

**THE
TERRITORY**

Greater Darwin
has the lifestyle you
always dreamed of





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Live

The place

Picture a place where beautiful landscapes surround a busy, multicultural city. A cultural melting pot where great food and new friends paired with a unique outdoor lifestyle awaits you. Welcome to Darwin, the traditional lands of the Larrakia people.

There are many good motivations to relocate to the North. From the stunning coastline to an easy laid-back lifestyle, a place of unforgettable experiences. The capital of the Northern Territory, Darwin, is a vibrant city that sits adjacent to the Timor Sea. With warm temperatures year round, it has been hyped as one of the top destinations by visitors (and locals) near and far. With large variety of national parks, waterways, restaurants, cafes and pubs, and plenty of shopping and cultural attractions, there is also a great nightlife scene with lots of clubs and bars open late.



With a population of around 159,300 people, Greater Darwin includes the local government areas of Darwin, Palmerston and the Litchfield Shire. The following local governments provide most of the services and amenities for Greater Darwin.

- [City of Darwin](#)
- [City of Palmerston](#)
- [Litchfield Council](#)

Both Darwin and Palmerston support a number of residential suburbs. Both have their own shopping centres, pubs, restaurants, schools and more; with Darwin set more around the coast, and Palmerston inland, with access to the water via the Elizabeth River that feeds into the harbour.

The City of Palmerston is centrally located approximately 20 kilometres from Darwin and 10 kilometres from the start of Litchfield Shire.

Litchfield Shire is where land blocks transition to acreage, just 25mins drive from Darwin's CBD. It has working farms, orchards (full of mangoes), horses and cattle, rural residential living, regular multicultural markets, plus great shopping with access to supermarkets and shopping centres, plus a number of schools, vets, mechanics, gyms and more.

The Northern Territory Government is working to bring new life and vibrancy to Darwin. The Darwin City Deal is a 10-year plan to grow Darwin as a vibrant and liveable tropical capital city, supported by a growing population and diverse economy. Included in the City Deal is the revitalisation of Civic and State Square, which will transform the precinct with a centrally located heart, tropical gardens and expansive lawns to become a gateway for visitors and will physically connect Darwin Harbour and the city.

The Civic and State Square Art Gallery, which is currently under construction, will enable the Northern Territory to show case its extensive art collection and host prestigious Australian and international exhibitions. The cornerstone of the Education and Community Precinct is the newly opened Charles Darwin University city campus, which also offers public spaces for learning and education opportunities. The precinct is operating in the heart of Darwin's CBD and strengthens Darwin's international competitiveness in the tertiary education sector while bringing in new



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/permits

The people

The Northern Territory's population is just over 265,457, with Greater Darwin claiming the majority.

Territorians are known for their easy going and friendly nature, so making friends is not a problem up here. Territorians come from everywhere and we love to meet new people.

Darwin encourages cultural diversity and thus has a thriving multi-cultural community promoting cultures from all over the world. Territorians embrace all new cultures alongside civilizations' oldest Aboriginal culture and joyously participates in all celebrations.

The average age of a Darwin resident is 34.8, so we are a young and vibrant city. Aboriginal people account for 25% of our population, and a third of us were born overseas in these top ranking countries of origin - England, Greece, New Zealand, Philippines and India.

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



Tropical Weather

Greater Darwin is known for its tropical climate, and unlike the rest of Australia, it only has two seasons - the Dry and the Wet.

During the Dry Season, Greater Darwin residents enjoy sunny days paired with blue skies. With average temperatures around 32°C days and 20°C nights. The humidity drops to a comfortable 60-65%, making perfect conditions for outdoor living, stand up paddle boarding at Lake Alexander, afternoon BBQs and more.

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

Buses are the main form of public transport around Darwin, other than private vehicles. Although taxi's, Ubers, cycling, scooting and walking are also popular.

There is plenty of parking around the city and surrounds, and unlike our interstate neighbours, parking is affordable, with all day off street parking available for around \$5-12 per day. Free afterhours, weekends and public holidays in all off-street parking locations.

The City of Palmerston offers free parking in key locations within the Palmerston CBD during the week.

Despite vast distances, travelling to the Northern Territory by coaches easy and affordable. For information about tickets, schedules and fares, visit local visitor information centres and transport hubs like [Tourism Top End Visitor Information Centre](#) and greyhound.com.au for details.

The Stuart Highway connects Darwin to South Australia via Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. The Victoria Highway connects Western Australia, and the Barkly Highway connects Queensland. A great way to see Australia, however it is best to plan your drive in advance, noting some distance between fuel stops and accommodation options.

