

# Getting Started

The only thing better than going on your trip is planning for it. Spreading out the maps, combing through the guidebooks, surfing the Web, reading accounts of pioneering travellers and dreaming about the possibilities are all part of the thrill of travel.

Australia is generally a very easy, hassle-free country to travel in and the Northern Territory is no exception, but it can throw up a few tricky situations by virtue of its size and remoteness. If you're planning on bushwalking or outback driving you'll need to be better prepared than if you're sticking to the Stuart Hwy or going on a tour. And then there are the basic questions: when should I go? What to take? How much do things cost? You don't really want to miss Litchfield because the roads are closed, or fry under the February sun at Uluru. The Territory is big, but not too big to see the highlights in a single trip. The following tips should get you primed for your trip.

## WHEN TO GO

Like southern Australia, the Red Centre follows the standard four-season weather pattern, although the transition is much more subtle – spring and autumn are mild variations on summer and winter. However, the tropical Top End has two distinct seasons: the Wet and the Dry. Across the whole Territory, the best time to visit weather-wise (and certainly the most popular with visitors) is between May and October. In the Top End, it's the Dry season, when the climate is dry and warm, most outback roads are open, swimming holes at Litchfield and Katherine are accessible and the waters of the northern beaches are largely free of the dreaded stingers (box jellyfish). Meanwhile, in the Centre, days are often sunny but mild with temperatures plummeting at night – it's not unusual to have overnight temperatures as low as 0°C or even subzero around Alice Springs and Uluru. That means being well prepared if you're camping, but at least it's usually dry.

The Wet season in the Top End (November–April) is steamy and tropical with short bursts of heavy rain falling most days. The obvious disadvantages – apart from the rain and high humidity – are that many unsealed roads are impassable, swimming is not possible in the sea (be-

See Climate Charts (p264) for more information.

### DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT...

- Swag or sleeping bag – for camping out under the stars
- Compass and maps – essential tools for serious bushwalking
- Camera and film (or memory cards) – let the shutter go wild
- Swiss army knife – useful multipurpose tool
- Torch (flashlight) – essential for dark camping grounds
- Tropical-strength insect repellent – for those maddening flies and mozzies
- Bushman's hat, sunglasses and sunscreen – sun protection is paramount
- Swimsuit and towel – for beaches, billabongs and hotel pools
- Sense of adventure and spirit
- Heavy-duty travel insurance in case of an outback mishap
- A willingness to call everyone mate, whether or not you know them or like them

cause of stingers) or in most inland waterholes (because of crocodiles), and some attractions and camping grounds may be closed. But it's not all bad during the Wet, and some travellers find this the most beautiful time of year, when everything is green and lush, spectacular electrical storms light up the sky and a dearth of tourists means you can join the locals at the best of the barramundi fishing spots.

In the Centre, summer (December–February) can get ridiculously hot. With temperatures topping 40°C in the shade it's really too hot to do much in the middle of the day.

Spring and autumn (September–November and March–May) are good times to be in the Centre, although spring can be marred by plagues of bush flies if there has been recent rain. It's also the time for wildflowers in the outback, which can be stunning after rains.

Other considerations: the best of the Territory festivals kick off between June and September, while accommodation prices are higher and camping grounds and other places are more crowded at this time, especially during school holidays.

## COSTS & MONEY

In Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs, costs for most goods and services are comparable to the rest of Australia, but it's when you start getting into more remote areas that travel here becomes more expensive – especially for fuel and accommodation. Long distances mean that fuel will be a major expense (while cheap by European standards, it's more expensive here than elsewhere in Australia), but for many travellers this is offset by camping and self-catering.

Accommodation is an obvious daily expense, but if you're camping or caravanning it can be as little as \$3 per person in national parks to \$10 or \$15 per person at caravan parks. There are backpacker hostels in most towns where you can get a dorm bed for \$18 to \$22, or private room for around \$50 to \$70 a double. Motel rooms start at around \$60 a double, but go up to \$120 or more, and hotel rooms in cities cost from \$90 to \$200. Resorts like Yulara (Ayers Rock) charge premium prices for accommodation.

