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MXGP

2026 TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

MXGP AUSTRALIA



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1 GENERAL INFORMATION



At the top of Australia, you'll find Darwin, a tropical haven where vibrant city life meets the raw beauty of nature. As the capital of the Northern Territory, Darwin offers a unique fusion of modern amenities and laid-back charm. With the Arafura Sea as its backdrop, Darwin is famous for its breathtaking sunsets, rich Aboriginal culture and the warm, inviting atmosphere that makes it a must-visit destination.

Whether you're exploring local markets, relaxing in tropical gardens, or enjoying a waterside meal, the city offers a relaxed pace of life paired with an urban edge. Darwin's diverse cultural heritage is reflected in its eclectic food scene, where fresh local produce meets Asian influences in dishes that are as bold as they are flavourful.

Just outside the city, the Territory's wild beauty beckons, with nearby national parks like Kakadu and Litchfield offering lush landscapes, ancient rock art and incredible wildlife encounters. For those seeking adventure, Darwin provides the perfect base for exploring the Outback, with road trips through iconic landscapes and unique wildlife experiences.

With its fascinating history, friendly locals and mix of urban and natural wonders, Darwin invites visitors to experience a side of Australia that is as diverse and unforgettable as the land itself. Whether you're looking for adventure, relaxation or cultural immersion, Darwin offers something for every traveller.

2 KEY FACTS

- **POPULATION** 160 000
- **CAPITAL** Darwin, Northern Territory
- **ELECTRICITY** Type I Plug (Voltage: 230V, Frequency: 50 Hz)
- **LOCAL TIME** Australian Central Standard Time (ACST)

3 USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Australia Country Code	+61
Ambulance	**000**
Police	**000**
Firemen	**000**

AIRPORT

Darwin International Airport (IATA: DRW) +54 2944 40 5016

TAXI

Darwin Taxis	131 008



4 HEALTH AND SAFETY

HOSPITALS

ROYAL DARWIN HOSPITAL (RDH)

Address	**105 Rocklands Drive, Tiwi NT 0810, Australia**
Tel	**(08) 8922 8888**
Website	Introduction | NT.GOV.AU

PALMERSTON REGIONAL HOSPITAL (PRH)

Address	**Linco Road, Holtze NT 0829, Australia**
Tel	**(08) 7979 9200**
Website	Palmerston Regional Hospital | NT.GOV.AU

PHARMACIES

BLOOMS PHARMACY (CBD, PARAP)

CHEMIST WAREHOUSE (CBD, LUDMILLA, CASUARINA)

VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS

It's always recommended to seek health advice from your local embassy, a travel clinic, or your doctor before travelling to ensure you are fully prepared for any health risks based on your travel itinerary.

Medical insurance is highly recommended as some countries do not receive reciprocal health agreements. Medical facilities are generally of a high standard in Australia, though of varying access outside the capital.

Many medicines that require a prescription can be bought over the pharmacy counter in Australia, although they may be known under a different name here. If you require a regular medication, bring the packaging into the pharmacy with you to show the pharmacist.

HEAT SAFETY

To ensure your holiday in the Northern Territory is memorable for all the right reasons, it's important to take a few safety precautions. Be aware of the weather conditions, as both extreme heat and cold can be dangerous, so stay updated with local weather forecasts. Dress appropriately for the conditions, and always apply sunscreen. It's also essential to stay hydrated—aim for at least two litres of water a day, or more if you're outdoors or exercising. Bring snacks to keep your energy up, and always inform someone about your plans before heading out. Following these simple tips will help you enjoy the great outdoors safely.

5 VISA AND PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS

VISAS

If you're planning to visit the Northern Territory from overseas, it's essential to organise your visa before travelling to Australia. All international visitors, except Australian passport holders, must have a valid visa to enter the country. New Zealand passport holders are the only exception—they can obtain an electronic visa on arrival. Travellers from all other countries must apply for a visa prior to arrival. There are several visa types available to tourists visiting Australia:

- **ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORITY (ETA) Approximately AUD $20** Suitable for passport holders from certain countries such as the United States, Canada, and several East Asian nations. The ETA allows visits of up to 3 months and is electronically linked to your passport.
- **EVISITOR Free** Available to citizens of eligible European countries, the eVisitor also allows stays of up to 3 months for tourism or business purposes.
- **TOURIST VISA (SUBCLASS 600) Starting from AUD $190** Ideal for longer stays or for those not eligible for the ETA or eVisitor. This visa allows stays of 3, 6, or 12 months and may be applied for online or through Australian embassies and consulates.

Always check the Australian Department of Home Affairs website for up-to-date visa options, fees, and eligibility requirements.

CUSTOMS AND QUARANTINE INFORMATION

Upon arrival, all visitors must complete immigration and customs declarations. Australia has strict biosecurity laws in place to protect its unique flora, fauna, and agricultural industries. You are required to declare any food, plant materials, or animal products, as well as certain outdoor and camping equipment.

Failure to declare items can lead to fines or other penalties. For a hassle-free entry, review the latest guidelines on the Australian Border Force and Department of Agriculture websites before your flight.

