

**THE
TERRITORY
BARKLY**

**The Barkly Region
has community and
family at its heart.**





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Live

The place

Located between Alice Springs and Katherine with Tennant Creek its Golden Heart, the Barkly is synonymous with the cattle industry. The rich grassland of the Barkly Tableland has seen the rise of many of Australia's premier cattle stations, and the characters that work them are an integral part of the Barkly community.

The traditional owners of the area surrounding Tennant Creek are the Warumungu people and their culture is very much alive and well. Their stories are showcased in one of Australia's finest cultural centres, Nyinkka Nyunyu, situated in Tennant Creek.

Mining is another large contributor to what makes this area unique. It all started in the 1930's when gold was discovered, setting off Australia's last gold rush. The history of this area remains and is encapsulated at the Battery Hill Mining Centre. There is still plenty of gold to be found, and mining remains a vital part of the region's economy.

The Barkly's rich Aboriginal culture, cattle stations and mining shaped the people and lives of those that reside in the Barkly, and it's the people that will make your journey such a memorable one. Stay a while and discover the local's passion for this special place.

At over 323,500 km² the Barkly Regional Council is the second largest local government area in Australia, 42 per cent larger than Victoria.

A resident population of 6,313 with just under half located in the town of Tennant Creek. The largest town in the region roughly 500km north of Alice Springs.

Tennant Creek is home to 3,080 people and has a real outback town flavour centred around one main street lined with trees and filled with locally owned stores. A place where everyone knows each other so a quick trip to the store can become a one hour meander of conversations.

Locals spend their weekends taking it slow in the great outdoors, swimming at Lake Mary Ann or four-wheel-driving through the Davenport Ranges.

On the doorstep of the famous Devil's Marbles. A major tourist attraction for the area drawing people from far and wide. Local Aboriginals believing the boulders are the eggs of the rainbow serpent.

Tennant Creek sits at the intersection of two main highways the Stuart and Barkly Highways and is easily accessed via road, rail, bus and air.

Tennant Creek also includes the urban Community Living Areas of [Ngalpa Ngalpa](#) (Mulga), [Wuppa](#), [Tingkarli](#), [Kargaru](#), [Village](#), [MarlaMarla](#), [Munji-Marla \(Blueberry Hill\)](#). The next largest urban area is the town of [Elliott](#) and its surrounding district and the major communities and outstations of [Ampilatwatja](#), Arlparra (Utopia), [Alpururulam](#), [Ali Curung](#), [Canteen Creek](#) and [Wutunugurra](#) (Epenarra).

In addition to these major populations, the region also consists of approximately eight minor communities, the largest of which include [Tara](#), [Imangara](#) and [Mungkartu](#), 70 family outstations, 49 pastoral stations, mining operations and commercial properties.

Weather

A warm desert climate, the region experiences only two seasons.

From May through to October sunshine and cool mornings reign supreme with little rainfall and temperatures ranging from 12-25°C.

As November arrives temperatures can rise as high as 40°C plus, humidity increases and rainfall becomes more frequent.



The people

Barkly locals are a friendly bunch excited to roll out the welcome mat for all newcomers. The area boasts country culture meets friendly relaxed living.

Tennant Creek is a young town with 51% of the population under 35 years of age.

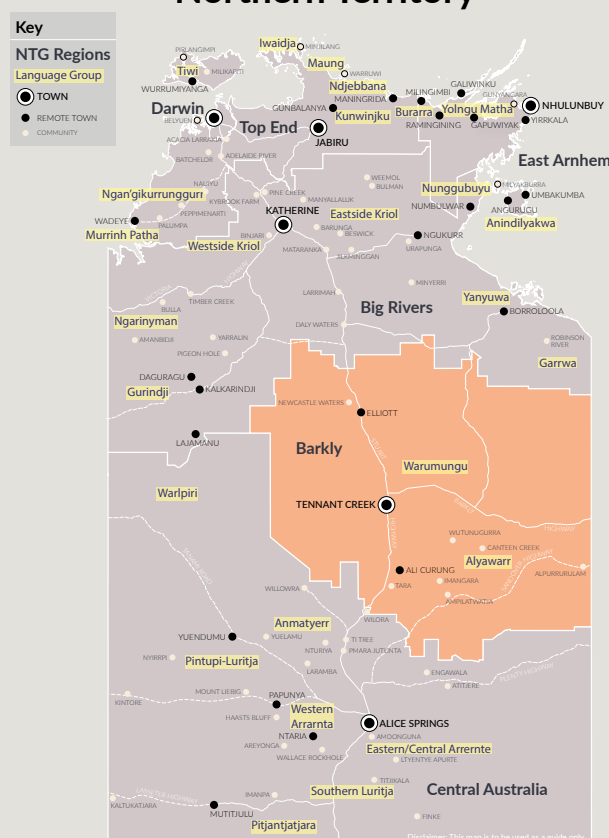
Aboriginal people make up 66.5% of the Barkly residents with 40% calling Tennant Creek home. A unique Australian space given the high proportion of people speaking a language other than English at home.

