

# Journey through Dreamtime: Kakadu & Arnhem Land Cultural Adventure

21 May – 25 May 2024



# Itinerary Summary

Embark on an exclusive expedition with Venture North, exploring Northern Australia's Top End in a luxury 4WD vehicle. Discover UNESCO-listed Kakadu National Park, staying in the new Yellow Water Villas with private verandas and outdoor baths. Dive into Aboriginal culture at Injalak Arts and Craft Centre, exploring ancient rock art sites guided by experts. Experience barefoot luxury glamping at Coburg Coastal Camp, indulging in fresh seafood and cruising the Marine Park. This unique adventure offers a rare chance to immerse in the untamed beauty and heritage of Northern Australia. Join us for an extraordinary journey through this captivating landscape.

## Connect with Tourism NT on Social Media:



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**Share:** Share our posts by reposting them through your Facebook page  
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**Follow:** Follow us on Instagram [www.instagram.com/ntaustralia](http://www.instagram.com/ntaustralia)

**Share:** Share your NT experiences by mentioning us in your posts @NTAustralia and #NTAustralia



**Follow:** Subscribe to our YouTube channel

<http://www.youtube.com/c/NorthernTerritoryAustralia>

**Share:** Share our videos via Facebook, Twitter or on websites/blogs by embedding the video using the code supplied under the 'share' tab below each video

**Connect:** 'Like' or comment on our videos



**Follow:** Follow us on Twitter [www.twitter.com/NT\\_Australia](http://www.twitter.com/NT_Australia)

**Share:** Spread the word to your Twitter followers by retweeting us

**Connect:** Join the conversation by using our handle in your tweets @NT\_Australia and use our hashtag #NTAustralia

**Follow:** @NT\_Australia



**Share:** Share the post with WeChat friends, on wechat moment, with QQ friend and in QQ by clicking the tab on the top right corner.

**Connect:** 'Like' or comment on WeChat posts to connect with us



**Follow:** @澳大利亚北领地旅游局

**Share:** Spread the word to your Weibo followers by forwarding our Weibo post. Share your NT experiences by mentioning us in your posts @ 澳大利亚北领地旅游局

**Connect:** 'Like', forward or comment to connect with us

# Acknowledgement

Tourism NT respectfully acknowledges the First Nations people of this country and recognize their continuing connection to their lands, waters and communities. We pay our respects to the Aboriginal cultures, and their leaders past, present and emerging.

## Welcome to Australia's Northern Territory!

**Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May**

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**Arrive in Darwin, Northern Territory!**

**Meet your Tourism NT host at the baggage collection area for transfer to your hotel.**

**1400 Check into hotel**

Mercure Airport Hotel  
Contact: Nadee  
Tel: +61 (8) 89203401  
Address: 1 & 2 Sir Norman Brearly Drive Darwin  
Social handle: @mercuredarwin

*Whether you are in Darwin on business, for leisure or just passing through, Mercure Darwin Airport Resorts are perfect for any occasion. Located across the street from each other, just moments from Darwin International Airport, the properties offer 4-star accommodation, two poolside restaurants, two swimming pools, a fully equipped gymnasium and a diverse range of conference and meeting facilities.*

**Overnight: Mercure Airport Hotel**

**Please have your bag packed as tomorrow is an early start. Pack a small backpack with your swimmers and wear sun protective clothing, a hat and sunglasses for today's activities.**

**Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

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**0615 Breakfast in-house at Cossi's**

This meal is courtesy of Tourism NT.

**0650 Check out of hotel & meet in hotel reception**

**0700 Depart for Kakadu National Park, with Venture North Safaris**

Venture North Safaris will be your tour company through the Top End.

## Venture North

Contact: Hugh

Website: <https://venturenorth.com.au/>

Tel: +61 8 8927 5500

[@venturenorthsafaris](#)

*Venture North, a prestigious family-owned tourism operator, specializes in small group cultural and nature-based tours across Northern Australia. With numerous accolades, they offer educational and enjoyable experiences in luxurious 4WD vehicles from Darwin. Explore the mesmerizing outback, indulge in remote Arnhem Land safaris and discover Kakadu's wonders. Each tour promises a perfect blend of education and fun, making Venture North the ultimate choice for travelers seeking immersive and engaging explorations into Australia's rich natural and cultural heritage.*

### **1000 Waterfall Swim & Visit at Moline, Kakadu National Park**

Hike and swim is optional.

