive vehicle access is limited to both sealed highways that generally remain open throughout the year. During the Wet season (November to April) flooding associated with heavy rains may have various locational temporary closures.

By road, the [Gunbalanya](#) community is approx 330 km from Darwin. The main road leading to Gunbalanya from Darwin to Cahills Crossing (East Alligator River) is sealed and the road from Cahills Crossing to Gunbalanya is formed gravel. The later part of the road is impassable at times during wet season.

Access to [Maningrida](#) via a sealed road to Cahills Crossing, and a dirt road for a further 250 km (4WD recommended but not essential). During the wet season access is limited, with the road often closed for extended periods. The drive takes approximately seven hours from Darwin. Regular transport is available from [Airnorth](#) and [Fly Tiwi](#) and the Barefoot Bus (run by [Katherine Coaches](#)) runs a weekly service from Darwin during the dry season.

Transport to [Warruwi](#) is by [Fly Tiwi](#).

Access to Minjilang is available by Air or Barge with [Fly Tiwi](#) providing air transport.

The people

Territorians are friendly and welcoming with a laid back approach to life. Those in the Top End Region are often avid campers, fisherman and explorers of their natural surrounds.

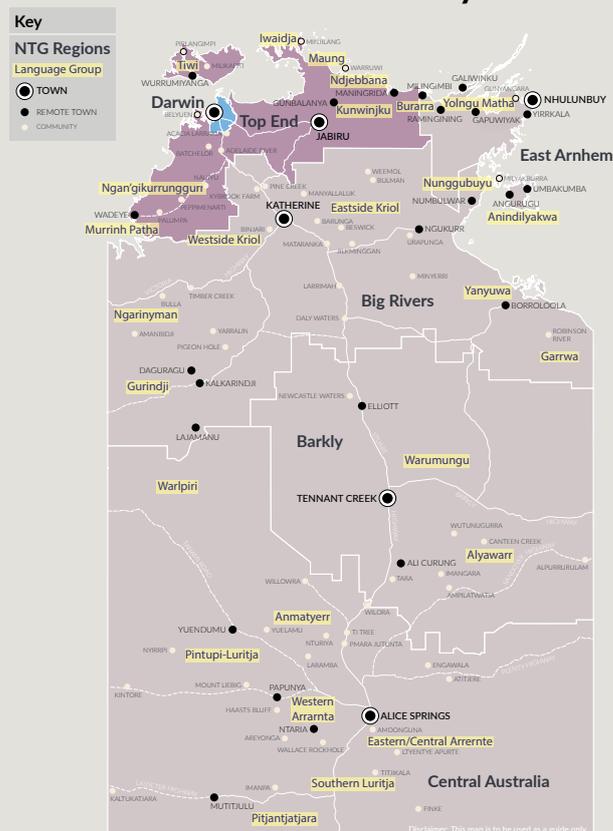
The following local governments provide most of the services and amenities for the region.

- [Coomalie Community Government Council](#)
- [Wagait Shire Council](#)
- [West Arnhem Regional Council](#)
- [Tiwi Islands Regional Council](#)
- [West Daly Regional Council](#)
- [Belyuen Community Government Council](#)

Aboriginal language groups

The term “language group” is used often to describe different groups of Aboriginal people because they themselves identify by their language.

Major Aboriginal languages of the Northern Territory



The West Daly Region can be cut off by rain during the wet season. During this time travel is mainly by air with regular freight services, bi-weekly mail runs to [Peppimenarti](#) and [Palumpa](#) and charters also available with weekly barge services also available for freight.

By road, [Wadeye](#) is located approximately 420 km south west of Darwin. It is accessed along the Daly River Road which is not sealed from the Daly River crossing and can only be accessed during the Dry Season (May to October). [Murin Air](#) provides air transport.

Peppimenarti located approx 320 km south east of Darwin, is accessible by road. It is 120 km west of the Daly River crossing, along the Port Keats road. The access road consists of both sealed (up to Daly River Crossing) and unsealed sections. During the wet season the unsealed section of the road becomes impassable and access is often only by aircraft.