Darwin International Airport is the busiest airport servicing the Northern Territory and the [tenth busiest airport in Australia](#). It is the only airport servicing Darwin. The airport is located in Darwin's

northern suburbs, eight kilometres from the Darwin CBD, in the suburb of Eaton. It shares runways with the Royal Australian Air Force's RAAF Base Darwin. The airport has an international terminal, a domestic terminal and a cargo terminal. Both passenger terminals have a number of shops and cafeterias.

The Darwin Railway Station is located on Berrimah Road at East Arm, right next to the Port of Darwin. This passenger terminal is where you can experience The Ghan - one of the worlds most luxurious and memorable train journeys.

Lifestyle

Darwin has a very distinct and dynamic way of life to offer that may be highly efficient while also allowing you to have a work-life balance and time off for family, friends, and recreation. People are strongly connected to their communities and always eager to assist one another in the face of major disasters and catastrophes.

Beaches and sunsets are popular magnets for Territorians, as Darwin is said to have one of the most magnificent sunsets in Australia due to its location on the bay. Mindil Beach Sunset Market, Parap Market, Rapid Creek Market, Palmerston Market and Nightcliff Market are the most famous local markets that keep Territorians energised and upbeat.

Territorians enjoy camping and love fishing along the Darwin Harbor coastlines and estuaries around Adelaide River and other popular fishing spots. Greater Darwin region offers many natural camping sites around Litchfield with all modern facilities available for people.

Local Attractions

In addition to the Greater Darwin's incredible outdoors, there are a number of tourist locations and fishing spots within an hour of Darwin. You can sail across Darwin Harbour, get up close with a crocodile in Darwin city at Crocosaurus Cove or check out the flora and fauna at the Territory Wildlife Park, while right in the heart of the CBD at Aquascene, fish feeding at high tide offers a unique and up-close experience from the shoreline.

The Darwin Waterfront boasts a wave pool, plenty of dining options for a meal or a bevvy and hosts a number of events and festivals throughout the year. The precinct also features water sports, accommodation and large, grassed areas for relaxing around the foreshore.

For more activities, you can visit [Northern Territory Tourism NT](#)

Health Services and contact details

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

There are three major hospitals in Darwin, the Royal Darwin Hospital and Palmerston Regional Hospital, located across two campuses, and the Darwin Private Hospital.

Royal Darwin Hospital is the Northern Territory's main hospital. It houses the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre and the Alan Walker Cancer Care Centre. Darwin Private Hospital is for patients with appropriate private health insurance.

Palmerston Regional Hospital is a newly built public hospital that has a range of services in specialty areas.

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

Hospitals

Hospital	Phone	Opening Hours
Royal Darwin Hospital	(08) 8922 8888	Emergency Department is open 24 hours, seven days a week.
Darwin Private Hospital	(08) 8920 6011	Opening hours are Monday-Friday 6am-5:30pm.
Palmerston Regional Hospital	(08) 7979 9200	Emergency Department is open 24 hours, seven days a week.

Dental Services

Families and children who have finished primary school can visit a community dental clinic.

Clinics	Phone	Address
Darwin – Oral Health Services	08 8922 6466	9 Scaturchio Street Casuarina NT 0810
National Dental Care Palmerston	08 8931 0593	3 Gurd Street Farrar NT 0830
Palmerston Dental Surgery	08 8932 1544	Suite 4, 6 Maluka Drive, Palmerston NT 0830

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](https://myagedcare.gov.au) at myagedcare.gov.au.

ROOM
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WORK

Work Opportunities

Greater Darwin offers employment opportunities across several government and private enterprise industries. Major industries include construction, defence, retail, tourism, rental hiring and real estate services, public administration and safety, and health care. Darwin is the key gateway to the Northern Territory's regional centres and tourist attractions, and is an important strategic centre in the broader region to the north for trade and defence.

Major industries in Palmerston and the Litchfield Shire include construction, aquaculture, horticulture, cattle and crocodile farming, defence, and liquefied natural gas and helium production.

The Robertson Barracks army base, located near Palmerston, hosts ongoing rotations of US Marines in the Northern Territory each year. The

development of East Arm, including the Marine Industry Park and the Darwin ship lift facility, will support the defence, logistics and freight sectors, aid future oil, and gas activity in the Northern Territory.

Darwin is home to the Robertson, Larrakeyah and Coonawarra Defence Barracks and the Royal Australian Air force base, a large employer across the region.

