

KATHERINE

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'S KATHERINE REGION SPANS FROM THE GULF OF CARPENTARIA TO THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BORDER, THIS VAST REGION IS OFTEN DESCRIBED AS THE PLACE WHERE THE OUTBACK MEETS THE TROPICS AND OFFERS YOU A BROAD RANGE OF INVIGORATING EXPERIENCES.

NATURE

The Katherine area offers many opportunities to immerse yourself in the natural environment, from escarpment country to savannah grasslands, gorges, and rivers.

- Hundreds of animal species flourish in the region. Wallabies and water monitors can be spotted when canoeing down the Katherine River. It's not uncommon to see massive eagles and black cockatoos in the tree canopy whilst bushwalking.
- The beaches in Barranyi National Park, in the Sir Edward Pellew Group of islands, are nesting sites for turtles and used as a rest spot by migratory birds.
- Unusual rock formations and tropical limestone cave systems feature across the Katherine region. The Keep River National Park is a photographer's dream, featuring towering sandstone landforms that radiate a myriad of colours at sunrise and sunset.



Cutta Cutta Caves Nature Park

- The Cutta Cutta Caves Nature Park features stalactites and stalagmites, amazing cavern formations and is home to the endangered Orange Horseshoe Bat.
- Katherine is famous for its hot springs and waterholes, usually hidden among paperbark forest and palms. Rainbow Springs, and nearby Bitter Springs in Mataranka are thermal pools fed by spring water, and are ideal places to relax, swim or camp overnight.

ADVENTURE

The Katherine region's abundant waterways, gorges, waterfalls and even ocean shores, attract an influx of adventure seekers all year round.

- For millions of years, rock and river have entwined, splitting a section of the Arnhem Land Plateau into 13 gorges, superlative in their size and scale, and collectively known as the mighty Katherine Gorge. A cruise up the Gorge is a must-do.



Cruising down Katherine Gorge

- Nitmiluk National Park is an adventure playground for visitors with a passion to canoe, camp, bushwalk, swim, or fly.
- A helicopter flight into and bush walk through the Lost City near Cape Crawford is a great way to experience this unusual rock formation.
- The Jatbula Trail - a 58 km bushwalk from Katherine Gorge to Edith Falls takes in Aboriginal rock art and camping beside waterfalls.
- The Daly, Roper, Victoria and McArthur Rivers provide opportunities for serious fishing and are prime barramundi haunts. Anglers can bring their own boat, hire one or join a guided safari.
- Pungalina and Lorella Springs in the Gulf region and Bullo River Station in the Victoria River region are remote working cattle stations and an authentic way to experience the Outback.
- The extensive network of four-wheel drive tracks in Gregory National Park make it the ideal destination for the serious driving enthusiast.

CULTURE

The Katherine region offers a diversity of cultural experiences, from festivals, indigenous culture to outback characters, history and heritage.

- The Merrepen Arts Centre, located in the community of Nauiyu, holds a popular arts festival on the banks of the Daly River on the first weekend of June. The festival encompasses art sales and auctions, traditional music and dance, bush tucker tastings and a sports carnival.
- An outback destination like Katherine wouldn't be the same without rodeos and camp drafting events. These are held regularly along with horseracing meets and the annual Katherine show.



Tours at Manyallaluk

- Manyallaluk aboriginal community offers cultural tours with demonstrations of traditional bark painting, fire lighting, spear throwing and basket weaving.
- Pine Creek is famed for its gold mining and railway heritage. The Railway Station Museum includes an 1877 steam locomotive - thought to be the oldest restored locomotive in Australia.
- Aboriginal people from all parts of the Northern Territory gather in Barunga for four days of dancing, athletics, arts and crafts at the Burunga Festival in June.
- Elsey National Park was the setting for the famous Australian Novel 'We of the Never Never' by Jeannie Gunn.

DRIVE

A great destination for caravanners, a four-wheel drive is not a necessity for travel around the Katherine region, although there's exciting unsealed roads for the more adventurous.