Palumpa by road is 375 km from Darwin on the Port Keats Road between the communities of Peppimenarti and Wadeye. The Palumpa access road is unsealed and approx 140 km from the Daly River Bridge. The community is cut off during the wet season for extended periods. The road between Palumpa and Port Keats, though only 45km away, is also impassable during the wet season.

[Bathurst](#) is accessible by Aerodrome or Bathurst Island Barge Landing.

Check road report on: roadreport.nt.gov.au/road-map for latest information on road conditions

Health Services and contact details

You can search for specific health care services here: nt.gov.au/wellbeing

Aged Care

The aged care assessment program provides support to eligible people who need Australian Government services including:

- Residential aged care or respite
- Home care packages
- [Transition care program](#) for older people after a hospital stay

To access this program, you must be Aboriginal and 50 years old and over, or non-Aboriginal and 65 years old and over.

For more information, call the Australian Government's My Aged Care on [1800 200 422](tel:1800200422) or go to the Australian Government's [My Aged Care website](http://myagedcare.gov.au) at myagedcare.gov.au.



Permits

A permit is required to visit any Aboriginal land in the Northern Territory.

For more information on permits in region, visit the Northern Land Council at nlc.org.au/apply-for-permit

Hospitals and clinics

Location	Phone	Opening Hours	Provider
Adelaide River	08 8976 7027	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Batchelor	08 8976 0011	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Belyuen	08 8978 5023	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Gunbalanya (Oenpelli)	08 8979 0178	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Jabiru	08 8979 2018	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Maningrida	08 8979 5930	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	Mala'la Health Service Aboriginal Corporation
Milikapiti	08 8978 3950	9am to 5pm Emergencies	NT Health
Minjilang	08 8979 0229	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	Red Lily Health Board
Nauiyu Nambiyu (Daly River)	08 8978 2435	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Palumpa	08 8978 2359	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Peppimenarti	08 8978 1066	9am to 4:30pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Pirlangimpi	08 8978 3953	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Wadeye (Port Keats)	08 8978 2360	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Waruwi	08 8979 0500	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	Red Lily Health Board
Wurrumiyanga (Nguiu)	08 8978 3984	9am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health

Dental Services

If you live in a remote town you can access dental services from visiting and mobile dental clinics. To find out when dentists are visiting your town, contact your local remote health clinic at nt.gov.au/wellbeing/remote-health/remote-health-services.

In the event of an emergency, dial 000 for emergency services.

WORK

Work Opportunities

The Northern Territory Government is the major employer in the Top End. You can search employment opportunities in government at jobs.nt.gov.au.



Northern Territory Government jobs

Sector	Website
Health	health.nt.gov.au/careers
Police	pfes.nt.gov.au/join-us
Teaching	education.nt.gov.au/education/careers-in-education
TourismNT	tourismnt.com.au/about-us/careers.aspx

Key job websites

Key job sites	Website
Seek	seek.com.au/jobs/in-Northern-Territory-NT
Indeed	au.indeed.com/jobs-in-Northern-Territory
Adzuna	adzuna.com.au
Australian jobsearch	workforceaustralia.gov.au
Jobs in Australia's Northern Territory	jobs.theterritory.com.au

Defence jobs

Defence jobs	Website
Australian Army	army.defencejobs.gov.au
Royal Australian Air Force	airforce.defencejobs.gov.au
Royal Australian Navy	navy.defencejobs.gov.au

Peak industry associations

Industry associations often have job listings on their websites

Peak industry associations	Website
The Chamber Of Commerce NT	chambernt.com.au
Master Builders NT	mbant.com.au
Minerals Council Of Australia NT Division	minerals.org.au/careers
Cpa Australia	cpaaustralia.com.au
Australian Hotels Association (NT)	ahant.com.au
Engineers Australia Northern Division	engineersaustralia.org.au
Property Council Of Australia NT Division	propertycouncil.com.au

Local Government Councils

Often have job listings available on their website. Their peak body Local Government Association NT ([LGANT](#)) has links to all Council websites.