*Travel south along the Stuart Highway and enter Kakadu via the southern entrance (3hrs). The first stop in Kakadu will be Moline Rockhole, a special permit area in which only a few select operators are permitted to access; guaranteeing minimal crowds. The small waterfall and waterhole below the falls are a great place to cool down and relax. Here, your guide will give you a pair of snorkels so you can explore the underwater world, home to a variety of species such as fish and turtle. (10:00am – 11:00am)*

### **1200 Picnic Lunch, Waterfall Swim & Visit – Maguk (Barramundi Gorge), Kakadu National Park**

Hike and swim is optional.

*Travel to Maguk (Barramundi Gorge) (1hr) and stop for a picnic lunch (12:00pm – 1:00pm). Enjoy a scenic 1km walk along the edge of Barramundi Creek before arriving at the base of Barramundi Falls. Swim or snorkel in the large plunge pool below the falls and discover an array of aquatic life. (1:00pm – 3:00pm)*

### **1530 Check into hotel**

#### **Yellow Water Villas - Coinda Lodge**

Address: Kakadu Hwy, Kakadu NT 0822

Contact: Peter

Tel: +61 8 8979 1500

Website: <https://kakadutourism.com/accommodation/yellow-water-dreaming>

[@kakadutourism](#)

*Nestled under a rich canopy of trees, each of the Yellow Water Villas balances luxury with a commitment to environmental sustainability. 'Planet, People, Profit' is the strong ethos of fully Indigenous-owned Kakadu Tourism and the development of the new Yellow Water Villas demonstrates this spirit throughout. Built on stilts to minimise any impact on the land, not one tree was cut down to accommodate the retreats. The absolute preservation of the land was the key priority of Traditional Owners.*

### **1615 Meet for your cruise**

### **1630 Tour commences – Yellow Water Cruise with Kakadu Tourism**

*A Yellow Water cruise is a 'must do' experience when visiting Kakadu. Enjoy a relaxing two hour cruise on a tranquil and land locked billabong fringed by pandanus, bamboo, paperbark, and monsoon rainforest. The cruise provides a good environment to see a variety of birdlife and perhaps a saltwater crocodile.*

**1830 Cruise concludes & freshen up**

**1930 Dinner – Mimi's Restaurant**

*Dinner this evening will be in Indigenous-themed Mimi's Restaurant, with the menu featuring Top End produce such as barramundi, crocodile, buffalo and local bush foods.*

**Cooinda Lodge – Mimi's Restaurant**

Address: Cooinda, Kakadu National Park, NT 0822

Tel: + 61 8 8979 1500

Website: <https://kakadutourism.com/explore-kakadu/food-drinks>

[@kakadutourism](#)

**Overnight: Yellow Water Villas, Cooinda Lodge**

**Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

**0700 Buffet Breakfast in house**

This meal is courtesy of Tourism NT.

**0750 Check out of hotel & settle incidentals**

**0800 Meet in reception**

**0800 Drive to Gunbalanya, Arnhem Land**

*After breakfast (7:00am – 8:00am), travel from Cooinda to the northern region of Kakadu National Park to Cahill's Crossing on the East Alligator River, and enter Arnhem Land. (1hr) A 15 km scenic drive to the Gunbalanya Aboriginal community provides some of the best driving views in the Top End, with floodplains covered in bird life and water lilies running up alongside the Arnhem Land escarpment.*

**0900 Visit - Injalak Arts Centre**

**Injalak Arts Centre**

Address: Lot 383, Gunbalanya

Tel: (+61) 08 8979 0190

Website: <https://injalak.com/>

[@injalakarts](#)

*Upon arrival at Gunbalanya visit the renowned Injalak Arts and Craft Centre. Meet and watch traditional local artists in action before departing with an Aboriginal guide to be shown around the Injalak Hill rock art sites. Spend the morning experiencing some of the best Aboriginal rock art in Australia. The area is home to a unique style of 'x-ray art' dating back many thousands of*

years. Listen to ancient dreamtime stories and learn more about Indigenous culture in the heart of Arnhem Land from your local guide. (9:00am – 1:00pm)

**0930 Visit – Injalak Hill**

*Injalak Arts Centre overlooks the breathtaking Injalak Hill, a superb sandstone monolith rich with traditional rock art and stories of the Indigenous people who have lived in the area for thousands of years. Visitors travel to Gunbalanya from all over the world to visit Injalak Hill and experience its outstanding rock art galleries. With panoramic views of the surrounding countryside, Injalak Hill is a must-see during your visit to West Arnhem Land. Tours of the hill can be arranged through our partners.*

**1300 Picnic Lunch by Venture North**

This is courtesy of Tourism NT.

