

TOP END ITINERARIES

Give us one day - fourteen days, we'll give you the trip of a lifetime

The following itineraries give you an idea of some of the great experience you can have in the Top End. These are meant as a starting point to customise your own individual adventure. For example, you can easily combine two itineraries or reverse the route of any trip. For more suggestions and sample itineraries, visit tourismtopend.com.au or call 1300 138 886 or email info@tourismtopend.com.au



DARWIN IN ONE DAY

Here on a business stopover or cruising in for the day?

Discover all Darwin has on offer...

Option 1

Explore the art, craft and food stalls at one of the many markets. Get up close & personal with a saltwater crocodile. Enjoy the local seafood and culinary fare at one of the many restaurants. Enjoy a night of cinema under the stars.

Option 2

Immerse in the colour, beauty and diversity of the Top End's Indigenous art in the CBD and Parap. Take a nature walk through the East Point Reserve or George Brown Botanic Gardens. Hand feed the hundreds of Milk fish that come in at high tide. Relax on a lunch or sunset cruise on the spectacular Darwin Harbour.

Option 3

Take a walk to learn about the history of Darwin. View the WWII attractions and learn about Darwin's war history. Experience Darwin from the air with a scenic flight. Watch a spectacular Top End sunset from a beach side restaurant or café.

Option 4

Jump on a city sights tour to see the major attractions. Swim in the Waterfront Wave pool and salt water lagoon. Get energetic and hire a bicycle, tandem skydive, segway tour, fishing, crabbing, scenic flight or do an airboat tour.

For more ideas visit pages 11 - 14 for tours and pages 25 - 29 for attractions in Darwin.



DARWIN AND SURROUNDS (3 DAYS)

Tiwi Islands, Wildlife and Wetlands Region and The Peninsula Way

Day 1 - Tiwi Islands

Take a ferry ride or scenic flight to the Tiwi Islands for a unique cultural experience with the Tiwi locals in an art workshop and join a cultural history guided tour. Visit the Old Mission Church and the art gallery and see the fascinating carvings, painting and beautiful Tiwi fabrics.

Day 2 - Wildlife and Wetlands Region

Start the morning with a short drive to the Adelaide River. Jump on a Jumping Crocodile Cruise, relaxing wildlife and wetland cruise or take an airboat ride. Stop in at Window on the Wetlands to view the region from the viewing platform. Stop in and enjoy bushwalking and bird watching at Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve.

Day 3 - The Peninsula Way

Check out the famous Bird of Prey show and Ooloo Sandbar at the internationally renowned Territory Wildlife Park. Stop in at Berry Springs Nature Reserve to cool off in the natural springs. Make sure to stop and enjoy a tasty home-made mango ice-cream from a farm gate shop.





THE TOP END LOOP (5 DAYS)

Wildlife & Wetlands Region, Kakadu National Park (Permit Required), Katherine Region and Litchfield Region

Day 1 - Wildlife & Wetlands/Kakadu

Learn the culture of Aboriginal people with spear throwing and basket weaving. Overlook the region from the viewing platform at Window on the Wetlands. Experience a Jumping Crocodile Cruise, a relaxing wildlife and wetland cruise or take an airboat ride. Stop to see the abundance of native birdlife at Mamukala Wetlands. Visit the Ubirr Aboriginal Art Site in World Heritage Listed Kakadu National Park.

Day 2 - Kakadu

Start the morning with a scenic flight over the wetlands and escarpments. Drop into Bowali Visitor Centre and see the interpretive displays and art gallery. Stop in at the ancient Aboriginal rock shelter at Nourlangie Rock and art sites. Climb to view magnificent escarpment views from Nawurlandja lookout. See the sunset with a Yellow Water Cruise to a place forgotten by time where nature is raw.

Day 3 - Katherine Region

Head 3 hours south to Edith Falls plunge pools. Travel to Katherine, an extra 30 mins further south, wander through the many art galleries and meet the artists or join in an Aboriginal Art cultural tour. Take a short drive to Nitmiluk Gorge Visitor Centre and see the interpretative displays. While at the gorge, take a gorge cruise or canoe and swim in the gorge, weather permitting. Enjoy an outback experience and bushfire damper dinner under the stars.

