

Kakadu & surrounds

Three-day itinerary



Ubirr Sunset, Nadab lookout
Tourism NT/Geoffrey Reid



Make the most of your three days to experience the diversity and beauty of Kakadu National Park.

Follow expert guides to discover ancient local Aboriginal art. Get up close and personal with the largest reptile on the planet and learn about native wildlife on a river cruise. Take to the skies to get a bird's eye view of the Park's incredible floodplains and escarpment country. Learn the stories and traditions of Australia's oldest living culture and finish off your days taking in Kakadu's iconic sunsets.



DAY 1

Rise early and depart Darwin along the Stuart and Arnhem highways for your 2-hour drive to the northern entry of **Kakadu National Park**. A 4WD vehicle is highly recommended for this trip as some locations are only accessible via an unsealed track.

As you'll be visiting Aboriginal owned land, a park pass is required. Your pass includes entry to the park, ranger-guided walks and talks, and interpretive materials. You can buy your pass online or at several convenient locations in the Top End. For details visit **Parks Australia**.

Head to the **Bowali Visitor Centre** to plan your time in Kakadu. Stop for refreshments at the café before you wander through the interpretive displays and gallery. Remember to check in with the staff at the Visitor Centre regarding any road closures or conditions you should be aware of for your trip through Kakadu.

If you're travelling during the dry season, make the most of the seasonal ranger program and get involved with over 40 free activities per week to choose from, such as cultural demonstrations, guided walks, night time slideshows and rock art presentations.

The late afternoon guided walk at Ubirr, one of Kakadu's most visited sites is a must-do. The local guide will explain the meanings of the ancient Aboriginal rock art and you'll finish the tour atop Ubirr in time for a stunning sunset and memorable views across the floodplains.

Home tonight is in Jabiru, Kakadu's main township, which has a variety of **accommodation options** including camping and hotels.

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Top 10

1. Walk through ancient shelters at **Nourlangie** and set your sights on one of Australia's most outstanding Aboriginal rock art sites
2. Cruise **Yellow Water Billabong** at sunrise or sunset and spot crocodiles from the boat
3. Take the 2 km return walk at **Gunlom** and reward yourself with a swim in the infinity-edge plunge pool
4. Learn about Australia's highest concentration of Aboriginal rock art at **Ubirr**
5. Enjoy a **scenic light** during the tropical summer and see the water thundering over **Jim Jim Falls** and **Twin Falls**
6. Take the short hike to the top of **Nawurlandja** for incredible views at sunset
7. Walk through monsoon rainforest and slip into the crystal-clear rock pools at **Maguk (Barramundi Gorge)**
8. Lace up your boots and choose from more than 30 established walking trails for the ultimate **Bushwalking** experience in Kakadu
9. Visit the **Mamukala Wetlands and Bird Hide** observation platform and marvel at the abundance of wildlife
10. Wander through the **Bowali Visitor Centre** and learn about all things Kakadu



**NORTHERN
TERRITORY**



DAY 2

Today, see the varied landscapes and impressive landforms of Kakadu National Park from the air. **Scenic flights** depart regularly from Jabiru airport, and if you visit between December and May you can circle the Jim Jim and Twin Falls in their full.

Pack up your 4WD and head south from Jabiru to visit the **Nourlangie** rock art site, which was used by local Aboriginal people as a shelter from storms for thousands of years. The art on the walls serve as an insight into their rich spiritual tradition. In the dry season, free activities are also conducted daily at the site.