The area is looked after by the [Barkly Regional Council](#) where you can find additional information about their services.

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



Transport

Tennant Creek is roughly 505 kilometres north along the Stuart Highway from Alice Springs and roughly 990 kilometres due south from Darwin.

Travelling from Alice Springs will take just over 4.5 hours, while travelling from Darwin will take over 10 hours.

The Greyhound Bus frequents Tennant Creek.

Tennant Creek has an airfield, and charter flights are easily arranged from either Darwin or Alice Springs. AirNorth has scheduled flights from Tennant Creek to Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs.

Accommodation includes hostels and motor inns.



Permits

A permit is not required to visit any Aboriginal land in the Barkly. It is recommended to sign in at the Local Council office out of respect when entering/visiting the community as some communities may ask you to leave if you haven't signed in at the Council Office.

Health Services and contact details

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

The Tennant Creek Hospital is a 20-bed facility providing emergency services and acute care across several clinical specialties.

It has a 16 chair renal unit delivering dialysis services for patients across the Barkly region.

Barkly region has 3 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services - Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation in Tennant Creek, Ampilatwatja Health Centre Corporation in Ampilatwatja and Urapuntja Health service in the Utopia Region all providing primary care services to their respective communities.

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

NT Health remote clinics are available in the communities of Elliott, Canteen Creek, Alpururulam, Tara, Epenarra and Ali Curung. These are nurse-led and supported by visiting medical and other outreach primary and public health care services on a regular basis.

Remote Health Care Facilities in the Barkly Region

Location	Phone	Opening hours	Operator
Ampilatwatja (Aherrenge)	08 8956 9942	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am to 12:30pm, 2:30pm to 5:30pm Thursday 8:30am to 12:30pm	Ampilatwatja Health Centre Aboriginal Corporation
Ali Curung	08 8964 1954	Monday to Wednesday 8am to 5pm	NT Health
Alpururulam (Lake Nash)	07 4748 3111	8am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Canteen Creek	08 8964 1510	8am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Elliott	08 8969 2060	8am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	NT Health
Wutunugurra (Epenarra)	08 8964 1559	Visiting service	NT Health
Tara (Neutral Junction)	08 8956 9789	8am to 5pm	NT Health
Tennant Creek Outstations/ Homelands	08 8962 4846	8am to 4:30pm	Anyinginyi Health Services Aboriginal Corporation
Tennant Creek	08 8962 2385	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am to 11:30am, 1pm to 4pm Thursday 8:30am to 11:30am	Anyinginyi Health Services Aboriginal Corporation
Utopia (Urapuntja)	08 8956 9994	8am to 5pm Emergencies 24/7	Urapuntja Health Service

Dental services

Tennant Creek
Hospital

39 Schmidt Street
Tennant Creek NT 0860

08 8951 6713
CAHSoralhealthservice.ca@nt.gov.au

Visiting dental services in remote towns

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.

Aged Care

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

- residential aged care or respite
- home care packages, and
- 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.

Barkly Community Care (ARRCS)
(08) 8921 4038
arrcs.org.au

Pulka Pulka Kari Flexible Aged Care Service (ARRCS)
(08) 8962 1222
arrcs.org.au





WORK

Opportunities

Major industries in the Barkly region include government services, agriculture, construction, mining and onshore gas exploration. The Barkly and Tennant Creek pastoral district accounts for a substantial proportion of the Territory's total cattle industry.

The Northern Gas Pipeline, connecting the Territory to the eastern gas market, is expected to stimulate economic activity in the Barkly region over the next few years. Government is also investing to develop Tennant Creek as a mining and mineral services centre and preliminary investigations have commenced to understand the development requirements for a multimodal and agribusiness hub in Tennant Creek.