LEARN

Schools and Daycare

The standard curriculum program is free for all students enrolled in government schools. There are also a number of private schools available in the region.

Learn more about urban and remote schools in the Top End region at nt.gov.au/learning/primary-and-secondary-students/list-of-urban-and-remote-schools

School term dates are available at nt.gov.au/learning/primary-and-secondary-students/school-term-dates-in-nt.

If your child attends a non-government school, check the term dates with the school.

Territory schools generally hold classes between 8am and 3pm. All Government schools are co-educational. Northern Territory schools run a 4 term year with a 3 week mid-year break. In the Northern Territory, three stages of schooling are:

- Primary - transition to Year 6
- Middle - Year 7 to Year 9
- Senior - Year 10 to Year 12

There are:

- 119 Childcare centres
- 42 Primary Schools
- 21 Senior Schools
- 6 Universities

Remote schools in the Top End

School	Address	Contact
Adelaide River School	Adelaide River NT 0846	(08) 8976 7034
Batchelor Area School	71 Kirra Crescent Batchelor NT 0845	(08) 8976 0117 batchelor.as@education.nt.gov.au
Belyuen School	Belyuen NT 0822	(08) 8978 5085
Douglas Daly School	Lot 5754 Oolloo Road Douglas Daly NT 0822	(08) 897 2836
Dundee Beach School	500 Namarada Drive Dundee Beach 0840	(08) 8978 2212
Gunbalanya School	PMB 66 Gunbalanya NT 0822	(08) 8979 0181
Jabiru Area School	40 Waterhouse Road Jabiru NT 0886	(08) 8938 3333
Mamaruni School	Minjilang NT0822	(08) 8979 0255
Middle Point School	615 Anzac Parade Middle Point NT 0822	(08) 8988 1688 middle.pt@education.nt.gov.au
Milikapiti School	Lot 261 Milikapiti Access Milikapiti NT 0822	(08) 8978 3960
Nganambala School	Emu Point Access Nemarluk NT 0822	(08) 8978 2001
Nganmariyanga School	PMB 85 Winnellie NT 0822	(08) 8978 2380
Peppimenarti School	Cross roads Peppimenarti NT 0822	(08) 8978 2455 eric.barrows@education.nt.gov.au
Pularumpi School	Pirlangimpi NT 0822	(08) 8978 391
Tipperary Station School	Daly River Road Tipperary NT 0822	(08) 8978 2765
Woolaning School	Winnellie Road Litchfield Park NT 0822	(08) 8978 2334
Woolianna School	496 Wooliana Road Daly River NT 0822	(08) 8978 2984

Student Transfers

If transferring from one school to another, your child's records will automatically transfer between government schools in the Northern Territory.

If your child is transferring to a non-government school, your written consent must accompany any request.

Enrolling at School

You can complete a student enrolment form online or in person at your child's new school with [Enrol your child at school | NT.GOV.AU](#)

If enrolling in preschool you must also complete the supplementary preschool enrolment form.

The Northern Territory Government, in partnership with education providers, offers 'Study in Australia's Northern Territory' scholarships to talented students to study in the Northern Territory. The scholarships are for vocational education and training, higher education, and schools.

For more information on studying and living in the Northern Territory, visit the Study NT website at [Study | The Territory, Australia](#).

Tertiary Education/Study

Charles Darwin University provides an extensive range of higher education and vocational education and training options available both on campus and online.

Darwin is the best place in Australia for graduates to find employment with 71.8% of undergraduates living in Darwin gaining full-time employment four months after completing their degree. Learn more about studying in Darwin visit theterritory.com.au/study

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For more information on studying and living in the Northern Territory, visit the Study NT website at theterritory.com.au/study

Financial Assistance for students

You may qualify for a range of financial assistance available to support Learning in the Northern Territory including:

- Scholarships
- HELP fees
- VET fee help,
- Austudy
- Abstudy
- Youth Allowance
- Assistance for Isolated Children
- Back to school payment scheme
- School Sport Vouchers

You can learn more about supports available to you here: [Financial help for isolated students | NT.GOV.AU](#)



International Students

Darwin welcomes international students and provides opportunities to study in high school, University or trade schools. Studying here is like nowhere else, it is safe, adventurous and offers genuine opportunity to connect grow and build a career.