Your daily budget in the Territory will depend on how you are travelling. If you're taking your time, mostly camping and self-catering and using your own vehicle, you could get by on \$50 a day per person (based on two people travelling together). Vehicle hire would increase that to \$80 to \$100 a day. A backpacker, using public transport and tours, staying in hostels and mixing self-catering with eating out and a few beers, should count on around \$80 per day. Midrange travellers – staying in motels or guesthouses, eating out, sightseeing and self-driving – should budget at least \$150 a day per person. With \$200 a day you can really travel in style. On top of these budgets, add shopping and entertainment.

Outside the essential expenses, remember there are lots of free things you can do in the Territory. Bushwalking, swimming, wildlife-spotting, bush camping and Darwin's beaches and parks can all be enjoyed for nothing more than the time and effort it takes to get there. Families with young kids will find that the anklebiters get free (or heavily discounted) entry to most attractions and some transport and tours.

## TRAVEL LITERATURE

Reading the tales of travellers who have gone before is a great way to gain a sense of place and fuel the wanderlust.

*Tracks* (1980) by Robyn Davidson tells the amazing story of a young woman who set out alone to walk 1700km from Alice Springs to the

### HOW MUCH?

Cup of coffee \$2

Newspaper \$1

Pie & sauce \$4

Stubby holder \$6-8

Didgeridoo \$150-400

See also Lonely Planet Index, inside front cover.

Western Australian coast with her camels. It almost single-handedly inspired the current Australian interest in camel safaris!

*One for the Road* (1999) by Tony Horwitz is an entertaining account of a high-speed hitchhiking trip through Australia, including the central Australian outback. Horwitz meets plenty of characters and stops at every bush pub along the way.

*The Singing Line* (1999) by Alice Thompson follows the south–north journey of the Overland Telegraph Line (called the ‘singing line’ by early Aboriginal people), retracing the steps of Charles Todd, the author’s great-great-grandfather. Although the book dwells heavily on the lives of

Charles and Alice Todd (after whom Alice Springs was named), it neatly mixes travel, history and the hardships of early pioneers.

*The Songlines* (1998) by Bruce Chatwin is a controversial but highly readable book, which gives an account, both real and imagined, of his experiences among central Australian Aboriginal people.

In *Down Under* (2000), Bill Bryson paints his amusing dry wit and outside-looking-in views across Australia, including a trip from Darwin to Alice, though his cursory look at Uluru is disappointing.

*Crocodile Attack* (1988) by Hugh Edwards explores in chilling detail the history of injuries inflicted by these ancient predators, several of which occurred in the Territory’s Top End. Gripping reading!

*Journey in Time: the 50,000 Year Story of the Australian Aboriginal Rock Art of Arnhem Land* (1993) by George Chaloupka is the best reference on Arnhem Land rock art. A great coffee-table book and still widely available.

*Australian Guide to Stargazing* (2001) by Gregg Thompson will tell you everything you need to know about the amazing starry palette that is the outback sky at night.

**‘Crocodile Attack... explores in chilling detail the history of injuries inflicted by these ancient predators’**

## TOP PICKS

### Must-See Movies

It’s not known for its film industry, but the unique outback landscape and cultural significance has made the Territory the setting of choice for many film-makers. For a taste of the Territory before you get there, feast your eyes on these flicks. See Cinema (p33) for a discussion of these films.

- *Yolngu Boy* (2000) Director: Stephen Johnson
- *Wolf Creek* (2005) Director: Greg McLean
- *Crocodile Dundee I & II* (1986/88) Director: Peter Faiman/John Cornell
- *Evil Angels (A Cry in the Dark)*; 1988) Director: Fred Schepisi
- *Dead Heart* (1996) Director: Nick Parsons
- *Japanese Story* (2003) Director: Sue Brooks

### Top Reads

There are many books dealing with the hardships of life in the outback. Try these stories of strength and courage. See Literature (p32) for more on Australian fiction.

- *We of the Never Never* By Jeannie Gunn
- *From Strength to Strength* by Sarah Henderson
- *I, Aboriginal* by Douglas Lockwood
- *The Strength of Our Dreams* by Sarah Henderson
- Any book by Len Beadell
- *In the Middle of Nowhere* by Terry Underwood

### Festivals & Events

The Northern Territory has some of the craziest festivals in Australia. These are our favourites but for a full list see p266.