The Northern Territory Government is the major employer in Greater Darwin. You can search employment opportunities in government at [Join The Territory](#).

Northern Territory Government jobs

Sector	Website
Health	Department of Health
Police	NT Police Force
Teaching	Education and Training
TourismNT	Department of Tourism and Hospitality

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
Hospitality (NT)	hospitalitynt.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 Greater Darwin with the [list of urban and remote schools](#).

School terms and holiday dates differ to other states with the Northern Territory having a longer mid-year break of three weeks. There are four terms in the school year and most government schools follow the same term dates with the exception of some 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.

Northern Territory schools generally hold classes between 8am and 3pm. All government schools are

co-educational. Northern Territory schools run a four-term year with a three-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

The Greater Darwin Region has:

- 33 Primary Schools
- 4 Middle Schools
- 8 Senior Schools
- And multiple university campuses

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 in Australia's Northern Territory](#).

Tertiary Education/Study

The Greater Darwin region is the home of Charles Darwin University – with a strong contingent of domestic and international students, offering students nationally ranked undergraduate and postgraduate full time employment outcomes.

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 [Home | Charles Darwin University \(cdu.edu.au\)](#)

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

Financial Assistance for students

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.



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](#)

Health Services

In the event of an emergency, dial 000 for emergency



Thrive

Events

We celebrate a host of excellent and creative events across Greater Darwin from Bass in the Grass music festival and Territory Day celebrations to the Darwin Cup Carnival. There are Laksa and Gin Festivals, Darwin Festival, Aboriginal Cultural Festivals, Music Festivals, Art Fairs and Christmas Pageants.

You can view the calendar of events on offer at [What's on in the Territory](#).

Arts and Culture

Greater Darwin 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 Greater Darwin. Made up of museums, galleries and art centres.

You can enjoy a full catalogue of musical and theatre events hosted throughout the dry season at popular venues such as the Waterfront Precinct, Darwin Entertainment Centre, Deck Chair and an amphitheatre within the Botanical Gardens.

A number of school based libraries and public libraries plus the Northern Territory Library and Archives located inside Parliament House are available for use. There is more information on [Museums | NT.GOV.AU](#) on facilities in the region.

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) is the Northern Territory's premier cultural organisation. The principal facility is on Larrakia Land since 1981 at Bullocky Point in Darwin, home to internationally renowned cultural and scientific collections and research and exhibition programs. MAGNT operates the historic [Fannie Bay Gaol](#) in Darwin and manages the historic [Lyons Cottage](#) on Darwin's Esplanade and the [Defence of Darwin Experience](#) at East Point in Darwin. It attracts over 300,000 visitors annually to our sites. For more information visit [MAGNT | Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory](#)

Shopping

There are four large shopping and dining precincts in the area, not to forget the myriad of smaller supermarket and convenience centres in addition to dining and accommodation options.

The four larger shopping and dining destinations include Casuarina Square in the Northern Suburbs, Smith/Mitchell Street Mall in the city, Gateway Shopping Centre in Palmerston and Coolalinga Shopping Centre in the rural area, and by rural we mean only 25-30 minutes' drive from the city.

All precincts offer a wide array of dining, shopping, cinema, gym and child-friendly experiences.

Dining

Dining options are plentiful in Greater Darwin, from our vast array of national recognised restaurants to our brilliant café and brunch scene, and not to forget the humble pub classic and taverns.

Multicultural markets are plentiful with our most famous Mindil Beach Sunset Markets operating every Thursday and Sunday from 4pm during the dry season (end of April to end of October). With regular weekly markets at Nightcliff, Parap, Rapid Creek, Palmerston and Coolalinga, each with its own uniqueness but always stacked with multicultural food options, fresh produce and locally made arts and crafts.

Sports

Sports are a huge part of the Northern Territory lifestyle with AFL played widely across Greater Darwin.

Plenty of sports are represented in the Northern Territory; there is even an ice hockey team in Darwin. Team sports are a popular way to stay active and social as you meet new people. Darwin features state of the art sporting facilities with the Marrara Sporting Complex featuring the TIO Stadium, Rugby Park, Indoor Netball Stadium, BMX track, Basketball Stadium and more.

Learn more about the wide variety of sports on offer in region at [Sports and Recreation](#).



Investment

Greater Darwin is the fastest growing region in the Northern Territory with a growing population of nearly 159,300. The Greater Darwin region includes the local government areas (LGA) of Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield. Palmerston, a place for people, is the fastest growing LGA in the Northern Territory.