Barkly Regional Deal

The Barkly Regional Deal, signed on 13 April 2019, is a 10year, \$100.5 million commitment, which includes \$51.6 million from the Australian Government, \$45.75 million from the Territory Government and \$3 million from Barkly Regional Council. It aims to improve the productivity and liveability of the Barkly region by stimulating economic growth, improving social outcomes and supporting local Aboriginal leadership.

Opportunities for employment are available in these areas as well as administration, retail, education and the military police.

Look for a job in Tennant Creek at seek.com.au/jobs/in-Tennant-Creek-NT-0860.

The Northern Territory Government is the major employer in Tennant Creek, 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

School term and holiday dates differ to other States with a longer mid-year break of 3 weeks.

There are 4 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 here: 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.

In the Northern Territory there are three stages of schooling which are:

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

Student transfers

If transferring from one school to another, your child's records will automatically transfer between government schools in the 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. Enrol your child at nt.gov.au/learning/primary-and-secondary-students/enrol-your-child-at-school.

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. 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 theterritory.com.au/study.

The Barkly region has 16 schools and Tennant Creek has one primary school, one high school and one child care centre.

School	Address	Contact
Tennant Creek High School	38 Stuart Highway Tennant Creek NT 0860	(08) 8962 2102 Admin.tchs@ntschoools.net
Tennant Creek Primary School	31 Paterson Street Tennant Creek NT 0860	(08) 8963 2424
Tennant Creek Child Care Centre	Cnr Memorial Drive and Thompson Street Tennant Creek NT 0860	0417 076 431 Admin@tcccc.org.au

Several remote schools allow students to learn online. Learn more about schools in the Barkly Region at nt.gov.au/learning/primary-and-secondary-students/list-of-urban-and-remote-schools

School	Phone number
Ampilatwatja School	(08) 8956 9799
Alekarenge School	(08) 8964 1957
Alpurrurulam School	(07) 4748 4887
Canteen Creek School	(08) 8964 1505
Elliott School	(08) 8969 2050
Epenarra School	(08) 8964 1512
Mulga Bore School	(08) 8956 9185
Murray Downs School	(08) 8964 1951
Newcastle Waters School	(08) 8964 4566
Neutral Junction School	(08) 8956 9754
Rockhampton Downs School	(08) 8964 4675
Tennant Creek High School	(08) 8962 2102
Tennant Creek Primary School	(08) 8963 2424

Financial Assistance for students

You may qualify for a range of financial assistance available to support Learning in the NT 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 support available to you at nt.gov.au/learning/student-financial-help-and-scholarships

[CDU Campus](#) offers TAFE programs and supports Katherine students studying higher Education and Research.



THRIVE

Arts and Culture

The Barkly Region is steeped in the traditions and beliefs of its traditional custodians. Tennant Creek is Warumungu country; however, nine Aboriginal groups call the area home.

The strong Aboriginal presence makes Tennant Creek one of the best places to learn about Aboriginal life, history and land, traditions, culture and way of life.

Tennant Creek has come a long way since its droving and gold mining days and is now a modern community with a growing tourism sector. Visit the new Nyinkka Nyunyu Art and Culture Centre, showcasing the talent and beauty of the region.

There is more information [here](#) on facilities in the region.

Sports

Barkly Regional Council runs Sport and Recreation programs in Tennant Creek, Ali Curung, Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Alpurrurulam, Elliott and Wutunugurra. The Barkly Sports Hub brings together a variety of sporting activities, including swimming, basketball, soccer, tennis and yoga.

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

Events

Throughout the year there are many events in the Barkly including; Desert Harmony Festival, the Tennant Creek Show, Horse Racing and Rodeos, speedway, sports, arts events and live music.

Barkly Regional Arts also presents an exciting suite of events from trivia nights, art exhibitions and comedy shows. For more information visit barklyarts.com.au/events.

Dining

Tennant creek flaunts a butcher, bakeries and a wide range of eateries, pubs, and cafes. There are a variety of cuisines to suit everyone. Enjoy a generous meal from one of the sports clubs and bistros, or one of the various restaurants popular with locals which includes 10 eateries and 2 pubs.

Shopping

Banking, postal and government services are found along the main strip of Tennant Creek. Shop for all your everyday needs at the new IGA which boasts a wide selection of fresh produce, groceries and home essentials.

Plus there are 130 businesses registered in the Barkly Services Directory.

Local attractions

Karlu Karlu / Devils Marbles Conservation Reserve:

Travellers on the Stuart Highway can experience a range of the Territory's amazing natural landscapes, especially the impressive sight of the Devils Marbles or Karlu Karlu.