- Henley-on-Todd Regatta (Alice Springs; p192)
- Beer Can Regatta (Darwin; p75)
- Beanie Festival (Alice Springs; p192)
- Camel Cup (Alice Springs; p192)
- Alice Springs Cup (Alice Springs; p192)
- Barunga Festival (Barunga; p138)
- Flying Fox Art & Cultural Festival (Katherine; p138)
- Darwin Festival (Darwin; p76)

## INTERNET RESOURCES

The World Wide Web is a rich resource for travellers. You can research your trip, hunt down bargain airfares, book hotels, check on weather conditions or chat with locals and other travellers about the best places to visit (or avoid!).

Useful websites are listed throughout this book. A few general sites:

**Aboriginal Australia** ([www.aboriginalaustralia.com](http://www.aboriginalaustralia.com)) Although a commercial site, this covers Aboriginal art, culture and tours with links to other related sites.

**Australia Bureau of Meteorology** ([www.bom.gov.au/weather/nt](http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/nt)) For the latest in weather reports and forecasting.

**ExplorOz** ([www.exploroz.com](http://www.exploroz.com)) Excellent site for 4WD and camping information, including outback track notes.

**LonelyPlanet.com** ([www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/australasia/australia](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/australasia/australia)) Destination information on NT plus the travellers’ bulletin board, The Thorn Tree, and tons of slick travel info.

**Parks & Wildlife Commission NT** ([www.nreta.nt.gov.au](http://www.nreta.nt.gov.au)) Everything you need to know about the Territory’s national parks.

**Travel NT** ([www.travelnt.com](http://www.travelnt.com)) A comprehensive travel guide produced by the Northern Territory Tourist Commission.

# Itineraries

## CLASSIC ROUTES

### TOP END TRIANGLE

One Week

This trip neatly combines the highlights of the Top End and is also accessible to 2WD vehicles. Start in **Darwin** (p61) with a few days to acclimatise. Visit the Mindil Market, Cullen Bay, the museum and Aquascene. Head south down the Stuart Hwy and east onto the Arnhem Hwy, with a stop at **Window on the Wetlands** (p93) and a croc-jumping tour. After about 115km you enter **Kakadu National Park** (p108). Head for **Ubirr** (p120) to see the rock art and either camp here or continue on to stay at **Jabiru** (p121) or **Cooinda** (p126). The following day check out the visitors centres at Jabiru and Cooinda, and book on an early morning Yellow Waters Cruise. Visit Nourlangie Rock in the late afternoon to see the awesome rock art. If you have a 4WD and the tracks are open, head down to Jim Jim and Twin Falls. Leave Kakadu south via the Kakadu Hwy to Pine Creek.

Head back up the Stuart Hwy through Adelaide River, then take the Batchelor Rd to **Litchfield National Park** (p98). You pass towering termite mounds on the way to the main attractions – the waterfalls and swimming holes at Florence, Buley Rockhole, Tolmer and Wangi. Camp overnight at Florence or Wangi and return to Darwin via the unsealed Cox Peninsula Rd (Dry season only) or back along the Stuart Hwy.

This route covers the highlights of the Top End looping from Darwin through Kakadu National Park and Litchfield National Park, with plenty of opportunities for camping, swimming, fishing and wildlife-spotting. Most of the journey is on sealed roads following the Arnhem, Kakadu and Stuart highways for around 900km.



