



Visit Kakadu and Katherine Nature's Way

H 8 DAYS

874 km

Litchfield National Park
Kakadu National Park
Katherine



For a drive that highlights the best of the Top End, look no further than this itinerary. In just over a week you can have an amazing adventure that links Darwin, Australia's vibrant tropical capital city, with the ancient cultural and natural wonders of Kakadu and Nitmiluk National Parks and the Daly River region. This easy drive is completely on sealed roads – making it the perfect road trip for everyone.

DAY ONE

Darwin to Kakadu on the Arnhem Highway

The rare and unspoilt beauty of Kakadu National Park is only a three-hour drive from Darwin. On your way to the Park along the Arnhem Highway, there are several opportunities to see wildlife. Stop at Corroboree Billabong for a **boat cruise** or try an **airboat safari** experience through the Mary River system for the ultimate way to spot everything from native birds to saltwater crocodiles sunbaking along the banks, known as 'salties' in the Top End.

DAY TWO TO FOUR

Kakadu National Park

Kakadu is a World Heritage-listed site and Australia's largest national park. Walk through ancient Aboriginal rock art galleries or join a guided tour to go further afield. Take in the stunning views of the wetlands from above at **Ubirr lookout** – visiting at sunset is sure to be a showstopper.

Take a walk at **Burrungkuy** (Nourlangie) to explore impressive Aboriginal rock



choose a slight detour and visit **Litchfield National Park** (2.5 hour's drive).

Litchfield National Park is renowned for its accessible, unspoiled wilderness of monsoon rainforests and waterfalls that flow year-round. Check out the **Litchfield Drive itinerary** for more information.

Food and drink

Finch Café, Nitmiluk Café, Pop Rocket Café, **Marksie's Stockman's Camp Tucker night, Emerald Springs Roadhouse, Adelaide River 303 Bar, Berry Springs Tavern**

Accommodation

Knotts Crossing Resort, Nitmiluk Caravan Park, Katherine Holiday Park

Tours and activities

Top Didj Cultural Experience, Katherine Outback Experience, Nabilil Dreaming Sunset Dinner Cruise, Pine Creek Water Gardens, Leliyn (Edith Falls), Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park

*You will need a park pass to visit Kakadu National Park. **Get your Kakadu pass now.**



Guluyambi Cruise

art and learn about the history of the ancient gallery. Visit the **Bowali Visitor Centre** and the **Warradjan Cultural Centre** for a great introduction to the Park and to learn about the traditional owners of the area. Cruise the famous **Yellow Water Billabong**. Explore some of the best swimming holes in the Territory including Maguk, Gunlom and Jim Jim Falls. A 4WD is recommended to access some of these areas – check road conditions at the Bowali Visitor Centre for up-to-date road access information.

Food and drink

Corroboree Park Tavern, **Aurora Kakadu Lodge**, Escarpment Restaurant (Crocodile Hotel), Anbinik Thai Restaurant, Coinda Lodge Bar and Bistro

Accommodation

Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, Kakadu Lodge, Anbinik Kakadu Resort, Aurora Kakadu, Coinda Lodge Kakadu

Tours and activities

Fogg Dam, Spectacular Jumping Crocodile Cruise, Helicopter or scenic flight over Jim Jim and Twin Falls, **Ranger-guided talks and walks, Guluyambi Cruise, Arnhem Land day tour**

DAY FIVE TO SEVEN

Kakadu to Katherine via the Kakadu highway

Head south along the Kakadu Highway towards **Katherine**. There are many national parks, nature parks, reserves and conservation areas, including **Nitmiluk National Park**; making it the perfect spot to base yourself while you explore the area. Take a refreshing dip in the **Katherine Hot Springs** – a series of clear pools fed by a natural thermal spring located on the banks of the Katherine River. Don't miss out on Nitmiluk Gorge, where you can either cruise or canoe down, or just enjoy some of the bush walking tracks in the Park. Travel further south for just over an hour to check out the clear warm pools of **Mataranka** and **Bitter Springs** in Elsey National Park.

DAY EIGHT

Katherine to Darwin

Head back to Darwin along the Stuart Highway – roughly a three-hour drive. If you leave early enough, stop in at **Leliyn (Edith Falls)** for a quick swim in the cool waters (one hour from Katherine) or

Optional add-on

Tjuwaliyn/Douglas Hot Springs Park

Continuing the hot springs theme, choose to extend your Kakadu and Katherine drive to include the beautiful Douglas Daly region. The hot springs are open during the cooler months of the year (May – October) and the perfect place to take a dip in the dry season. If you're equipped to camp, you can do so within the site next to the springs. If not, book a cabin or a powered camp site at the Douglas Daly Tourist Park, around a 20-minute drive from the hot springs. Please note: the road into the hot springs is around 7km and is a dirt road accessible to 2WD and is graded often. Allow one or two days extra in this area.