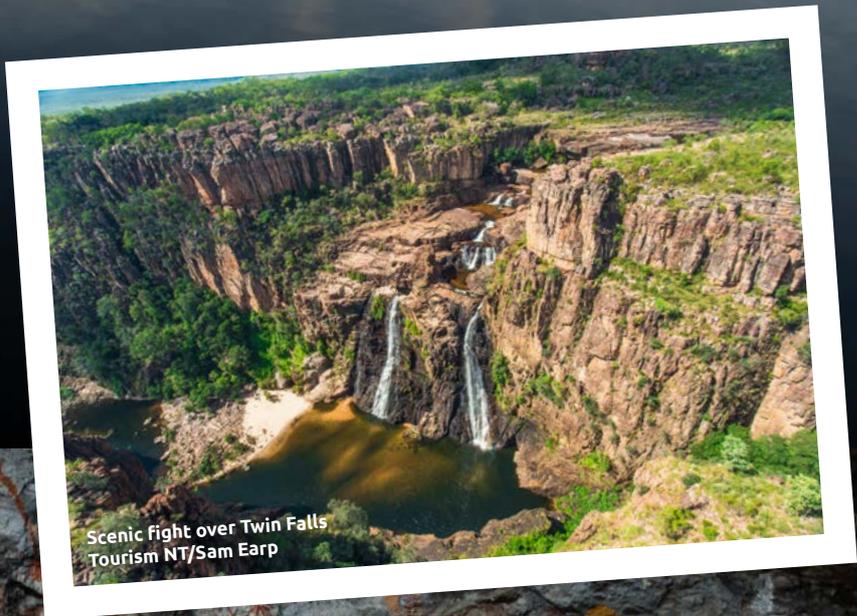
Just up the road is **Mirray Lookout**. If you're feeling active, challenge yourself to the 3.6 km return trail to the top of Mount Cahill which takes approximately 1.5 hours. You won't be disappointed with the stunning panoramic views of the escarpment and floodplains of central Kakadu.

Continue on to Coinda Lodge. Make a visit to the **Warradjan Cultural Centre**. Here, you can learn about the culture and beliefs of the local Aboriginal people and see traditional weaving and cooking techniques.

Get acquainted with Kakadu's most famous wetland on a **Yellow Water Billabong Sunset Cruise**. It's the best way to see the wetland wildlife in their pristine natural environment; the billabong is home to crocodiles and a vast range of resident birdlife. As the sun sets, watch the majestic Brolgas dance as your experienced guide gives you a fascinating insight into how the Bininj people used the flora and fauna to support their way of life.

If you want to get amongst the action, then perhaps a **Yellow Water Fishing Tour** is more up your alley? Led by experienced fishing guides, you'll have the opportunity to catch the famous barramundi on Kakadu's most iconic billabong. If you catch a large one you can have a chef cook it up exactly to your liking. It's a fishing adventure you'll remember forever.