These gigantic boulders have become an internationally recognised symbol of Australia's outback and are spectacular when the light of the morning and evening sun highlights their deep red colour.

Karlu Karlu translates to 'round boulders'. This name is shared by the Kayetetye, Warumungu, Warlpiri and Alyawarra traditional owners of the area. Traditional owners ask that the karlu (marbles) are not climbed.

In a historic ceremony held here on 27 October 2008, ownership of the Karlu Karlu / Devils Marbles Conservation Reserve was officially given back to the site's traditional owners.

The reserve is now jointly managed with the traditional owners and Parks and Wildlife rangers. The rocks are a cooler, sheltered environment for plants and animals.

Keep an eye out for small black-headed goannas in boulder crevices.

You may also see zebra finch and painted finch throughout the reserve. Fairy martins create bottle-shaped mud nests on the underside of overhanging boulders.

This park requires visitors to the NT to have a [park pass](#).

Get the [Karlu Karlu / Devils Marbles fact sheet and map PDF \(1.6 MB\)](#).

Find out about [camping in parks and reserves](#).

Kunjarra / The Pebbles:

The Kunjarra / The Pebbles is an outcrop of granite boulders located 11 kilometres north of Tennant Creek. Known to the Warumungu Aboriginal people as Kunjarra/The pebbles are a sacred site where the dancing and healing rites of the Munga Munga dreaming take place.

It is open for visitor day use only. Overnight camping is not permitted. A walking track winds around the site. There are currently no toilets available. An upgrade of facilities is in progress. Access is just past the Telegraph Station for those travelling north on the Stuart Highway, and there is six kilometres of unsealed road so high clearance vehicles are recommended.

Iltwelepenty / Davenport Ranges National Park

If you're a visitor to the Northern Territory, this park requires you to have a [park pass](#).

The Iltwelepenty / Davenport Ranges National Park overlays a rich living cultural landscape of the Alyawarr, Wakaya, Kayetetye and Warumungu traditional owners.

It is also a wonderfully remote visitor experience for adventurous four-wheel drivers wanting to see the real Territory.

Separated from other river systems, the park also provides an important refuge for waterbirds found in desert country and seven species of fish.

The park has European heritage sites, including relics from early mining and pastoral enterprises that occurred in the area.

A great place for swimming is Old Police Station Waterhole.

It is best to swim in during summer as the water becomes very cold during winter months. Be careful of submerged logs and rocks. Do not jump or dive into the water.

This ecologically significant area marks the northern-most range of some southern wildlife species and the southern-most range of several northern species.

This park requires visitors to the NT to have a [park pass](#).

Get the [lytwelepenty / Davenport Ranges National Park fact sheet and map](#) PDF (755.4 KB).

Find out about [camping in parks and reserves](#).

Local Services

Tennant Creek has a general post office and a police station servicing the region and the Barkly Regional Council provides a number of excellent public facilities including a swimming pool, library, sporting grounds, play spaces and parks.

Community Amenities

Visit bushtel.nt.gov.au to gain an understanding of what is available in each of these regional communities:

Town Camps:

- [Kargaru](#)
- [Tingkarli](#)
- [Wuppa](#)
- [Marla Marla](#)
- [Village Camp](#)
- [Munji-Marla](#)
- [Ngalpa Ngalpa](#) (Mulga)

Regional Service Centres:

- [Elliott](#)
- [Ampilatwatja](#)
- [Arlparra](#) (Utopia Region)
- [Alpururulam](#)
- [Ali Curung](#)
- [Canteen Creek](#)
- [Wutunugurra](#) (Epenarra)

Homelands:

- [Mungkarta](#)
- [Corella Creek](#)
- [Burudu](#)
- [Wunara](#)
- [Wogyala](#)
- [Tara](#)

MOVE

Housing and suburbs

Tennant Creek has a wide variety of family homes for rent and sale. There's opportunity to secure your own piece of land and build a home yourself.

Renting

The average rental price per month in Tennant Creek is \$430 per week. With 40% of homes in Tennant Creek listed as rentals there is an average .5% vacancy rate at any given time so securing accommodation is a critical part of your move plan.

Buying

The Median house price in Tennant Creek is \$325,000 and the market offers entry level affordable homes through to unique and deluxe new builds.

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 nt.gov.au/property

Estimated Moving Expenses to Katherine

The below graphic showing the average cost to move your personal possessions to Katherine.

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/buy/in-tennant+creek,+nt+0860/lis

