

Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park

Known as Tjoritja by the Traditional Owners, the West MacDonnell National Park stretches 161km west of Alice Springs and will draw you in with its majestic beauty. The continuation of cultural practices and a connection to the land is highly significant for local Central Arrernte and Western Aranda Aboriginal culture. Cool scenic gorges are important refuges for plants and animals, many of which are found only here and some are evidence of a bygone era of tropical forests.

Simpsons Gap

Simpsons Gap is one of the most prominent gaps in the West MacDonnell Ranges. At dawn or dusk you may spot a Black-footed Rock-wallaby from the walking track or near the permanent waterhole. You cannot swim in the waterhole.

Standley Chasm

The Chasm is at its most dramatic an hour either side of noon on a sunny day. Then the sheer walls glow from reflected sunlight to create a breathtaking display of stark form and rich colour. The walking track that links the carpark to the Chasm follows a creek where spring-fed pools attract a great variety of wildlife, particularly birdlife. Although rough in parts, most active visitors will find the 20 minute one-way walk quite easy.

Ellery Creek Big Hole

Ellery Creek Big Hole is a spectacular waterhole in the mighty Ellery Creek which cuts through a gorge in the West MacDonnell Ranges. Visitors to Ellery Creek Big Hole will be rewarded with excellent recreational opportunities, including walking, swimming, picnicking and camping just to name a few.

The Ochre Pits

Ochre occurs in a range of earthy colours ranging from white, yellow, orange, red and browns. It is an important part of Aboriginal culture and is used in everyday life. The Pits are a colourful outcrop of ochre on the banks of a sandy creek. An information shelter at the site provides information about how, why and when the Ochre Pits were used.

Serpentine Gorge

Serpentine Gorge is yet another stunning natural feature of the West Macs region. The area provides the opportunity for long or short walks through lovely River Red Gums and alongside idyllic semi-permanent water holes.

Ormiston Gorge

Ormiston Gorge is a great place for a swim, especially in warmer months. The five minute Waterhole Walk, which has wheelchair access to the end of the paved path, and the 20 minute one way Ghost Gum Lookout Walk are the most popular with visitors. Alternatively, the Ormiston Pound Walk is a three to four hour circuit that follows the rocky slope into the flat expanse of the pound and back along the gorge by the main waterhole.

Road conditions and access to parks in the Northern Territory (NT) can change at short notice. Always check the road conditions before you leave. Road conditions can be accessed at <http://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/roadreport/> For specific information on national park access, please visit www.nt.gov.au/parks

Beat the Heat

Stay Cool.
Stay Hydrated.
Stay Alive!



Overheating can cause death!

Even if you are an experienced walker, you must take precautions when visiting Northern Territory parks and reserves. Walking in hot weather can result in heat exhaustion, which may progress to a potentially fatal heatstroke. Don't ignore the early warning signs.

If you feel unwell, stop.

Rest in the shade and drink water.

DO NOT drink alcohol or sugary drinks like soft drinks. These can make dehydration worse.



Apply
sunscreen



Wear
protective
clothing



Drink water



Eat



Times to
walk



Plan your
route



Take
a map



Check the
weather
before you go

Alice Springs Desert Park

alicespringsdesertpark.com.au

A 10 minute drive from Alice Springs, the Desert Park is a truly unique experience. It seamlessly blends the plants, birds, animals and people of our arid regions within one, tourism and conservation facility. There's much more to deserts than meets the eye.

Standley Chasm | Angkerle Atwatye

standleychasm.com.au

This three-metre-wide, 80-metre-high gorge forms a picturesque natural alleyway (gap) through the ranges. Take a self-guided walk or the Cultural Experience Tour with the Aboriginal owners. Enjoy fresh, gourmet food and barista made coffee among the shady gum trees.

Discovery Parks - Glen Helen

discoveryholidayparks.com.au/glen-helen

A haven of outback hospitality with recently refurbished motel rooms, some with direct views of the stunning Glen Helen cliffs, and an extensive campground with powered and unpowered sites. With facilities including a bar/bistro, swimming pool and outdoor terrace.

Mt Zeil Wilderness Park

mtzeilwildernesspark.com.au

With a range of unpowered bush campsites to suit every need, accommodating small and large groups, including caravans and motorhomes, activities include bushwalks, bird watching, 4WD tracks, lookouts, picnic areas and access to climbing the NT's tallest mountain.

Papunya Tjupi Arts

tjupiarts.com.au

Papunya Tjupi Arts is a 100% Aboriginal owned and directed community arts organisation based in Papunya, the birthplace of the Western Desert dot-painting movement.