### RED CENTRE CIRCUIT

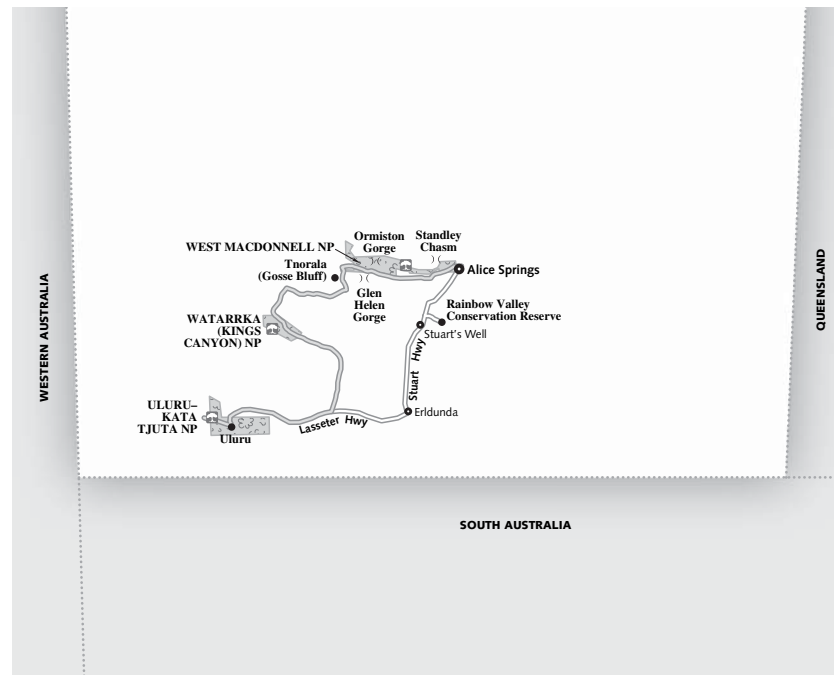
Five to Seven Days

The classic Red Centre route is a return trip from Alice Springs to Uluru, which can be done as a fantastic loop drive via the West MacDonnell Ranges and Kings Canyon. Until the Mereenie Loop Rd is finally sealed, travellers with 2WD rental cars will have to stick to sealed roads.

Start in **Alice Springs** (p175) with a couple of days spent exploring the Desert Park, Telegraph Station, Alice Springs Cultural Precinct and other attractions. Head west along Larapinta Dr and veer off onto Namatjira Dr and into the West MacDonnell National Park, where you'll pass a string of fine gorges and bushwalks in the ranges, including **Standley Chasm** (p220) and **Ormiston Gorge** (p222), on the way to **Glen Helen Resort** (p223) where you'll find camping, accommodation and a pub.

From here the road is unsealed to Kings Canyon. After about 60km there's a detour to the meteorite crater at **Tnorala** (Gosse Bluff; p224) and after another 12km you come to the start of the **Mereenie Loop Rd** (p228), a 155km road passing through Aboriginal land and ending at the Kings Canyon Resort in Watarrka National Park. Spend the night here or at neighbouring Kings Creek Station, then do the mind-blowing **Kings Canyon walk** (p230) before continuing on to Yulara 300km away. Spend two or three days exploring **Uluru - Kata Tjuta** (p245) before heading back to Alice Springs (580km) via the Stuart Hwy, with a possible stop for a camel ride at **Stuart's Well** (p243). Try to make it to the **Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve** (p243), 24km off the Stuart Hwy, for sunset before travelling the final 90km back to the Alice.

You'll cover around 1300km on this classic circuit drive from Alice Springs to Uluru via the West MacDonnell National Park and Kings Canyon. Around 220km is currently unsealed. An alternative is to go via the Stuart Hwy and Lasseter Hwy and backtrack.



## ROADS LESS TRAVELLED

### CARPENTARIA LOOP ('GULF COURSE')

Three to Five Days

This loop trip heads out from the Stuart Hwy to the Gulf of Carpentaria through the remote Barkly Tableland. Starting in **Katherine** (p135), don't miss canoeing or a boat trip at **Nitmiluk National Park** (Katherine Gorge; p141). Drive the 100km south to **Mataranka** (p145) for a dip in the thermal pools, then take the Roper Hwy east for 175km to **Roper Bar** (p168), where there's renowned barramundi fishing on the Roper River. About 30km away the Aboriginal community of **Ngukurr** (p169) has an art centre. The 400km unsealed Nathan River Rd to Borroloola passes the Lomarium Lagoon and through the **Limmen National Park** (p169). About 50km from the Gulf, **Borroloola** (p169) is a mecca for fishing but not much else. Head southwest on the Carpentaria Hwy to **Cape Crawford**, one of the Territory's remote roadhouses. From there it's 270km back to the Stuart Hwy, which emerges near **Daly Waters** (p160). Stop in for a feed and a beer at the classic outback pub here before continuing up the highway to **Larrimah** (p158) for a pie at Fran's and then back to Katherine, or head south to Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

Pack a rod for some of the Territory's best barra and sea fishing, and drive through one of the country's most remote national parks. Spend four or five days cruising out to the Gulf of Carpentaria and back along the Roper Hwy and Nathan River Rd to Borroloola, then back along the Carpentaria Hwy to Daly Waters. The 1275km drive starts and ends in Katherine.