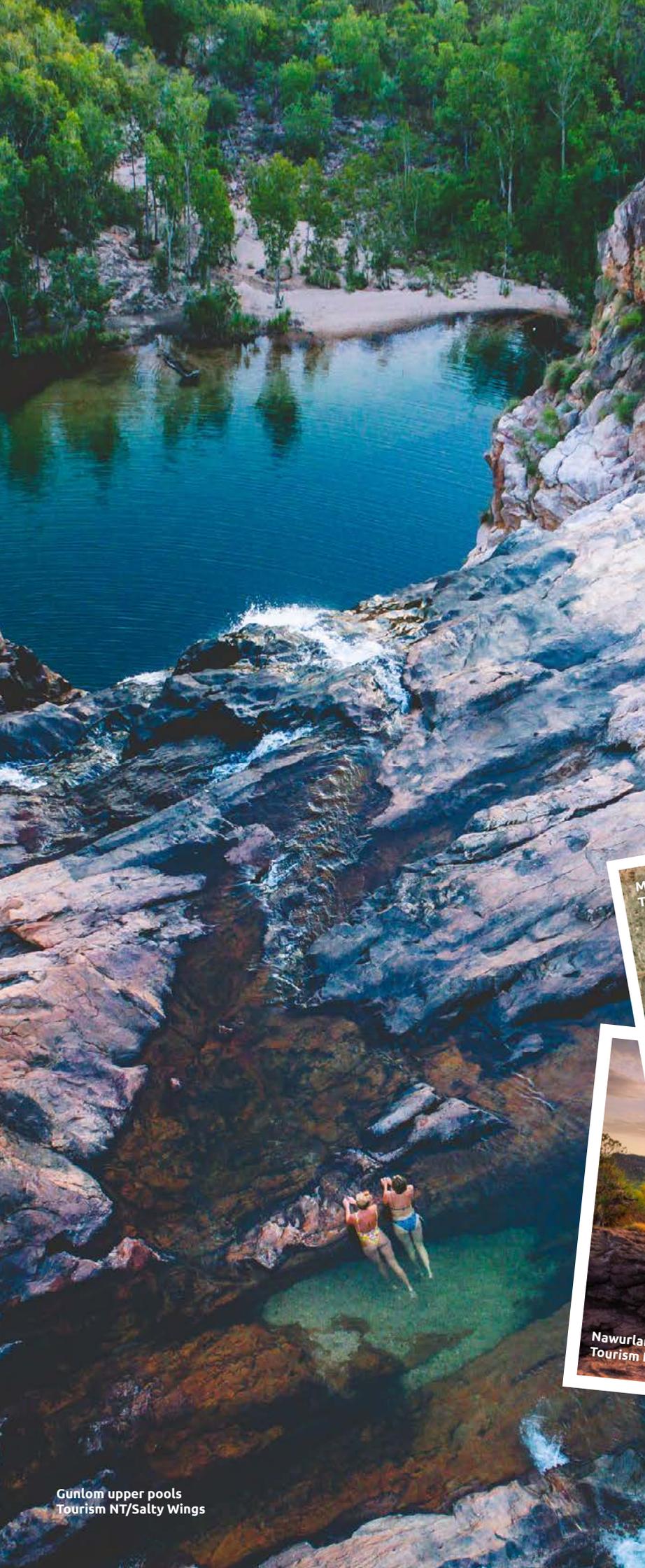
Head back to your accommodation at **Coinda Lodge** and make the most of your final evening in Kakadu National Park. Raise a glass to a day full of adventure and unique experiences before you turn in for the night.



Scenic flight over Twin Falls
Tourism NT/Sam Earp



Rock art, Nourlangie Rock.
Tourism NT/Nicholas Kavo



DAY 3

Rise early, pack up your 4WD with enough food and water to last the rest of the trip and get on the road again – this time further along Kakadu Highway to **Gunlom Plunge Pool**. Approximately two hours from Coinda, the drive itself is beautiful.

If you have allowed enough time, break up the journey with a stopover at **Maguk**. There's a 2 km moderate return walk to the base of the Maguk waterfall where you'll be greeted with a crystal clear pool and tranquil waterfall, a perfect place to relax in the mid-morning sun.

Once you're ready to hit the road again, further up the Kakadu Highway is Gunlom – a glorious location with a cascading waterfall feeding into the plunge pool below. Challenge yourself to the 15-minute climb to the top of the falls, and you'll find the famous natural infinity pool, with fantastic views over southern Kakadu. Kick back, relax and enjoy the midday sun in the picnic areas shaded by tall gums to take in the serenity.

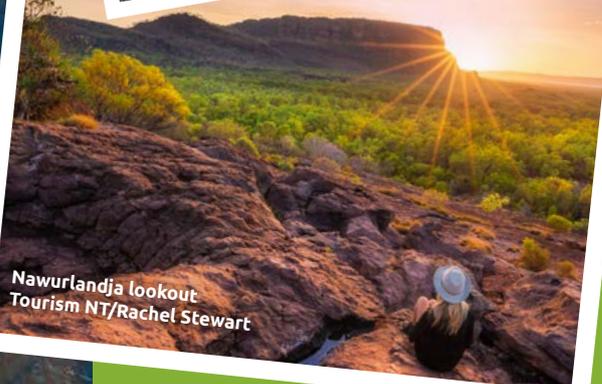
Make your way back to Darwin along the Kakadu Highway travelling towards Pine Creek where (time permitting) you can choose to visit Litchfield National Park on the way back to the city.



Maguk plunge pool
Tourism NT/Adriana Alvarado



Nawurlandja lookout
Tourism NT/Rachel Stewart



Gunlom upper pools
Tourism NT/Salty Wings