Day 4 - Pine Creek/Adelaide River/Batchelor/Litchfield

Drive 1 hour north to the old gold rush mining town of Pine Creek. Here you can visit the historic railway heritage museum and take in the stunning views from the lookout. Continue along the Stuart Highway to the Adelaide River township where you can wander through the War Memorial Cemetery. Before arriving in Litchfield National Park you will pass through the township of Batchelor. There you will find a butterfly farm, museum and plenty of places to grab lunch.

Day 5 - Litchfield/The Peninsula Way/Darwin

While driving into Litchfield National Park, stop at the termite mounds; take a refreshing dip in one of the many

cascading waterfalls and plunge pools in the Park or take a walk through nature. Stop in to Wangi Falls and take a scenic flight. On your way back into Darwin check out the famous Bird of Prey show and Ooloo Sandbar at the internationally renowned Territory Wildlife Park. Stop into the Berry Springs Nature Reserve to cool off in the natural springs.



Pine Creek - Mine Shaft Lookout



THE TOP END ADVENTURE (7 DAYS)

Wildlife & Wetlands Region, Kakadu National Park (Permit Required), Arnhem Land and Cobourg Peninsula

Day 1 - Wildlife & Wetlands

Start the day with a nature walk and bird watching at Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve. Learn the culture of Aboriginal people with spear throwing and basket weaving. Overlook the region from the viewing platform at Window on the Wetlands. Experience a Jumping Crocodile Cruise, a relaxing wildlife and wetland cruise.

Day 2 - Wildlife & Wetlands

Experience an exhilarating airboat ride. Take a guided nature walk through termite mound fields and freshwater mangroves. See buffalo in the wild with a scenic helicopter flight. Join a guided fishing charter and catch the elusive Barramundi at popular Shady Camp.

Day 3 - Kakadu National Park

Learn the ways of life for Kakadu's Aboriginal Traditional Owners at Warradjan Cultural Centre. Stop in at the ancient Aboriginal Rock shelter at Nourlangie Rock and art sites. Climb to view magnificent escarpment views from Nawurlandja lookout. See the sunset with a Yellow Water Cruise to a place forgotten by time where nature is raw.

Day 4 - Kakadu/Arnhem Land

Start the morning with a 2 hour drive to Gunbalanya in Oenpelli, (tidal river crossing, permits required prior to travel). Visit the Injalak Art Gallery and see local Aboriginal Art. Take a guided tour to sacred Injalak art sites with a local Aboriginal guide to see the many 'galleries' and to hear dreamtime stories. Take a 4 hour 4wd scenic drive through magnificent Arnhem Land country to Cobourg Peninsula.

Day 5 - Arnhem Land

Cruise across the Cobourg Peninsula to Port Essington by boat to view the historic Victoria Settlement. Fish for giant trevally, coral trout and mackerel. View the first RAMSAR Wetland in the world. Enjoy the pristine wilderness with a large variety of sea life and world largest's herd of purestrain Banteng cattle.

Day 6 - Arnhem Land/Kakadu

Start the day by visiting Smith Point and learn the art of crabbing and catch dinner. Visit Black Point Jungle Ranger Station and learn about the history of European pioneers, Macassan Traders and the Aboriginal people. Explore the pristine white sandy shell covered beaches in the Garig Gunak Barlu National Park. 4wd through Arnhem Land returning to Kakadu National Park.

Day 7 - Kakadu

Take an early morning scenic flight over the wetlands and escarpments. Drop into Bowali Visitor Centre and see the interpretive display's and Art gallery. Visit Ubirr Aboriginal Art Site. Stop to see the abundance of native birdlife at Mamukala Wetlands.



Arnhem Land - Lonely Beach



Kakadu - Yellow Water Billabong

THE TOP END EXPLORER (7 DAYS)

Pine Creek, Daly Region, Litchfield Region and Peninsula Way

Day 1 - Pine Creek/Daly Region

Start your trip by visiting the old gold rush mining town of Pine Creek. There you can visit the historic railway heritage museum and take in the stunning views from the lookout. Stop in for a swim at Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park, an isolated gorge with steep red cliffs. Drop into the natural springs of Douglas Daly Hot Springs. Take a shaded riverine walk along Butterfly Gorge Nature Park (seasonal & 4WD only). See the amazing natural formation at 'The Arches' and the Waterhole.