Thrive

Arts and Culture

The Top End has a thriving Aboriginal art and culture industry. With Aboriginal art rock paintings quite possibly the oldest art ever discovered.

There are a number of Arts and Cultural centres across the Top End. Made up of museums, galleries and art centres. There is more information [here](#) on facilities in the region.

Name	Address
Durumu Arts Aboriginal Corporation	Peppimenarti NT 0822 durumuarts.com.au
Injalak Arts	Lot 383, Gunbalanya NT 0822 injalak.com
Jilamara Arts and Crafts Association	Lot 218/219, Milikapiti NT 0822 jilamaraarts.org.au
Maningrida Arts & Culture	Lot 725, Maningrida NT 0822 maningrida.com
Merrepen Arts Centre	Nauiya community, Daly River NT 0822 merrepenarts.com.au
Munupi Arts and Crafts Association	Pirlangimpi Community, Melville Island NT 0822 munupiart.com
Marrawuddi Arts & Culture	2 Gregory Place, Jabiru NT 0886 marrawuddi.com.au
Tiwi Design	Puantulura Street, Nguju Bathurst Island NT 0822 tiwidesigns.com

Sports

In Batchelor, sporting facilities for community use include the Adelaide River Oval and the Batchelor Oval. Swimming is available at the Batchelor Swimming Pool, or join [Rum Jungle Bowls Club](#) for a game of bowls. These venues can also be hired for private events, or just for personal recreation purposes.

Jabiru's 50-metre Olympic-sized swimming pool also has a mobility lift and kids splash pad, plus there is an undercover gym in the Jabiru and golf club, public tennis and basketball courts, public barbecue facilities and children's playgrounds, sporting ovals for AFL, rugby, soccer and cricket, Jabiru Lake, and access to Kakadu National Park for walking, hiking, and boating.

Gunbalanya has a 25-metre swimming pool, plus plenty of fishing, boating, hiking, and sports ovals, a youth centre and basketball facilities.

Maningrida has a 25-metre swimming pool, plus plenty of fishing, boating, hiking, sports ovals and basketball facilities.

Minjilang and Waruwi are great for fishing, plus have community sports facilities and ovals.

Australian rules football is the Territory's most popular sport, particularly with Aboriginal Australian communities in the Top End and the Tiwi Islands. The governing body for football in the territory is the AFL Northern Territory. All other major sporting codes are well represented and are played according to the Wet or Dry Season. Facilities are widespread, particularly urban ovals and greenspaces. Annual games in both national NRL and AFL codes are played in the major centres.

Learn more about the wide variety of sports on offer at nt.gov.au/leisure/sport

Events

View the calendar of events on offer at ntmajorevents.com.au/state-event-list

There are also a number of regular events in each region hosted by local venues and sporting associations.

Dining

Restaurants and cafe variety is more prevalent in the major town centres such as Batchelor and Jabiru with food in communities often limited to one or two cafes, or the local store.

Shopping

Jabiru provides services such as fuel, dining, automotive repairs, banking, a health clinic, a supermarket, a nine-hole golf course, 50-metre swimming pool with a mobility lift, and a recreation park with playground and barbecue facilities on Lake Jabiru.

Batchelor has its General Store and post office and hardware store but is serviced by nearby IGAs located in Berry Springs and supermarkets in Coolalinga.

Local attractions

Kakadu is World Heritage-listed for both its natural and cultural values. Bursting with native wildlife, some 280 species of birds and giant crocodiles. See them on an early-morning cruise on [Yellow Water Billabong](#).

Kakadu's Aboriginal rock art is some of the oldest and best-preserved in Australia. Visit the rock art galleries at Ubirr, Nourlangie and Nanguluwur. Kakadu is home to waterfalls and rugged escarpments, sandstone outcrops and rainforests. Another stunning place to experience ancient Aboriginal culture is Arnhem Land.