Memory Mountain

memorymountain.com.au

Topped with a 20-metre-high cross, Memory Mountain is set to become a major new Outback tourism icon. The Memory Mountain site is still in the final stages of construction. Check the website for the latest news on opening date/times and facilities.

Ikuntji Artists

ikuntji.com.au

Ikuntji Artists was the first Aboriginal art centre established by Pintupi-Luritja women in the Western Desert Art Movement. The centre is member-based, not for profit and 100% Aboriginal owned and run, located in Haasts Bluff.

Hermannsburg Historic Precinct

hermannsburg.com.au

Wander around the old Lutheran Mission and get a glimpse of life as it was for the early pioneers and their families. Come and share our stories, art and culture, and make sure to try some of our famous Apple Strudel.

Hermannsburg Potters

hermannsburgpotters.com.au

Hermannsburg Potters are leading contemporary ceramic artists, bringing the vibrant landscape and spirit of Central Australia to life with their hand-crafted terracotta pots. 100% Aboriginal owned and run. Please phone ahead to visit the gallery.



Remember

- Observe park safety signs
- Swim only where permitted
- Keep to designated roads and tracks (only where permitted)
- All historic, cultural items and wildlife are protected
- Use the gas barbecues provided and fuel stoves where possible
- Put your rubbish in bins where provided or take it with you
- Pets are not permitted
- Generators are not permitted
- A permit is required for drone use - conditions apply and it must be obtained prior to your arrival in the Park
- Collect firewood before entering park
- You must book camping sites online before your arrival



BOOK ACCOMMODATION, TOURS & CAR HIRE

Alice Springs Visitor Information Centre

41 Todd Mall, Alice Springs

Mon - Fri: 8:00am-5:00pm | Sat - Sun & Public Holidays: 9:30am - 4:00pm

Closed Christmas Day, New Year's Day & Good Friday

1800 645 199 | info@discoverca.com.au | www.discovercentralaustralia.com





NT Parks Campgrounds
 Most parks and reserves in the NT have grounds set aside for camping. You must book and pay online for designated campsites (they are no longer payable onsite).

Places you might like to stay at:

- Ellery Creek
- Serpentine Chalet Ruins
- Finke 2 Mile
- Redbank Gorge
- Finke Gorge National Park
- Owen Springs Reserve

VISITING ABORIGINAL LAND

The following roads require a **Transit Permit**:

Namatjira Kintore Link
 available from Central Land Council

Merenie Loop Road
 Note: The Merenie Tour Pass is available from:

- Alice Springs Visitor Information Centre
- Hermannsburg (Ntaria)
- Kings Canyon (Watarrka)
- Central Land Council in Alice Springs.

Entry Permits are required if staying overnight in a community:

This includes:

- Papunya
- Haasts Bluff
- Ntaria (Hermannsburg)
- Wallace Rockhole
- Areyonga

For more information on permits, please contact:

Central Land Council (CLC)
 27 Stuart Hwy, Alice Springs, NT 0870
 (08) 8951 6211 | permits@clc.org.au | www.clc.org.au

KEY

Permit required	Information	Lookout	Wheelchair access
Larapinta Trail	Toilets	Communal fire pit	Bicycle path
Unsealed road	Picnic facilities	Ranger station	Accommodation
4WD only	Camping-tent	Fuel	Walks
West Macs Scenic Drive	Gas barbeque	Meals	Showers
River	Drinking water	Cafe	
Park (usually dry)	Swimming	Camping-caravan	
Petrol station			
Simpsons Gap bike path			

1. Alice Springs Desert Park
2. John Flynn's Grave Historical Reserve
3. Simpsons Gap
4. Standley Chasm | Angkerle Atwatye
5. Point Howard Lookout
6. Ellery Creek Big Hole
7. Serpentine Gorge
8. Serpentine Chalet Ruins
9. Neil Hargrave Lookout
10. Ochre Pits
11. Ormiston Gorge
12. Glen Helen Gorge
Discovery Parks – Glen Helen
13. Finke 2 Mile Campground (4WD)
14. Mt Sonder Lookout
15. Redbank Gorge (4WD)
16. Roma Gorge (4WD)
17. Mt Zeil Wilderness Park
18. Papunya Tjupi
19. Memory Mountain
20. Ikuntji Artists (Haasts Bluff)
21. Tylers Pass Lookout
22. Tnorala (Gosse Bluff) (4WD)
23. Albert Namatjira's House
24. Palm Valley (4WD)
25. Hermannsburg Historic Precinct
Hermannsburg Potters
Ntaria Supermarket & Campground
26. Boggy Hole (4WD)
27. Old Owen Springs Homestead (4WD)