Buchanan Highway, Savannah Way

- A journey along Explorer's Way follows the route of John McDouall Stuart, a famous Australian explorer and the first to traverse the continent. Connecting Australia's north and south, this drive links many of Australia's best-known icons and natural and cultural wonders.
- Nature's Way is a spectacular drive through a diverse landscape steeped in pioneering and cultural history. It can begin in either Darwin or Katherine, taking in the Adelaide and Mary River wetlands, World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park, the historic gold mining town of Pine Creek and the famous Katherine Gorge.
- The Savannah Way connects Broome to Cairns, sweeping through the Northern Territory and the cattle country of the tropical Savannah. There are many amazing natural features located along the Northern Territory section of this drive that strings together the towns of Borroloola, Cape Crawford, Roper Bar, Mataranka, Katherine and Timber Creek.
- A new four-wheel drive adventure track, the Binns Track, traverses the NT from the Simpson Desert in the south to the Victoria River region in the north - a must for four-wheel drive enthusiasts.

TIMOR SEA

↑ Darwin (169km)



Catch a 'barra' on the Daly River



Cool down at Northern Rockhole, Nitmiluk National Park



Take in the beautiful landscape of Victoria River



View a feeding frenzy at Mataranka



Kayak safari through Katherine Gorge



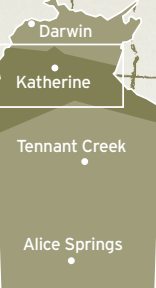
Visit a classic Australian watering hole, the Daly Waters Pub.



Take a scenic flight over the Lost City, Cape Crawford.

← Keep River National Park (24km)
Western Australia (94km)

Borrooloola
Queensland (280km) →



- NATURE'S WAY
- BINNS TRACK
- SAVANNAH WAY
- EXPLORER'S WAY

Tennant Creek (255km)
Alice Springs (763km) ↓

Hayes Creek
Douglas Hot Springs
Daly River (Naiyu)
Douglas Daly Conservation Reserve
Butterfly Gorge
Pine Creek
Leliyn (Edith Falls)
Umbrawarra Gorge

Katherine

Katherine Gorge
Manyallaluk
Barunga
Cutta Cutta Caves
Mataranka

ELSEY NATIONAL PARK

Bitter Springs

Larrimah

Daly Waters

Hi-Way Inn

Dunmarra

ARNHEM LAND

GULF OF CARPENTARIA

LIMMEN NATIONAL PARK (proposed)

Lorella Springs

Cape Crawford

McArthur River

KAKADU HIGHWAY (NATURE'S WAY)

VICTORIA HIGHWAY (SAVANNAH WAY)

ROPER HIGHWAY

(SAVANNAH WAY)

(SAVANNAH WAY ALTERNATIVE ROUTE)
(BINNS TRACK)

(SAVANNAH WAY ALTERNATIVE ROUTE)

SAVANNAH WAY

SAVANNAH WAY

NITMILUK (KATHERINE GORGE) NATIONAL PARK

GREGORY NATIONAL PARK

KAKADU NATIONAL PARK

ELSEY NATIONAL PARK

LIMMEN NATIONAL PARK (proposed)

Start Planning

Visit the definitive website guide of travel to the Northern Territory at travelnt.com for destination information, maps, itineraries, accommodation options and touring related information. Alternatively call us on 13 67 68.

START PLANNING YOUR KATHERINE ADVENTURE AT

TRAVELNT.COM

Access

Some areas of the Northern Territory are designated Aboriginal land and a permit is required before entering. Permits are issued through land councils that act on behalf of traditional owners. A minimum of 10 working days must be allowed for processing of a permit.

Northern Land Council

Telephone 08 8920 5178
www.nlc.org.au

For further information Parks and Wildlife Service NT

Telephone 08 8999 4555
www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks

Automobile Association of the Northern Territory

Telephone 08 8981 3837
www.aant.com.au

Road conditions report

Telephone 1800 246 199

Katherine Visitor Information Centre

Telephone 08 8972 2650
www.visitkatherine.com.au

Tourism Top End

Telephone 1300 138 886
www.tourismtopend.com.au

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