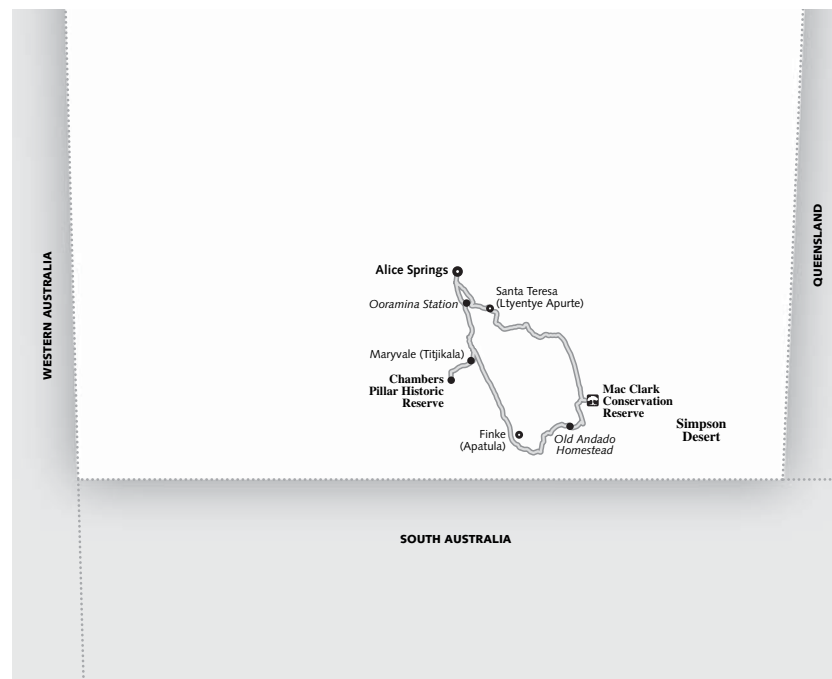
### SIMPSON DESERT LOOP

Three to Four Days

The region south of Alice Springs and east of the Stuart Hwy is lightly populated and little visited by travellers, but it makes a great 4WD adventure on the fringes of the vast Simpson Desert.

Head south from Alice Springs on the Old South Rd, which roughly follows the original *Ghan* railway line. On the way you pass the turn-off to **Ooraminna Station** (p240) and Ewaninga rock carvings. The road is in reasonably good condition as far as Maryvale Station, where you can visit the Aboriginal community and art centre at **Titjikala** (p241). Don't miss the 45km detour along a rough 4WD-only track to **Chambers Pillar** (p242), a bizarre sandstone pillar towering above the flat plains. Plan to camp overnight here. Returning back to the Old South Rd, turn off on the sandy, rollercoaster track to the Aboriginal community of **Finke** (p241) following the route of the annual Finke Desert Race all the way. From Finke the road heads east onto the Old Andado Track and some pretty lonely country. After 18km you come to Molly Clark's **Old Andado Homestead** (p242) – the only bed for many a mile. Heading north, next stop is the **Mac Clark Conservation Reserve** (p242), a short detour off the main track. From here it's a long drive over sand country to **Santa Teresa** (p242), an Aboriginal community where you can visit the excellent Keringke Art Centre, then it's another 90km back to Alice Springs.

Red sand dunes, remote Aboriginal communities and the edge of the Simpson Desert await on this 800km loop drive from Alice Springs. Highlights include Chambers Pillar and the adventure of outback 4WD touring.



## TAILORED TRIPS

### BARRA & BILLABONGS

The Top End has some of the best barramundi fishing in the land. From Darwin head to the acclaimed **Mary River Region** (p93), where you can camp by a river, luxuriate in a fishing lodge or catch barra 24/7 on a houseboat. The next stop is **Kakadu National Park** (p108) to join a guide on Yellow Water or to tackle the untamed South Alligator and East Alligator Rivers. Detour to **Daly River** (p104) if heading back to Darwin, but first consider heading southwest to the **Victoria River**, or southeast to the **Roper River** (p168) and the pristine rivers of the Gulf.



