



# Katherine and Arnhem Land Arnhem Way

Bawaka Experience, Arnhem Land.



**7 - 10 DAYS**  
729 km (one way)



Mainoru Outstation  
Nhulunbuy  
Bremer Island



♦ \* Refer to page 2 for details



## DAY ONE

### Katherine to Mainoru Outstation

Start in **Katherine** (3 hours' drive south from Darwin).

Begin your journey in the township of Katherine, where the outback meets the tropics. For inspiration on what to do in the Katherine region, check out the **Kakadu and Katherine** itinerary on page 28. Make sure you are well equipped with enough food, water and fuel.

The first leg of your drive will take you south of Katherine towards Mataranka, before turning off onto the Central Arnhem Road. Travelling just over 250 km today on mostly unsealed road, this route is off-the-beaten-path. Take the driving easy and consider breaking your journey at Beswick where you can browse local arts and crafts at **Djilpin Arts** on the way to Nhulunbuy, or on the way back to Katherine after exploring East Arnhem Land. We suggest you contact well ahead to check opening hours. Take an overnight break at **Mainoru Outstation**.

Considered one of Australia's last unspoilt areas, Arnhem Land is just waiting for you to discover. The Central Arnhem Road starts 50 km south of Katherine and finishes in Nhulunbuy on the Gove Peninsula. This route will take you on an adventure through open savannah woodlands as you cross creeks and spot a variety of wildlife. Please note that when driving to Arnhem Land you will require entry permits in advance.



Sunset drinks at Gove Boat Club

## DAY SEVEN

### Nhulunbuy

Take a day to recoup from your island escape. Get the car fuelled and packed up ready for the road trip back to Katherine.

Once you reach the Stuart Highway, you may choose to either head north towards Katherine and Darwin or south towards Daly Waters and the Red Centre. If you are really loving this untouched landscape, why not head along the **Savannah Way**? Travel east to explore **Limmen National Park** and the fabulous **Lorella Springs**, or west towards the spectacular Victoria River region. Whichever direction you go, the NT won't disappoint.

### Food and drink

**Mainoru Outstation** store (make sure you get extra supplies – fuel, food and water), **Gove Boat Club**, **Walkabout Lodge**

### Accommodation

**Mainoru Outstation**, **Walkabout Lodge**, **Gove Boat Club**, **Gove Peninsula Motel**, **camping in East Arnhem Land**, **Bawaka Experience**

### Tours and activities

**Djilpin Arts Centre**, nature walks around the Mainoru Outstation, Giddy River, Buffalo Creek, Little Bondi (apply for permits through **Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation**). Beach combing, relaxing, turtle spotting, fishing, and Aboriginal cultural tours on Bremer Island.

## DAY TWO

### Mainoru Outstation to Nhulunbuy

The Central Arnhem Road continues for another 480 km (unsealed) where you will reach the main town of East Arnhem Land, Nhulunbuy (also known as Gove). The road may be unpredictable, so make sure you fill up and check that you have enough supplies for the trip ahead.

When you arrive in **Nhulunbuy**, reward yourself with a sunset drink at the Gove Boat Club and take in a famous Top End sunset.

## DAY THREE AND FOUR

### Nhulunbuy and surrounds

For the next two days, enjoy the remarkable natural surroundings of the Gove Peninsula. Stop off at Yirrkala to visit the **Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Art Centre** (15-minute drive off the Central Arnhem Road). At this internationally acclaimed art centre, you can view authentic pieces of art and craft created by local Aboriginal artists. With Nhulunbuy as your base camp, set out and uncover iconic landscapes at

one of the Dhimurru Recreation Areas. Choose from a wide range of settings; from sandy white beaches and rugged coastlines to open forests and shaded inland waterways, all located just one to two hours from Nhulunbuy. Pack a picnic and head out for the perfect day trip exploring Arnhem Land. Visit **Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation** website for more information and to apply for permits.

## DAY FIVE AND SIX

### Bremer Island

Leave the car for a night or two in Nhulunbuy and escape to an island. Make your way to Bremer Island via a leisurely one-hour boat ride, or a 10-minute charter flight. Arrive at **Banubanu Wilderness Retreat** on Bremer Island, an eco-escape paradise in the Northern Territory. Take this opportunity to relax, recharge your batteries and live the island lifestyle. Take part in guided walks, spearfishing, turtle watching or just chill out on the pristine white beach.



\*You will need a permit to travel into Arnhem Land. [www.eastarnhemland.com.au/plan/access-permits](http://www.eastarnhemland.com.au/plan/access-permits)

## Optional add-on

### Fishing in Arnhem Land

With so much to see and do why not stay for an extra day and have a blue water **fishing experience** with one of the charters available. If fishing isn't your thing then spend more time visiting the art centres or book a cultural tour with **Bawaka Experience**.