

# Darwin & surrounds

## Three-day itinerary



Breakfast at Darwin Waterfront

Crocosaurus Cove



Darwin Waterfront Wave Pool

The Northern Territory's tropical capital is ready for adventure year-round. Awaken your senses over three days with mouth-watering plates to choose from at the sunset markets; ride the swell at the popular wave pool or get an up-close look at Australia's biggest reptiles. Immerse yourself in Aboriginal art and culture, explore national parks and discover the natural beauty of the Top End.



### TOP 10

1. Take a dip in the Wave Pool and Recreation Lagoon at the **Darwin Waterfront Precinct**
2. Smile at a saltwater crocodile in the Cage of Death at **Crocosaurus Cove**
3. Browse local art stalls and enjoy delicious international cuisine at the beachside or suburban weekend **markets** around Darwin
4. Immerse yourself in Aboriginal culture by visiting the **art centres and galleries** in and around Darwin
5. Visit the **Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory** for an insight into traditional art practices and fascinating historical exhibits
6. Get amongst the interactive displays of the **Defence of Darwin Experience, Military Museum and the Royal Flying Doctor Service Tourist Facility**
7. Sit back and relax on a **sunset cruise** around Darwin Harbour
8. Unwind with a film at the open-air **Deckchair Cinema**
9. Head out to **Litchfield National Park** to bask on the rocks and swim under a tropical waterfall
10. Discover the **Territory Wildlife Park** where you can witness the bird show and even feed whiprays and barramundi

### DAY 1


Begin your trip to the Top End with breakfast at the **Darwin Waterfront**. Choose from al fresco restaurants to casual cafés and pubs with a water view – there is something for everyone. Make sure to pack your bathers so you can paddle, swim or play in the Recreation Lagoon or catch a wave in the man-made Wave Pool.

After lunch, make your way to **Crocosaurus Cove** located in the heart of Darwin's CBD on Mitchell Street. Here you can take the opportunity to meet a fully-grown saltwater crocodile and learn about a variety of fish and reptile species in the aquarium. Make

sure to catch the twice-daily crocodile and fish feeding shows.

And, if you want to get your heart racing, climb into the Cage of Death to smile at a saltwater crocodile up to five metres in length! It's the ultimate adrenaline rush.

To unwind after the adventure, take your pick from a sunset cruise around Darwin Harbour or head to the **Mindil Beach Sunset Market** held every Thursday and Sunday evenings between May and October. Experience the incredible mix of arts and crafts, free entertainment and food stalls on offer.

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DAY 2

Start your day with breakfast at one of the many cafés in the city. Browse the impressive local street art as you visit the art galleries and boutiques along Smith Street Mall and on Knuckey Street. **Darwin City** and the nearby area of Parap Shopping Village are both great places to view and invest in authentic Aboriginal art pieces from around the Northern Territory. Next stop, visit the **Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT)** to learn more about Aboriginal art, the history of Darwin and to see the local crocodile celebrity, Sweetheart. The famous five-metre, 780-kilogram saltwater crocodile which is on permanent display in the museum.

The **Defence of Darwin Experience** in East Point Reserve offers impressive displays of the Northern Territory's wartime history. Learn about the Bombing of Darwin and the city's role in WWII walking through the galleries

and multimedia presentations. Check out the displays of vehicles, uniforms, firearms and artillery at The **Military Museum** next door or head to Stokes Hill Wharf for a virtual reality experience at the **Royal Flying Doctor Service Tourist Facility**. Then visit the Cenotaph in Bicentennial Park, Darwin's first war memorial commemorating Australians who lost their lives in WWI, and the Aboriginal men and women whose bush skills assisted the Army during WWII to protect the remote northern coastline.

Tonight, relax under the stars with a film at the **Deckchair Cinema** located along the esplanade. The open air cinema screens Australian, popular, family, foreign and classic films during the dry season (April to November).

Don't have a car? You can always purchase a seat on the hop-on hop-off **Big Bus Darwin** to see all these places and more!



Aboriginal Bush Traders



Deckchair Cinema

DAY 3

Rise early to drive 120 km south-east of Darwin along sealed roads and plunge into the waterholes at **Litchfield National Park** – nature's very own water theme park.

Bushwalk a rainforest trail, frog kick under a cascading waterfall and marvel at the massive termite mounds that stand up to six metres in height.

Discover the local wildlife at the nearby **Territory Wildlife Park** where you can experience the birds of prey live show or join in to hand feed the whip rays and barramundi in the Ooloo Sandbar. Wander through treetop aviaries, around a natural lagoon and through the aquarium to learn about local wildlife. Heading back to Darwin, stop in at the **Berry Springs Tavern** for the good atmosphere and a pub feed to fuel up before driving back to the city.