**1400 Drive & Visit - Garig Ganuk Barlu National Park**

*Continue to the most northern tip of Arnhem Land, the Cobourg Peninsula, part of the Garig Ganuk Barlu National Park. The drive takes approximately 3-4 hrs, with stops and creek crossings. Garig Ganuk Barlu National Park (Cobourg Peninsula) includes the surrounding waters of the Arafura Sea and Van Diemen Gulf, and some of the neighbouring islands. Discover a mosaic of sandy beaches, dunes and associated coastal grasslands, mangroves, rainforest patches, swamps, lagoons, coral reefs, sea grass meadows and rich marine life in this 4,500 square kilometre paradise.*

[Garig Ganuk Barlu National Park \(Cobourg Peninsula\)](#)

**1700 Arrive at Cobourg**

*Upon arriving at Cobourg (5:00pm), head straight to Venture North's private camp, and be greeted by the resident camp host and served nibbles on the cliff top. Relax as the sun sets over Port Essington. (Sunset 6:30pm)*

**1900 Dinner under the stars**

*Dinner will be prepared in the camp kitchen this evening and will incorporate a variety of premium NT produce and bush ingredients. (7:00pm)*

**Overnight: Cobourg Coastal Camp (Permanent Safari Tent)**

## Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> May

### 0730 Breakfast in-house

Awake to the sound of birds and enjoy a special 'Cobourg-style' cooked breakfast (7:30am-8:30am)

### 0930 Tour commences – Victoria Settlement Historic Site & Marine Tour

*Explore the Northern Territory's largest Marine Park by boat. Cobourg is abundant in some amazing marine life, including six of the seven species of marine turtle, manta rays, dolphins, sharks, crocodiles, mud crabs and plenty of fish. As we cruise the Marine Park, we will stop and visit the Victoria Settlement ruins. Established prior to Darwin as a military outpost by the British, this site represents the third failed attempt at settlement in Northern Australia. After surviving for 11 years between 1838 and 1849, it was abandoned. However, stone ruins still stand on the shoreline of Port Essington and serve as a reminder of the hardships faced by the early colonists. (9:30am-11:30am)*

### 1230 Lunch

### 1330 Tour commences – Fishing Activity

*This afternoon we try our luck at fishing. With more than 250 species of fish and over 2000sq km of Marine Park to explore, Cobourg is an idyllic fishing destination. The Parks diversity of marine environments means plenty of fishing options. Spend 3 hours fishing for some of the NT's most famous fish such as golden snapper, giant trevally, coral trout and Spanish mackerel. For those more adventurous, try your hand at catching a big shark! (1:30pm-4:30pm) Return to camp late afternoon, and explore the nearby beaches and creek systems, or simply enjoy the solitude while reading a book from a hammock overlooking the ocean.*

### 1900 Seafood Dinner – freshly caught at Cobourg Coastal Camp

*Tonight enjoy a freshly caught seafood dinner prepared in the camp kitchen (7:00pm)*

### Overnight: Cobourg Coastal Camp (Permanent Safari Tent)

## Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> May

### 0730 Breakfast in-house

*Awake to the sound of birds and enjoy a special 'Cobourg-style' cooked breakfast (7:30am-8:30am)*

### 0830 4WD Tour & Explore – Turtle Nesting Area

*Cobourg is home to the first RAMSAR wetland (wetlands of international importance) in the world, with freshwater paperbark swamps and billabongs 100m from the coastline.*

*Explore the northern beaches, commonly used as turtle nesting areas and covered in a wide range of shells. Low tide provides opportunities to explore exposed coral reefs and rock pools, home to various marine life. Enjoy a beachside picnic lunch (11:30pm-12:30pm)*

### 1130 Beachside picnic lunch



**1300 Visit - Cobourg Information Centre**

*The final stop will be at the Park's Cultural and Information Centre (1:00-2:00pm)*

**1400 Pack up belongings and check out**

**1500 Depart from Smith Point – Private Air Charter with Territory Air Services**

Territory Air Services

Address: 12 Slade Court, Darwin Airport, Marrara

Tel: 0499 887 525

Website: <https://territoryairservices.com.au/>

[@territoryairservices](#)

Flight time: 60M

**1600 Arrive in Darwin for transfer to Darwin Airport (DRW) for your departing flight**

**\*\*end of official programming**

## Thank you for visiting Australia's Northern Territory!

For more information on the NT please visit our website [www.northernterritory.com](http://www.northernterritory.com)

Download Tourism NT's media kits: <http://www.tourismnt.com.au/en/news-and-media/media-resources>

### Tourism NT's Online Image Gallery

If you would like to order or download images from our online image gallery please go to:

[www.imagegallery.tourismnt.com.au](http://www.imagegallery.tourismnt.com.au)

Click "register now" and complete the online registration\*

Once processed you will receive a username and password via email

\*Registration typically takes around one business day to be processed