

**THE
TERRITORY**

Groote Eylandt
offers a lifestyle
like nowhere else.





Contents

LIVE	4
The place	4
Weather	5
Transport	5
The people	5
HEALTH SERVICES	6
Aged care	7
WORK	9
Opportunities	9
Jobsites	10
LEARN	11
Schools and daycare	11
Student transfers	11
Enrolling at school	11
Financial assistance for students	11
THRIVE	13
Arts and culture	13
Sports	13
Events	13
Dining	13
Arts and culture	14
Shopping	14
Local attractions	14
Local services and amenities	14
MOVE	15
Housing and services	15
Renting	15



Live

The place

Living on Groote Eylandt is a unique experience, with a relaxed atmosphere and plenty of natural beauty.

Groote Eylandt is a remote island located off the coast of the Northern Territory just a 25 minute flight from Nhulunbuy on the Gove Peninsula. A popular spot for tourists and locals alike, offering a range of activities such as fishing and bird watching.

The island is home to seven indigenous communities made up of 14 clans. The Traditional Owners of the Groote Archipelago are referred to by their language name, Anindilyakwa. The largest communities are Angurugu and Umbakumba located on Groote Eylandt, the Milyakburra located on Bickerton Island and there are four satellite communities 4 Mile, Malkala, Little Paradise, and Bartalumba Bay, located close to mainstream services.

Mining is the main contributor to economic activity in area with the extraction of manganese at the GEMCO mine.



Weather

Groote Eylandt has 2 seasons - the dry and the wet.

During the dry season residents enjoy sunny days paired with blue skies. With average daily temperatures of 32° days and cool 20° nights. The humidity drops to a comfortable 60-65%, making it perfect for outdoor living.

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

Transport

Direct flights to Groote Eylandt from Darwin operate several times per week. Cairns is also easily accessible via a short stopover at nearby Nhulunbuy. Both Darwin and Cairns airports have easy connections to both domestic and international destinations.

To get around the island, personal vehicles can be transported via Seaswift freight services. Car hire is through Anindilyakwa Land Council and GEBIE

GEMCO offers a regular shuttle bus service between Alyangula and the Groote Eylandt Airport for Alyangula residents. For more information and to book, email fmacctra@south32.net

SeaLink Iso offers a bus service on the island. For more information, including a complete timetable, check out the [SeaLink website](#).

SeaLink ferry services are currently not operating, but expected to resume in late March or early April. For updates, check out the [SeaLink Website](#).

Permits

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

Visitors to Groote must obtain a permit by contacting [Anindilyakwa Land Council](#).

There are also bio security [restrictions](#) to protect the natural ecosystem from pests and diseases. Written approval from the ALC Rangers is required before transporting animals and plants to the Groote Archipelago. For more information, refer to the [prohibited species list](#).

Groote Eylandt is a General Restricted Area and Liquor Permits are required. For permit inquiries, contact 08 8999 1800 or email: LiquorPermits.DITT@nt.gov.au.

The people

Aboriginal people account for most of the population of Groote Eylandt.

The people are represented by the Anindilyakwa Land Council, which is the peak body for the Anindilyakwa people. The Land Council is responsible for protecting and promoting the rights and interests of the Anindilyakwa people.

The Groote Eylandt Mining Company (GEMCO) set up the town of Alyangula for its workers on the mine under a special purpose lease between GEMCO, ALC and the Anindilyakwa Land Trust (ALT).

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



Health Services and contact details

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

In case of emergencies the nearest hospital to Groote Eylandt is the Gove District Hospital, located in the town of Nhulunbuy, Northern Territory. The hospital provides a range of services including emergency, medical, surgical, obstetric, paediatric, mental health and allied health services. Medical Air Services provide medical repatriation via helicopter or jet.

Gove District Hospital
(08) 8987 0204

Remote Health Care Facilities on Groote Eylandt

Location	Phone	Opening hours	Operator
Alyangula	08 8987 6255	9am to 5pm	NT Health
Angurugu	08 8987 6311	9am to 5pm	NT Health
Milyakburra (Bickerton Island)	08 8987 7054	Please call for hours	NT Health
Umbakumba	08 8987 6772	Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm Friday 9am to 1pm	NT Health

Medical services also visit Groote on a regular basis with oral health, cardiology, ultra sounds, diabetes, optometry, physiotherapy, hearing, obstetrics and gynaecology just some of the services that visit.

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
- 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.

Care is available through Mungkadinamanja Aged Care.

(08) 8987 6598

info@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au





WORK

Opportunities

Mining is the main contributor to economic activity in the area with the extraction of manganese at the GEMCO mine. Remote Hospitality placements and also Health workers are highly sought after.

The Northern Territory Government is a significant employer on Groote Eylandt, you can search employment opportunities in government at jobs.nt.gov.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.

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

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

LEARN

Schools and Daycare

Alyangula has a single school, the Alyangula Area School, which is run by the NT Department of Education. It has enrolment for students, primarily in the younger years and middle years of schooling. Although the school offers Prep to Year 12, the senior years of high school are typically offered through distanced education.