This remote 90,000 square-kilometre reserve is Aboriginal-owned boasting some of the Top End's most spectacular natural destinations, scenery, coastlines, remote islands, tropical rainforests and wetlands, towering escarpments and savannah woodland.

Arnhem Land is well known for its fishing with lodges dotted all over Arnhem Land.

For more great things to do visit northernterritory.com and click on things to do.

Local Services

Vary across the region. Local Government websites often list these in detail. The following Councils look after the Top End Region.

- [Belyuen Community Government Council](#)
- [Coomalie Community Government Council](#)
- [Wagait Shire Council](#)
- [West Arnhem Regional Council](#)
- [Tiwi Islands Regional Council](#)
- [West Daly Regional Council](#)

MOVE

Housing and Suburbs

Access to housing varies throughout the Top End Region. Housing is available for sale and/or rent in a number of suburbs and areas throughout the region however these options differ for housing in communities which is often supplied to those living there for work by local councils or government agencies.

The Northern Territory Government offers a range of assistance to home owners to enter the market and or build new homes, you can learn more at www.nt.gov.au/property

Renting

There are properties listed for rent on some of your favourite real estate pages. Adelaide River, Batchelor, Camp Creek, Collett Creek, Coomalie Creek, Darwin River Dam, Eva Valley, Finnis Valley, Lake Bennett, Robin Falls, Rum Jungle, Stapleton, Tortilla Flats, Mandorah and Wagait Beach. Properties are not always readily available in these areas so it's good to set up alerts through realestate.com.au, domain.com.au or your other preferred online tool to receive alerts as soon as properties are listed.

[Jabiru Property Services](#) offers residential properties in the town of Jabiru. With rental properties available for rent [through Jabiru Kabolkmakmen](#).

There are approximately 120 staff houses at Wadeye, all of which are owned and operated by various agencies, including West Daly Regional Council, Tharmarrurr Development Corporation, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, NT Department of Health, NT Police as well as the local store and Takeaway business.

Accommodation in Maningrida

- [Dhukurrdji Lodge](#) - 08 8979 5612
- West Arnhem Regional Council (ALSTRA Camp, Buffalo Lodge, Smartie Packet) - 8979 6600
- Maningrida Hostel and Self-Contained Accommodation - 8979 6000.

Buying

There are properties listed for sale on some of your favourite real estate pages for Adelaide River,

Batchelor, Camp Creek, Collett Creek, Coomalie Creek, Darwin River Dam, Eva Valley, Finnis Valley, Lake Bennett, Robin Falls, Rum Jungle, Stapleton, Tortilla Flats, Mandorah and Wagait Beach. Properties are not always readily available in these areas so it's good to set up alerts through realestate.com.au, domain.com.au or your other preferred online tool to receive alerts as soon as properties are listed.

Houses for sale in communities is limited and may only be available to locals.

Estimated Moving Expenses

Place of origin	Estimate for moving service
Adelaide	\$7,000 - \$13,000
Brisbane	\$7,000 - \$13,000
Melbourne	\$7,000 - \$13,000
Perth	\$10,000 - \$15,000
Sydney	\$9,000 - \$14,400

The Belyuen Community Government Council area encompasses the locality of Belyuen.

The Coomalie Community Government Council area includes the localities of Adelaide River, Batchelor, Camp Creek, Collett Creek, Coomalie Creek, Darwin River Dam, Eva Valley, Finnis Valley, Lake Bennett, Robin Falls, Rum Jungle, Stapleton and Tortilla Flats.

Wagait Shire includes the localities of Mandorah and Wagait Beach.

The West Arnhem Regional Council area encompasses the localities and communities of Cobourg, Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Kakadu, Maningrida, Minjilang, Van Diemen Gulf, Waruwi and West Arnhem.

The Tiwi Islands Regional Council area includes the localities and communities of Milikapiti, Pirlangimpi, Tiwi Islands and Wurrumiyanga.

The West Daly Regional Council area includes the localities and communities of Namarluk (part), Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti, Tharmarrurr and Wadeye.