Day 2 - Daly Region/Litchfield

Hire a boat for early morning Barramundi fishing on the Daly River. Stop into Nauiyu Community and see the historic Catholic Mission Church. Drive 2 hours to Adelaide River township where you can wander through the War Memorial Cemetery and stop in and visit the Adelaide River Railway Heritage Precinct.

Day 3 - Batchelor/Litchfield

Before arriving in Litchfield National Park, you will pass through the Township of Batchelor. There you will find a butterfly farm, museum and plenty of places to grab lunch.

Day 4 - Litchfield

Spend the day in Litchfield National Park and stop at the Termite Mounds; take a refreshing dip in one of the many cascading waterfalls and plunge pools in the Park or take a walk through nature.

Day 5 - The Peninsula Way

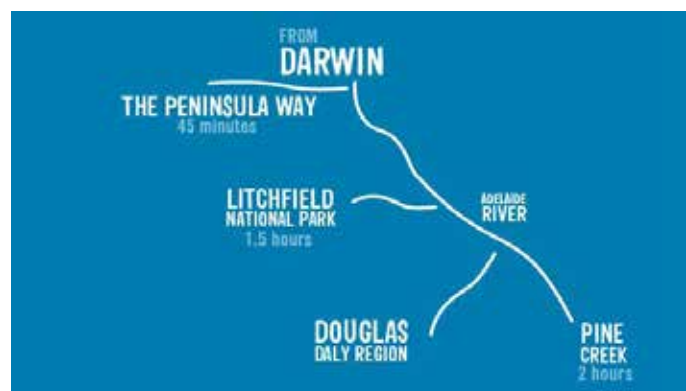
View WWII relics and Liberator Bomber memorial at Mandorah. Take a tour to the Mandorah wetlands region and then continue on the way to Dundee Beach.

Day 6 - The Peninsula Way

Join an early morning fishing charter for some deep sea and reef fishing around the Peron Islands and catch pelagic, coral trout, snapper and sail fish or catch a Barra or a mud crab in Bynoe Harbour or the Finnis River.

Day 7 - The Peninsula Way/Darwin

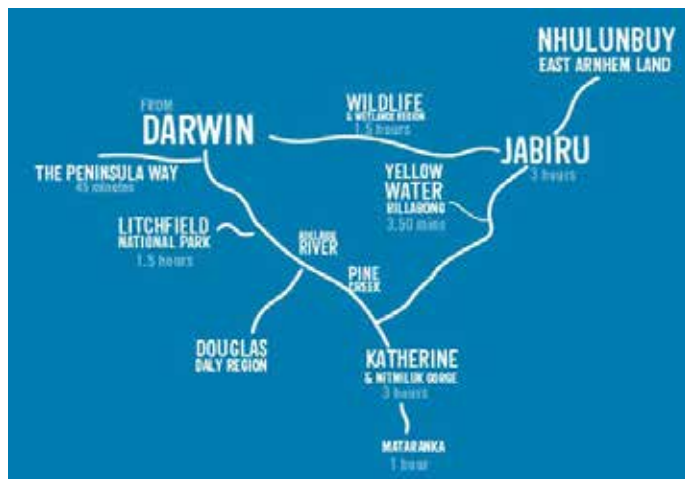
On your way back into Darwin check out the famous Bird of Prey show and Ooloo Sandbar at the internationally renowned Territory Wildlife Park. Stop in at the Berry Springs Nature Reserve to cool off in the natural springs. Return to Darwin for a sunset harbour cruise, a visit to the markets or a movie under the stars.





THE BEST OF THE TOP END (14 DAYS)

Wildlife & Wetlands Region, Kakadu National Park (Permit Required), Arnhem Land, Katherine, East Arnhem Land, Mataranka, Pine Creek, Daly River Region, Litchfield National Park and The Peninsula Way



Wildlife & Wetlands Region - Airboat

Day 1 - Wildlife & Wetlands

Drive 1 1/2 hours to Window on the Wetlands where you can overlook the region from a viewing platform. Experience a jumping crocodile cruise, a relaxing wildlife and wetland cruise or take an airboat ride. Learn the culture of Aboriginal people with spear throwing and basket weaving. Stop in and enjoy bushwalking and bird watching at Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve.