Umbakumba, Angurugu and Milyakburra also have schools and more information on these schools can be found below.

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.

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.

Childcare

Childcare services in Alyangula are provided by Sea Grass Early Learning & OSHC.

Phone 08 89 877 030

Email director@seagrasslearning.org

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.

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

School	Location	Contact
Alyangula Area School	Groote Eylandt	(08) 8987 6366 Alyangula.admin@education.nt.gov.au
Umbakumba School	Groote Eylandt	(08) 8987 6793 Admin.umbakumba@ntschoools.net
Angurugu School	Groote Eylandt	(08) 8987 6355 Admin.anqurcec@ntschoools.net
Milyakburra School	Bickerton Island	(08) 8987 6084



THRIVE

Arts and Culture

Visitors to Groote Eylandt can experience the Anindilyakwa culture through art galleries, cultural tours, and cultural festivals.

Explore the Historic mission church, cave paintings, naked pools and Milner bay port and the [Anindilyakwa Aboriginal Art Centres](#).

Sports

Sport on Groote Eylandt is mainly focused on outdoor activities such as fishing, golfing, boating, and camping.

There is also an opportunity to get involved in friendly, social sports. These include tennis, touch football and lawn bowls.

Recreation facilities include a nine-hole golf course, swimming pool, gym, squash and tennis courts, and walking tracks and ovals.

[Bush fit mob](#) offer diverse programs across Groote Archipelago, including after school sport and school holiday programs.

Events

The Groote Eylandt Game and Sport Fishing Club host regular activities follow them on Facebook for updates.

GEMCO run a number of community events throughout the year. For more information visit the Gemco Community Facebook page.

Anindilyakwa Music Program and its staff manage a string of bands and artists and run in-school and out-of-school music programs.

Sporting tournaments for the various sporting activities on the island also occur from time to time.

Dining

Dining spots on the island include the Arc, the Groote Eylandt Golf Club, and the Groote Eylandt Lodge. Offering a variety of local and international cuisine, as well as a range of drinks and snacks.

There are also several cafés/takeaway options scattered around the island, offering a range of seafood, burgers, and other local dishes.



Shopping

The Alyangula supermarket and Bartalumba mini-mart provide a variety of essential groceries and fresh foods. Both stores are open 7 days a week.

Local attractions

There are 15 designated recreation areas on Groote Eylandt open to visitors for fishing and camping (with permits), fully accessible by vehicle as well as boat. All persons over the age of 15 must hold a valid [Recreation Permit](#).

To organise your permits, visit the Anindilyakwa Land and Sea Rangers at Pole 13 or apply online here permits.anindilyakwa.com.au

Uncover the beauty and history of Groote Eylandt with an unforgettable **4WD adventure**. Visit historic landmarks, explore ancient cave paintings, enjoy bushland tours, and discover locally handmade goods. Highlights include the Historic Mission Church, Cave Paintings & Naked Pools, Market Garden & Indigenous Kitchen, Lunch at the Top River Crossing, and Milner Bay Port Visit.

Groote Eylandt Lodge offers a range of bungalows and suites with stunning ocean views. Each room is designed for comfort, featuring modern amenities, private balconies, and lush surroundings.

Fishing Tours

Join all-inclusive fishing safaris with guided tours, including reef, bluewater, and coastal fishing. Packages range from 2 to 5 days.

For more details, visit [Groote Eylandt Lodge](#).

Local Services

Groote Eylandt offers a variety of amenities, including an airport, golf club plus the Groote Eylandt Language Centre.

The library at Alyangula Area School is available for use by all staff, students and members of the public. A second public library is available at Umbakumba.

Alyangula Play Group is held weekly on Wednesday's between 9am – 11am at the ASECH Hall. For play, social interaction, and developmental activities. It's a great way for kids to learn and have fun while parents and caregivers connect and support each other.

There is a 25m swimming pool, childcare centre facilities, sporting facilities, a training centre, church and health centre.

There is also a post office, a chemist, newsagency gym, café, hardware store, and a supermarket. The town also has a hairdresser, beauty therapist, takeaway food outlets, mechanical workshop, a visiting veterinarian, and a service station.

The Country Women's Association (CWA) also has a Groote Eylandt branch that presents regular events including bingo, themed nights, and fishing competitions. CWA also runs the local op shop and book nook.

Groote Wholefoods market runs in Alyangula every second Saturday. For more information visit their Facebook page.

Discover the essence of Anindilyakwa culture on Anindilyakwa Radio. The station is your local source for uplifting content and vital information.

Community Amenities

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

- Alyangula <https://bushtel.nt.gov.au/profile/10270>
- Umbakumba <https://bushtel.nt.gov.au/profile/555>
- Angurugu <https://bushtel.nt.gov.au/profile/451>
- Milyakburra <https://bushtel.nt.gov.au/profile/532>