The region is diversifying and growing its economy and is the engine room for economic growth in the Northern Territory's trajectory to achieving a \$40B economy by 2030.

Investment Territory supports a broad range of projects, with in excess of 400 proposals currently under consideration. Of these, 53 constitute the current investment portfolio of early stage, priority and committed projects.

In addition to our investment portfolio, Investment Territory is also focused on targeting new investments and businesses to come to the Northern Territory and invest.

The Northern Territory offers investment opportunities across a range of sectors and we welcome enquiries. For more information visit australiasouthernterritory.com.au/invest.

The Northern Territory Government is working with industry and the Commonwealth Government to transform Middle Arm into a sustainable 'development ready' industrial precinct. Preserving the environment including Darwin Harbour for generations to come is an important part of meeting the sustainability objectives of the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct (the precinct).

The precinct is proposed across approximately 1,500 hectares of industrial land and will:

- Capitalise on the Northern Territory's strategic location and excellent solar resources.
- Be designed to attract industries reflective of the Northern Territory's future economy including hydrogen, carbon capture, advanced manufacturing and minerals processing.
- Drive industry diversification, exports, job creation and population growth.



MOVE

Housing and Suburbs

Darwin like any major city offers accommodation of all styles, sizes and budgets. Most homes in Darwin have been built after the 1980s and feature thriving tropical gardens.

Darwin's iconic stilt houses are built to be cool in the dry and sturdy during the monsoon and are in huge demand due to their retro style and unique look. Apartment living is also very popular with most apartments boasting views that would cost millions in other parts of the world. Swimming pool ownership is higher in Darwin than any other part of Australia and the weather allows for year-round backyard pool play.

Renting

The average rental price in Darwin is \$709 per week for renting a house and \$580 per week for a unit. With 50% of homes in Darwin listed as rentals there is an average 3% vacancy rate at any given time so securing accommodation is a critical part of your

move plan.

For information on the real estate market in the Northern Territory read the REINT's real estate local market publication. Check your favourite online real estate website for accommodation options.

Buying

The Median house price in Darwin is \$717,500 and the median unit price is \$450,000. The market offers entry-level affordable homes through to unique and luxurious prestige estates. Visit [Northern Territory Economy](#) to receive the latest updates for Housing in NT.

The Northern Territory Government assists homeowners to enter the market and or build

Estimated Moving Expenses to Greater Darwin

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

For information on the real estate market in this area, check your favourite online real estate website for accommodation options, or visit realestate.com.au

The City of Darwin includes the suburbs and localities of Alawa, Anula, Bayview, Berrimah (part), Brinkin, Buffalo Creek, Casuarina, Charles Darwin (part), Coconut Grove, Coonawarra, Darwin City (part), East Point, Eaton, Fannie Bay, Hidden Valley (part), Holmes, Jingili, Karama, Larrakeyah, Leanyer, Lee Point, Ludmilla, Lyons, Malak, Marrara, Millner, Moil, Muirhead, Nakara, Nightcliff, Parap, Rapid Creek, Stuart Park, The Gardens, The Narrows, Tiwi, Wagaman, Wanguri, Winnellie, Woolner and Wulagi.

The City of Palmerston includes the suburbs and localities of Archer, Bakewell, Bellamack, Driver, Durack, Farrar, Gray, Gunn, Johnston, Marlow Lagoon, Mitchell, Moulden, Palmerston City, Pinelands, Rosebery, Woodroffe, Yarrowonga and Zuccoli.

The Litchfield Council area includes the localities of Acacia Hills, Bees Creek, Berry Springs, Blackmore, Black Jungle, Channel Island, Coolalinga, Daly, Darwin River, Fly Creek, Fred's Pass, Girraween, Glyde Point, Gunn Point, Herbert, Holtze, Howard Springs, Hughes, Humpty Doo, Knuckey Lagoon, Koolpinyah, Lambells Lagoon, Livingstone, Lloyd Creek, Manton, McMinns Lagoon, Micket Creek, Middle Point, Murrumujuk, Noonamah, Shoal Bay, Southport, Tumbling Waters, Virginia, Wak Wak, Weddell and Wickham.



Town Communities

Greater Darwin is home to five Aboriginal town communities.

- One Mile Dam
- Bagot
- Kulaluk
- Minmarama
- Knuckey Lagoon
- Palmerston Indigenous Village (15 Mile)

For information about Aboriginal town communities in Greater Darwin, visit the BushTel website: [BUSHTEL Northern Territory Government](http://BUSHTEL.NorthernTerritoryGovernment.gov.au)