If fishing isn't your bag, you can still have fun on and in the water. Take a **harbour cruise** (p74) in Darwin or a **boat cruise** (p116) in Kakadu, swim in the pristine waterholes of **Litchfield National Park** (p98), lounge in the bath-like thermal pools at **Mataranka** (p145) or hire a canoe and paddle up **Katherine Gorge** (p143). In the Centre, head for the waterholes of the **West MacDonnell National Park** (p216) – Ormiston Gorge, Ellery Creek, Big Hole and Redbank Gorge.

### DOTS & DIDGERIDOO

The Territory is peppered with opportunities to see Aboriginal culture, either through cultural tours, contemporary art centres, sacred sites or ancient rock art.

Kakadu National Park has some of Australia's best rock art sites, particularly at **Nourlangie** (p122) and **Ubirr** (p120). Just across the East Alligator River you can visit (with a permit) the Injalak gallery at **Gunbalanya** (Oenpelli; p128) in Arnhem Land. From Darwin there are tours to the **Tiwi Islands** (p92) where you can see a distinct Aboriginal culture and fine art. At **Daly River** (p104), south of Darwin, Merrepen Arts Centre is highly regarded and there's a cultural festival here in June. Another good Aboriginal festival is held at **Barunga** (p138), also in June. Just south of Katherine, **Manyallaluk** (p145) offers excellent cultural tours with the Jawoyn Aboriginal people.

Alice Springs is full of galleries displaying works from central desert artists, but there are several communities you can visit to see the artists working first-hand. About 90km south of Alice at **Santa Teresa** (p242) is the Keringke Art Centre. Along the Tanami Track, stop in at the Warlukurlangu Art Centre in **Yuendumu** (p209).

**Uluru** (Ayers Rock; p253) has immense spiritual significance to the Anangu people and Anangu Tours has local guides to explain the *Tjukurpa stories* and change your view of the land. The **Cave Hill Safari** (p252), from Uluru, is an excellent trip deep into Pitjantjatjara country.





# Snapshot

The Northern Territory has always been something of an outpost of Australia: an eccentric, laid-back place where things are done a little differently. Territorians will happily talk about anything, from uranium mining to Aboriginal issues and the spectre of drought to frightening petrol prices and the best spot to land a barra.

Only since 1974 has the Northern Territory had a fully elected Legislative Assembly, with self-government granted in 1978. Territorians went to a referendum in 1998 (a year after the Federal government had stepped in and overturned its controversial voluntary euthanasia laws) to decide whether to move up to full statehood. The answer was no (51.3% of the vote), but the hot tip is that there will be another attempt at the constitutional change for statehood in 2008 – the 30th anniversary of self-government. The Territory's 25-seat parliament is headed by Chief Minister Clare Martin, who led the Labor Party to its second successive term in government in a landslide election victory in 2005.

The 2005 election was run and won largely on 'law and order' issues, which critics claimed were nothing more than race politics. Labor vowed to introduce a tough 'anti-social behaviour act' aimed at dealing with public drunks and Darwin's so-called 'long-grassers', mostly itinerant Aboriginal people who choose to sleep rough or set up camps in public parks and grassland. Council bylaws prohibit it and patrols regularly move people on and dish out fines.

Many of the communities on Aboriginal land are 'dry' (meaning alcohol is prohibited by agreement with community leaders) but a growing problem, particularly among bored youth, is petrol sniffing. Numerous deaths have occurred in remote communities as a result of sniffing, prompting the Territory government to pledge \$10 million in substance-abuse programmes. If Aboriginal issues of housing, health and education weren't bad enough, in 2005 the Federal government abolished the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), Australia's peak Indigenous body. Aboriginal-elected regional councils were replaced by a government-appointed advisory board, after years of criticism that sections of ATSIC were corrupt and inefficient. Indigenous leaders argue that the demise of ATSIC removes a direct community voice and a genuine say in self-determination.

On a more positive note, the increasing popularity of genuine Aboriginal art and Aboriginal-run tours is providing a boost to many communities in the Territory. Top-quality artworks find their way into major Australian galleries or international collections and fetch big money.

