Places to Stay

Hotel accommodation - available at
Aurora Kakadu Resort  08 8979 0166
Gagudju Cooinda Hotel  08 8979 2800
Gagudju Lodge Cooinda  08 8979 0145
Wirrwirrmina Mary River Roadhouse  08 8975 4564

Budget accommodation - available at
Kakadu Lodge  08 8979 2422
Gagudju Lodge Cooinda  08 8979 0145
Wirrwirrmina Mary River Roadhouse  08 8975 4564

Commercial camping areas - full camping facilities with powered and unpowered sites are located at
Aurora Kakadu Resort  08 8979 0166
Kakadu Lodge  08 8979 2422
Gagudju Lodge Cooinda  08 8979 0145
Wirrwirrmina Mary River Roadhouse  08 8975 4564

Camping fees vary

National Park camping areas - unpowered camping areas with shower and toilet facilities are located at Merl, Mureen Park, Marangal and Gunlom. Camping fees are $5.40 per person per night, children under 16 are free of charge.

Bush camping - there are a number of undeveloped camping areas in the Park, with limited facilities, where you can camp free of charge. A permit is required to camp outside of designated camping areas.

Park Use Fees

Conserving Kakadu’s World Heritage values and presenting them to the public costs several million dollars each year. The Australian Government provides nearly all of the funds needed, as the requirement for visitors to pay Park fees was removed in December 2004. The collection of other fees and charges, such as camping fees at major campgrounds, also helps to pay for these important services.

Protecting the Park

To prevent disturbance or injury to native wildlife, the handling of wildlife is prohibited and pets are not permitted within the Park. Firearms are prohibited for the safety of wildlife, visitors and residents. These and other regulations are covered under the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1975 and the National Park’s and Wildlife Regulations.

Finding Out More About the Park

The more you know about Kakadu, the more fascinating it becomes. To discover more about the Park and the traditional owners of Kakadu, look for the following books in your library or bookshop:

- Kakadu National Park Australia by Ian Morris
- Kakadu - Natural and Cultural Heritage and Management edited by AJ Press et al
- Story about Feeling by Bill Neidjie
- Kakadu by Bill Neidjie
- Wildlife of Kakadu by Greg Miles
- Wildflowers of Kakadu by Kym Brennan

For Further Information

Kakadu National Park
Bowali Visitor Centre
P.O. Box 71 Jabiru 0880 N.T.
Telephone: 08 8936 2499 (Freecall 1300 138 886)
Email: Kakadunnationalpark@environment.gov.au http://www.environment.gov.au/parks/kakadu


Kakadu National Park Holiday Planner

Welcome to Kakadu

Kakadu National Park was declared a World Heritage area for its outstanding cultural and natural values. The Park includes one of the finest and most extensive collections of rock art in the world, a reminder of Aboriginal people’s long association with the land. Kakadu embraces some spectacular scenery, from the rugged sandstone escarpment, to the extensive woodlands and vast wetlands. Kakadu also protects the entire catchment of a large sub-tropical river, the South Alligator, and examples of most of Australia’s Top End habitats.

Kakadu National Park is a cultural landscape. It was shaped by the spiritual ancestors of Aboriginal people during the Creation Era. These ancestors journeyed across the country creating the landforms, plants, animals and Bininj/Mungguy (Aboriginal people). They taught Bininj/Mungguy how to live and how to look after the country.

Today, the Park is managed jointly by its Aboriginal traditional owners and the staff of Parks Australia. Management aims to protect the interests of the Park’s traditional owners, conserve Kakadu’s World Heritage values and encourage visitor use and enjoyment.

Planning your holiday

Where is Kakadu?

Kakadu is located in Australia’s Northern Territory, approximately 200 kilometres east of Darwin, along a sealed highway.

Comparing the Seasons

Dry Season (April to September)

Build up (October to November)

During this season, the humidity builds up until dramatic electrical storms relieve the conditions. The build-up can be uncomfortably hot and humid. It is best to limit your outdoor activities to the early morning and late afternoon. However this is the best time of year to view crocodiles and birds on the rivers and wetlands.

Wet Season (December to March)

During this season, the ‘wet’ is a particularly dynamic time to visit. With the arrival of the monsoonal rains, creeks and rivers fill and overflow into the floodplains. The woodlands turn bright green with new growth. However, humidity may be uncomfortably high and rainfall is frequent. Road access to a number of areas is restricted at this time of year.