6 EMBASSIES INFORMATION IN AUSTRALIA

You can find a complete list of Australian Government embassies, high commissions, consulates, multilateral missions and representative offices around the world on the official website of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT): View the full directory here.

7 CURRENCY AND BANKING IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

CURRENCY INFORMATION

Australia's official currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD). It's a decimal-based currency, divided into 100 cents. Banknotes come in denominations of $5, $10, $20, $50, and $100, while coins are issued in $1 and $2, and 5c, 10c, 20c, and 50c. All currency features colourful designs and includes tactile elements to assist the visually impaired.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE & BANKING SERVICES

Currency exchange is available at foreign exchange bureaus in Darwin, including at Darwin International Airport, as well as at select banks and major hotels. Australia's largest banks and several regional banks and credit unions have branches across the Northern Territory, primarily in major centres like Darwin and Alice Springs.

Banking hours are typically Monday to Friday, **9:30am to 4:00pm**. Some branches in shopping centres may offer extended hours.

ATMS AND CARD PAYMENTS

ATMs are widely available in Darwin and other urban areas of the Northern Territory. They accept most international cards (look for logos like Visa, MasterCard, Cirrus or Maestro). However, remote areas may have limited or no ATM access, so plan ahead and carry sufficient cash when travelling off the beaten path.

Credit cards and EFTPOS are accepted at most businesses, including hotels, shops and restaurants. However, not all cards are accepted everywhere, and some businesses may charge a small surcharge for card payments.

TRAVELLERS CHEQUES

Traveller's cheques are rarely used in Australia and may be difficult to cash outside of Darwin. If you choose to carry them, be aware they are considered inconvenient compared to credit/debit cards and cash. Most travellers find cards and ATMs to be the easiest and safest option for accessing money.

GST AND THE TOURIST REFUND SCHEME

Australia imposes a 10% Goods and Services Tax (GST) on most goods and services. International visitors can claim a refund of the GST paid on purchases over AUD $300 from a single retailer under the Tourist Refund Scheme (TRS), provided the goods are taken out of the country within 60 days of purchase. Claims can be made at international airports, including Darwin.

DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCES

Australia allows visitors to bring certain goods into the country duty-free, including:

- Alcohol: Up to **2.25 litres** per adult
- Tobacco: Up to **25 cigarettes or 25 grams** of other tobacco products per adult
- Other goods: Up to **AUD $900** worth of general goods per adult (AUD $450 for travellers under 18)

Declare all goods upon arrival. Exceeding your limits or failing to declare can result in fines or confiscation.

PROHIBITED & RESTRICTED IMPORTS

Australia has strict biosecurity laws. The following items are prohibited or require declaration:

- Fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs, seeds, nuts, and dairy products
- Plant material, wooden items, and soil
- Some medicines, firearms, weapons, and counterfeit goods.

TIPPING AND BARGAINING ETIQUETTE

Tipping in Australia is optional but appreciated for good service. In restaurants, a **10–15%** tip is common in more upscale venues. Tipping taxi drivers and hotel staff is also courteous but not mandatory. Bargaining is not a standard practice in Australia and is generally not expected or encouraged.

CURRENCY RESTRICTION

Travellers entering or leaving Australia must declare if they are carrying **AUD $10,000** or more (or the equivalent in foreign currency) in cash. This applies to both Australian dollars and foreign currencies in physical form (banknotes and coins).

- You do not have to pay tax or duty on the money.
- The requirement is for declaration only, and it helps prevent money laundering and other illegal activities.

8 FOOD AND DRINKS IN DARWIN

Darwin is a vibrant and diverse food destination, where eating and drinking are not just activities, but a way of life. From the freshest seafood to modern Australian cuisine, the city's dining scene is dynamic. Whether you're a food critic, a family with fussy eaters or a foodie looking to explore new flavours, Darwin's dining offerings are sure to please. Here's a guide to some of the must-visit spots around the city:

Darwin Trailer Boat Club – A relaxed spot by the water, offering casual dining and a vibrant atmosphere with stunning sunset views.
Visit Darwin Trailer Boat Club

The Darwin Waterfront Precinct - Offers an array of restaurants and swimming spots, catering to a variety of tastes and budgets.
Darwin Waterfront Precinct | free events, food, drinks and shopping

Saltwater @ Bundilla – A charming dining venue offering fresh, local dishes with ocean views, perfect for breakfast, brunch, or lunch.
Visit Saltwater @ Bundilla

PepperBerry Restaurant – An award-winning restaurant at the Hilton Darwin, serving modern Australian cuisine with a unique twist of bush spices.
Visit PepperBerry Restaurant

LOCAL MARKETS

Darwin's markets are a true reflection of the city's laid-back, multicultural vibe, offering a rich blend of local produce, international flavours and lively atmospheres. Whether you're exploring on a sunny weekend morning or enjoying the sunset with food in hand, each market offers something unique. The food markets are a must-visit for anyone wanting to experience the true essence of Darwin.