The Northern Territory economy is dominated by two major industries: tourism and mining. The much-hyped and long overdue *Ghan* line from Alice Springs to Darwin was finally completed in 2004, providing a further boost to the tourism industry, which has positively boomed in the last decade or so. Mining contributes about 20% of gross state product, with bauxite, manganese, gold and ore (zinc, lead, silver) the main resources. Oil and gas are also extracted on land and offshore. The most controversial industry, however, is uranium mining (see p46).

Almost half of the Territory is made up of pastoral leases – mostly cattle station country – and central Australia is in the grip of a severe drought. The Federal government has offered \$1.8 billion in drought assistance programmes, but what is really needed is a rain dance.

## FAST FACTS

Population:	198,500
Indigenous population:	56,900
Area:	1.35 million sq km
Unemployment:	6.1%
Average income:	\$38,000
Average house price (Darwin or Alice Springs):	\$280,000
Gross State Product (GSP):	\$9.4 billion
Air rescues from Uluru per year:	3–4
Approx fly population: six trillion (and counting...)	
Flora emblem:	Sturt's Desert Rose
Visitors in 2004:	1.65 million
Tourism impact in 2004:	\$1 billion and 14,000 jobs

# The Authors



## PAUL HARDING

### Coordinating Author, The Red Centre

Melbourne-born Paul has spent the past 10 years travelling and writing about places around the world, but he's yet to find a place that he likes more than Australia. Dusting off the 4WD, he journeyed through the Red Centre for this edition, where he met a few characters in the Alice, realised that Uluru at sunset still looks amazing no matter how many times you see it, and added to his small but much-loved Aboriginal art collection. Paul has contributed to numerous Lonely Planet guides, including *Australia* and *New South Wales*.

### My Northern Territory

The drive from Alice Springs (p175) out through the West MacDonnell Ranges (p216), camping and bushwalking through the gorges, is unbeatable – and that's before you get to Kings Canyon (p229) and Uluru (p253), two of the centre's great sights. I also love the transition from the dry Centre to the moist Top End. There's a great sense of anticipation as you leave Alice Springs for the 1500km drive up the Stuart Hwy. I was lucky enough to see a full moon rising over the Devil's Marbles (p167) at dawn and I loved canoeing up Katherine Gorge (p141). After a few days' camping in Kakadu National Park (p108), Darwin (p61) comes as something of an urban surprise!



## LINDSAY BROWN

### The Top End

As a former biologist, Lindsay jumps at the chance to research wild and wonderful places. And having already explored several Top End parks just for fun, it was time to return for 'work'. As a Lonely Planet author Lindsay has contributed to several titles including *Australia*, *Queensland* and *East Coast Australia*.

### LOVELY PLANET AUTHORS

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## SUSANNAH FARFOR

Susannah is a Melbourne-based writer and editor whose work regularly appears in adventure-related travel and food publications. Fascinated by the more remote regions of Australia, she has travelled in every state and wrote the previous edition of this title, as well as coordinating Lonely Planet's *Adelaide & South Australia* guidebook.

### CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

**Matthew Evans** wrote several boxed texts in the Food & Drink chapter (p54). Matthew was a chef before he crossed to the 'dark side' and became a food writer and restaurant critic. He is also the award-winning author of four food books, including Lonely Planet's *World Food Italy*, and there is little that he wouldn't eat as long as he lives to tell the story.

**Tim Flannery** wrote the Environment chapter (p42). Tim's a naturalist, explorer and writer. He is the author of a number of award-winning books, including *Country* and *The Future Eaters*. Tim lives in Adelaide where he is director of the South Australian Museum and a professor at the University of Adelaide.

**Dr David Millar** wrote the Health chapter (p285). Dr Millar is a travel medicine specialist, diving doctor and lecturer in wilderness medicine who graduated in Hobart, Tasmania. He has worked in all states of Australia and as an expedition doctor with the Maritime Museum of Western Australia. Dr Millar is currently a Medical Director with the Travel Doctor in Auckland.

**Simon Sellars** is a freelance writer, editor and web developer. Because he's in love with the Australian landscape, and as the Northern Territory is Australia in hyperdrive, he was thrilled to work on this book. Simon wrote the History (p24), Food & Drink (p54), Culture (p29) and Aboriginal Art (p36) chapters.

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