Finding Out More About the Park

The more you know about Kakadu, the more fascinating it becomes. To discover more about the Park and the traditional owners of Kakadu, look for the following books in your library or bookshop:

- Kakadu National Park Australia by Ian Morris
- Kakadu - Natural and Cultural Heritage and Management edited by AJ Press et al
- Story about Feeling by Bill Neidjie
- Kakadu by Bill Neidjie
- Wildlife of Kakadu by Greg Miles
- Wildflowers of Kakadu by Kym Brennan

For Further Information

Kakadu National Park
Bowali Visitor Centre
P.O. Box 71 Jabiru 0880 N.T.
Telephone: 08 8936 2499 (Freecall 1300 138 886)
Email: Kakadunnationalpark@environment.gov.au http://www.environment.gov.au/parks/kakadu

**Suggested Dry Season Itinerary**

Displays and videos illustrate the major habitats of Kakadu. Information provided by staff and the library will help you plan your visit. Open daily 8.00am - 5.00pm.

**Mamukala Wetlands**
A covered observation platform enables you to observe the birdlife. A longer walk will take you around the edge of the wetlands.

**Warradjan Aboriginal Cultural Centre**
Contains displays and information on many aspects of the Aboriginal culture of the Kakadu region. Open daily 9.00am - 5.00pm.

**Yellow Water**
A dynamic wetland area which changes from a flooded wet season waterway to a dry season wildlife refuge. Discover this area by following the boardwalk or on a boat cruise.

**Maguk**
Stroll through monsoon forest to a beautiful plunge pool at the base of a small waterfall.

**Gunlom**
View this waterfall from the plunge pool at the base, or climb to the top and explore the stone country.

**Yurmikmik Walking Tracks**
This area offers a series of creek, waterfall and lookout walks, which are particularly enjoyable in the wet season.

**When to visit**
The climatic conditions and landscape change dramatically between the seasons. While there are many things to see and do throughout the year, seasonal changes mean that your experience in Kakadu will vary according to the time you visit. Make sure you know what to expect before arriving in the Park.

**Pay Attention to Warning Signs**

---

**Comparing the Seasons**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dry Season (Apr - Sep)</td>
<td>High: 21ºC / 33ºC</td>
<td>Low: 24ºC / 37ºC</td>
<td>Low: 26ºC / 40ºC</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>General Open</td>
<td>Generally Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build-up (Oct - Nov)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wet Season (Dec - Mar)</td>
<td>Low: 24ºC / 34ºC</td>
<td>High: 28ºC / 42ºC</td>
<td>High: 80%</td>
<td>Frequent</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Generally Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Bardi Jilji Jili Walk**
Stroll through layered sandstone outcrops that have weathered into pillars and caves.

**Nanguluwur Art Site Walk**
Wander through woodlands to a shady and peaceful gallery of Aboriginal rock art.

**Gubara Pools Walk**
A walk through woodlands and past sandstone cliffs will bring you to cool, shady monsoon forest pools.

**Nourlangie Rock Art Site Walk**
An ancient Aboriginal shelter and outstanding Aboriginal rock art are found at the base of this large sandstone outlier.

**Anbangbang Billabong**
Situated at the base of Nourlangie Rock and crowded with water lilies, this small wetland is a haven for waterbirds during the dry season.

**Mirrai Lookout**
Climb to a platform lookout which provides views over the expansive woodlands of central Kakadu.

**Jim Jim Falls Plunge Pool and Twin Falls Gorge**
The falls are reduced to a trickle during the dry season but the plunge pool and gorge are surrounded by spectacular cliffs. During the wet season these dramatic falls can be viewed on a scenic flight.

**Yurmikmik Walks**
This area offers a series of creek, waterfall and lookout walks, which are particularly enjoyable in the wet season.

**Other Activities**

- **Ranger Guided Walks and Talks (dry season only)**: During the dry season, Park rangers provide a variety of free art site talks, guided walks and slide shows. Program details available from Bowali Visitor Centre when you arrive.
- **Short walks**: There are a number of short walks within the Park, which are detailed in the Visitor Guide. These walks take you through a variety of habitats including woodland, monsoon forest, floodplains, billabongs and sandstone country.
- **Bushwalking**: There are six marked half to full-day bushwalks. Extended overnight walks require camping permits, which can be obtained from the Bowali Visitor Centre. Please allow one week for processing of permit applications.
- **Boating**: Boat ramps are located at the South Alligator and East Alligator Rivers, Yellow Water, Murrum Rock, Mandagul and Jim Jim Billabong. Boating on Kakadu’s waterways can be hazardous due to strong currents, sand bars, submerged logs and crocodiles. Commercial boat tours are available at East Alligator and Yellow Water.
- **Fishing**: Recreational fishing is permitted in any area of the Park west of the Kakadu Highway, except in the West Alligator River and its tributaries. This protected river area is a fish refuge area. Fishing is permitted in areas east of the Kakadu Highway except at the Murrurika Park and Jim Jim Billabong camping areas. Northern Territory bag limits apply. Use of nets, traps and live bait is prohibited. Continuous fishing is prohibited in the Park.