1. **Mindil Beach Sunset Markets (Thursday & Sunday):** With the stunning backdrop of a sunset over the ocean, Mindil Beach Market is the place to be for food lovers. Indulge in delicious BBQs, sweet fairy floss, and unique treats while live music fills the air. You can also enjoy camel rides, making it an experience for all the senses.
2. **Parap Saturday Markets:** Known as the local's favourite, Parap Market serves up an incredible mix of Asian fusion delights alongside authentic local flavours.
3. **Nightcliff Markets:** For a more relaxed vibe, head to the Nightcliff Markets on Sundays. Grab a bite from the local food stalls and take it to the nearby beach for a tranquil morning by the water.
4. **Rapid Creek Markets:** A must-visit for those interested in a true local market experience, Rapid Creek Markets offer an abundance of local produce, including exotic fruits and vegetables that you won't find anywhere else.

SPECIALITIES

Laksa for breakfast: Darwin is one of the only places in the world where you'll find laksa served as a breakfast staple. It's the perfect way to start the day, with its rich, aromatic broth packed with noodles, vegetables, seafood, or chicken—there's a laksa for everyone.

Barramundi: If you can't catch fish yourself, you won't be short on options in the Northern Territory. Barramundi is a local favourite and one of the freshest, homegrown delicacies you'll find. Found on most menus across Darwin, this prized fish is versatile—enjoy it grilled, battered, or even in a curry.

Mango delights: When it comes to tropical fruits, nothing captures the essence of Darwin like the mango. Fresh, juicy, and full of flavour, mangoes are a beloved local treat. Whether enjoyed straight from the skin, blended into a refreshing smoothie, or indulged in a creamy scoop of mango ice cream, this fruit is a must-try.

DRINKING AGE

In Australia, the legal drinking age is **18 years old**, which applies across all states and territories, including the Northern Territory. This means that individuals must be at least 18 to legally purchase and consume alcohol in public places, bars and restaurants.

If you're planning to buy takeaway alcohol in the Northern Territory, be aware that all bottle shops (liquor stores) will require you to present identification. Accepted forms of ID include a passport or an Australian driver's license.

9 TRAVELING AROUND THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

BY AIR

Australia is vast, making air travel the most practical way to get around, especially between major cities and remote regions. Qantas, Virgin Australia, Jetstar, and Airnorth operate extensive domestic networks, with key hubs in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Perth. These airlines connect both large urban centres and regional destinations across the country.

BY CAR

The Northern Territory boasts some of Australia's most spectacular driving routes, from the iconic red desert sands and lush tropical bushland to its pristine beaches. However, our unique beauty has unique conditions. To ensure you have a safe and enjoyable journey, here are a few important driving tips to keep in mind.

Check road conditions: Before setting off each day, make sure to check current road conditions. Roads can change rapidly due to weather. You can find up-to-date road reports at www.roadreport.nt.gov.au or by calling 1800 246 199.

Allow plenty of time: Make sure to give yourself ample time to reach your destination, factoring in regular rest breaks or overnight stops if necessary.

Long journey essentials: For long trips, particularly in remote regions, always carry extra food, water, and fuel. The minimum recommended water intake is 4-6 litres per person per day.

In the event of a breakdown, stay with your vehicle. Help may take several hours to reach you, especially in remote areas or at night.

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public transport options within the Northern Territory are quite limited, especially outside major urban areas.

In Darwin, you'll find a basic bus network that connects key locations around the city, including popular spots like the waterfront, shopping centres and the airport. These services are available for free to residents and visitors, with more limited schedules during evenings and weekends. Taxis and rideshare services like Uber are also available.

10 RESERVATIONS

SEL - Sport & Events Logistics S.r.l. is the Official Carrier and Travel Agency of the FIM Motocross World Championship, for any reservation or information request you may contact your reference person in SEL:

STEFANO VIERO, TEAM LEADER

Email sviero@sel.it

Mobile **+39 348 2324353**



11 TRACK INFORMATION

RACE TRACK

Name	**Hidden Valley Motorsports Complex**
Address	**Hidden Valley, Darwin, NT**
Website	**www.mxgpaustralia.com.au**

The track itself is a purpose-built, permanent motocross track at the Hidden Valley Motorsports Complex. It is designed to meet international standards with features including:

- Track Length: 1.610 km
- Track Width: 8m
- Total Soil Used: 44,000m³
- Start Straight: 90m, crossing the Hidden Valley road circuit.
- Total Land Area: 13 acres
- Total Corners: 22
- Total Jumps: 21, including a 100-foot jump and triple step-up
- Jump and Obstacle Breakdown: 5 rollers, 5 inside rollers, 2 step-ups, 1 corner rise, 4 tabletops (including the finish line jump), 2 exit rollers, 1 triple step-up, 1 double, and 1 rolling waves section (9 waves).
- Track Surface: 70% sand and 30% clay blend.

ORGANIZER

Name	**NT Major Events Company**
Tel	**+61 (0)8 8999 5256**
Address	**Level 2, 16 Bennett St Darwin, NT 0800** **GPO Box 3333, Darwin NT 0801**