Day 2 - Wildlife & Wetlands/Kakadu

Stop to see the abundance of native birdlife at Mamukala Wetlands. Visit Ubirr Aboriginal Art Site. Join a guided cultural cruise and gain an insight into local Aboriginal culture. Drop into the Bowali Visitors Centre and see the interpretive displays and Art gallery. During the Dry Season, Rangers run a free program of guided walks and activities throughout Kakadu.

Day 3 - Arnhem Land

Book a guided day tour to Arnhem Land and visit the Injalak Art Gallery. Discover authentic art inspired by ancient dreamtime stories and the aboriginal art site at Injalak hill and visit the community of Gunbalanya (Oenpelli).

Day 4 - Kakadu

Take an early morning scenic flight over the Kakadu wetlands and escarpments. Take a short drive to the ancient Aboriginal Rock shelter at Nourlangie Rock and art sites. Climb to view magnificent escarpment views from Nawurlandja lookout. Stop in at the Waradjun Cultural Centre.

Day 5 - Kakadu/Katherine Region

Start the day with a Yellow Water dawn cruise to a place forgotten by time where nature is raw. Head 3 hours south to Edith Falls plunge pools. Travel to Nitmiluk National Park

and visit the Nitmiluk Gorge Visitor Centre and see the interpretative displays. Enjoy an outback experience and bushfire damper dinner under the stars.

Day 6 - Katherine/Arnhem Land

Take an early morning scenic Heli-flight over the 13 gorges of Nitmiluk National Park. Jump on a cruise along the Katherine Gorge. Wander through the many art galleries and meet the artists or join in an Aboriginal Art Cultural tour. Stop to take a dip in the Katherine Hot Springs. Fly to the remote town of Nhulunbuy in the Gove Peninsula, East Arnhem Land.

Day 7 - Arnhem Land

Spend the day on a blue water fishing charter and enjoy the world class fishing on offer.

Day 8 - Arnhem Land

Pick up a 4WD hire car and take a short drive to Yirrkala Art Centre. Continue north to view the Roy (Malpi) Marika lookout for a view of Nhulunbuy. Discover the Dhimurru area by 4WD (Permit required from www.dhimurru.com.au). Fly back to Katherine.

Day 9 - Katherine/Adelaide River

Take a drive south to Mataranka township. Visit the Cutta Cutta Limestone Cave and take a guided tour, swim in Bitter Springs and Thermal Pools, pop into the Museum and Art Gallery. Visit the historic Elsey Station Homestead and the Memorial Cemetery home of 'We of the Never Never'.

Day 10 - Pine Creek/Daly Region

Drive 2 hours north to the old gold rush mining town of Pine Creek. There you can visit the historic railway heritage museum and take in the stunning views from the lookout. Stop in for a swim at Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park, an isolated gorge with steep red cliffs. Drop into the natural springs of Douglas Daly Hot Springs. Take a shaded riverine walk along Butterfly Gorge Nature Park (seasonal & 4WD only). See the amazing natural formation at 'The Arches' and the waterhole.

Day 11 - Daly Region/Adelaide River

Hire a boat for early morning Barramundi fishing on the Daly River. Stop into Nauiyu Community and see the historic Catholic mission church. Drive 2 hours to Adelaide River township where you can wander through the War Memorial Cemetery and stop into visit the Adelaide River Railway Heritage Precinct.

Day 12 - Litchfield

Before arriving in Litchfield National Park, you will pass through the township of Batchelor. There you will find a butterfly farm, museum and plenty of places to grab lunch. Upon arriving in Litchfield National Park, stop at the Termite Mounds; take a refreshing dip in one of the many cascading waterfalls and plunge pools in the Park or take a walk through nature. Stop into Wangi Falls and take a scenic flight.

Day 13 - The Peninsula Way

Take an afternoon charter and catch a Barra or a mud crab in Bynoe Harbour and the Finniss river. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon watching the sunset views over Dundee Beach.

Day 14 - The Peninsula Way

On your way back into Darwin, check out the famous Birds of Prey show and Ooloo Sandbar at the internationally renowned Territory Wildlife Park. Stop into the Berry Springs Nature Reserve to cool off in the natural springs. Return to Darwin for a sunset harbour cruise, a visit to the markets or a movie under the stars.



Katherine Region - Bush Tucker under the Stars



Katherine Region - Mataranka Thermal Pool



Litchfield National Park - Florence Falls