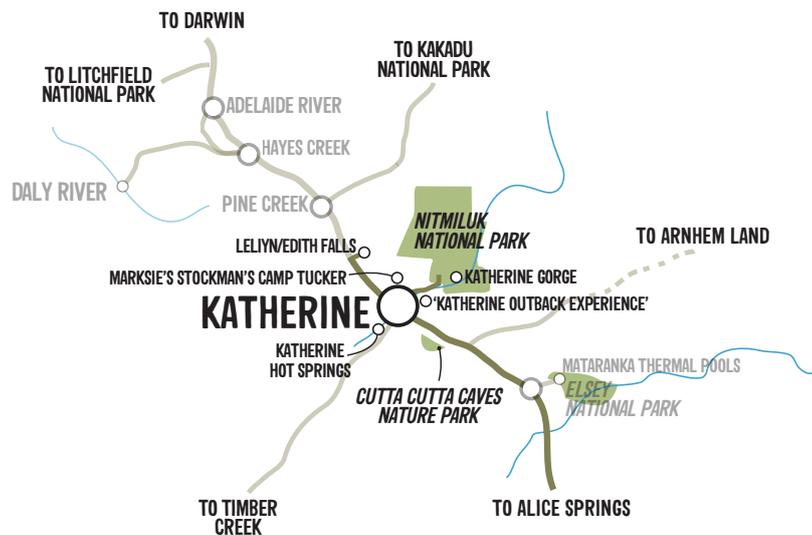


KATHERINE & SURROUNDS

THREE DAY ITINERARY



Katherine is the gateway to the magnificent Nitmiluk National Park (Katherine Gorge). This is Jawoyn Country where the red sand of the outback meets the lush tropics, offering the best of both worlds. This three-day itinerary explores local waterways, including gorges, waterholes, waterfalls, rivers and thermal springs, showing that this region is a perfect holiday destination for travellers with a thirst for adventure.



*Map is not to scale and is only to be used as a guide

TOP 10 MUST DO'S

1. Take a swim or a short hike around Leliyn / Edith Falls
2. Immerse yourself in Aboriginal Culture at the various art galleries in and around Katherine
3. Take a dip in the Katherine Hot Springs
4. Tom Curtain's Katherine Outback Experience is sure to entertain with authentic horse-breaking and working dog demonstrations
5. Experience the high-cliffs of Katherine Gorge by canoe, cruise or helicopter
6. Dine under the stars at Marksie's Stockman's Camp Tucker
7. Discover Aboriginal culture with Top Didj and Art Gallery Aboriginal Culture Experience
8. Explore the underground at Cutta Cutta Caves
9. Enjoy a meal at Adelaide River Inn, and meet the famous 'Charlie the Buffalo'
10. Visit the Adelaide River War Memorial to pay respects and learn about the NT's war history

For more must-do's around Katherine, visit northernterritory.com

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DAY 1

Leave Darwin to embark on your 3.5 hour drive south along the Stuart Highway to Katherine.



Leliyn (Edith Falls) is the perfect stop over to break up the trip and a relaxing swim in the plunge pool (usually open May-October), or if you are feeling particularly active, a bushwalk along the Leliyn Trail.

Katherine is a great base for exploring the nearby gorge country and learning about local Aboriginal culture. Stop in at the galleries in town showcasing Aboriginal art, where you can meet the artists, browse pieces or perhaps even buy one of your own to take home.



Next stop: refresh yourself with a 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. A must see while you are in the region is the Katherine Outback Experience with Tom Curtain. Tom is equally renowned for his award winning music skills as he is for his horseman abilities. Watch in awe during his 90 minute show as you witness authentic horse-breaking, a working dog demonstration and performances with his trick horse.

There are many diverse accommodation options to choose from tonight. Pitch a tent in the camping area of a caravan park, or treat yourself to a luxury experience at the Cicada Lodge, which is located next to the Katherine Gorge in the stunning Nitmiluk National Park.



DAY 2

The world-renowned Nitmiluk National Park boasts 13 gorges carved from the ancient sandstone by the Katherine River. Start your journey at the Nitmiluk Visitor Centre for advice on the many ways you can experience the spectacular gorges - you can walk, canoe, boat or fly!

Board a river cruise to see the sheer cliffs, sandy beaches and Aboriginal rock paintings. Or, hire a canoe and set out to explore on the water.



Get a sense of the size and majestic beauty of Nitmiluk from the air - helicopter flights take off year-round (weather dependent) from the helipad near the Nitmiluk Visitor Centre or near the gorge at Maud Creek airstrip. Another great way to see this country is on foot. There are plenty of short trails to follow over the sandstone plateau. Tonight, dine under the stars at Marksie's Stockman's Camp Tucker Night in surroundings reminiscent of an outback stockman's camp. You will feast on traditional outback tucker cooked using a range of Aboriginal spices to develop unique tastes. Partake in a scavenger hunt, or sit back and enjoy humorous yarns and stories with your host, Geoff Mark.

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THREE DAY ITINERARY

DAY 3

The Top Didj and Art Gallery Aboriginal Cultural Experience offers a chance to meet with local Aboriginal artists. You can also get involved and create some of your own artwork and learn traditional painting styles, or try your hand at spear throwing using a woomera. Guests can also learn a traditional way to start a fire by using two sticks.

Only 27 kilometres south of Katherine are the Cutta Cutta caves where you can delve 15 metres below the surface to discover limestone caves that were formed millions of years ago and are still growing. These limestone caves are home to a variety of wildlife including the rare orange Horseshoe Bat.

On the return journey north to Darwin stop at Pine Creek for a cool drink. Be sure to check out the mud brick made from termite mounds and local timber both used to build the Lazy Lizard Tavern.

The Adelaide River Inn is also worth a stopover. Challenge yourself to finish one of their deliciously huge hamburgers and meet 'Charlie' the Buffalo, who shot to fame after starring in Crocodile Dundee. If war history interests you, it is worth visiting the Adelaide River War Cemetery, a reminder of the impact of WWII on the Territory and commemorating military and civilian casualties.

