

NORTHERN TERRITORY DRIVE GUIDE

Location	Nearest Town/City	Off-Road Trails	Tourist Attractions	Remember
Adelaide River	Darwin	Stuart Highway (sealed)	Jumping Crocodile Tours, Adelaide River War Cemetery	Be Crocwise, Avoid flooded roads
Alice Springs Desert Park	Alice Springs	Stuart Highway (sealed)	Desert ecosystems, Aboriginal culture	Check park opening times, Be SunSmart
Bitter Springs	Mataranka	Mataranka Road (sealed access from Stuart Highway)	Natural thermal pools, birdwatching, swimming	Crocodile safety, Flood warnings
Charles Darwin National Park	Darwin	Charles Darwin National Park Road (sealed)	WWII bunkers, bushwalking, wetlands views	Stay on designated paths, Be Crocwise
Daly River	Daly River	Daly River Road (sealed)	Fishing, Indigenous cultural tours	Be Crocwise, Avoid driving in wet season
Davenport Range National Park	Tennant Creek	Old Police Station Waterhole Track (unsealed 4WD)	Swimming, bushwalking, ancient rock formations	Flash flooding, Remote area preparation
Devils Marbles (Karlukarlu)	Tennant Creek	Stuart Highway (sealed)	Granite boulders, cultural significance	Extreme heat, Stay hydrated
Edith Falls (Leliyn)	Katherine	Edith Falls Road (sealed)	Waterfall, swimming, bushwalking	Be Crocwise, Check for crocodile warnings
Esey National Park	Mataranka	Roper River Road (sealed)	Thermal pools, fishing, bushwalking	Crocodile safety, Check park opening times
Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve	Darwin	Fogg Dam Road (gravel road, sealed access most of the way)	Birdwatching, wetlands, wildlife observation	Be Crocwise, Avoid flooded roads
Florence Falls	Litchfield National Park	Litchfield Park Road (sealed)	Twin waterfalls, swimming, walking trails	Be Crocwise, Flood warnings during wet season
Kakadu National Park	Jabiru	Kakadu Highway (sealed roads, some 4WD tracks)	Ubirr rock art, Jim Jim Falls, Yellow Water Wetlands	Be Crocwise, Stay on marked trails
Katherine Gorge (Nitmiluk NP)	Katherine	Gorge Road (sealed)	Canoeing, hiking, boat tours	Be Crocwise, Ensure permits are obtained
Kings Canyon (Watarrka NP)	Alice Springs	Luritja Road (sealed)	Rim Walk, Garden of Eden, sandstone cliffs	Check weather conditions, Stay hydrated
Litchfield National Park	Darwin	Litchfield Park Road (sealed with some gravel roads)	Waterfalls, Buley Rockhole, Magnetic Termite Mounds	Be Crocwise, Flood warnings during wet season
Mary River National Park	Darwin	Point Stuart Road (sealed with gravel sections)	Birdwatching, boat tours, wetlands exploration	Be Crocwise, Check road and weather conditions
Mataranka Thermal Pools	Mataranka	Homestead Road (sealed)	Natural thermal springs, swimming	Crocodile safety, Check for closures during wet season
Nitmiluk National Park	Katherine	Nitmiluk Gorge Road (sealed)	Katherine Gorge, Edith Falls, hiking, boat cruises	Be Crocwise, Permit required for overnight camping
Simpson's Gap	Alice Springs	Larapinta Drive (sealed)	Bushwalking, rock wallaby watching, stunning gorge views	Check park opening times, Be SunSmart
Tjuwalyin (Douglas) Hot Springs	Douglas Daly	Douglas Hot Springs Road (sealed)	Hot springs, camping, walking tracks	Be Crocwise, Check park opening times
Tolmer Falls	Litchfield National Park	Litchfield Park Road (sealed)	Waterfall, stunning views	Be Crocwise, Avoid slippery rocks
Umbrawarra Gorge Nature Park	Pine Creek	Umbrawarra Gorge Road (4WD)	Scenic gorge, Aboriginal rock art, picnic spots	Flood warnings, Check park opening times
Ubirr (Kakadu National Park)	Jabiru	Kakadu Highway (sealed)	Aboriginal rock art, lookout point over the floodplains	Be Crocwise, Check access restrictions
Wangi Falls	Litchfield National Park	Litchfield Park Road (sealed)	Swimming, bushwalking, picnic spots	Crocodile safety, Check swimming area status
West MacDonnell Ranges	Alice Springs	Namatjira Drive (sealed access with side hikes)	Standley Chasm, Simpson's Gap, Ochre Pits, hiking trails	Extreme heat, Stay hydrated
Window on the Wetlands	Darwin	Arnhem Highway (sealed)	Interactive exhibits on NT wetlands, panoramic views over floodplains	Check weather conditions, Be Crocwise



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Additional Driving Tips for the Northern Territory

Drive with Headlights On

- Always keep your headlights on while driving, even during the day. This increases visibility and helps other road users see your vehicle from a distance, especially in remote areas.

Use Horns on Crests

- When approaching the crest of a hill or a blind corner, gently honk your horn to alert any oncoming vehicles. This can help prevent collisions when visibility is limited.

Watch for Wildlife

- Be vigilant for wildlife, especially at dawn and dusk when animals are more active. Slow down and be prepared to stop, as animals may dart onto the road unexpectedly.

Check Fuel Levels

- Ensure you have enough fuel before setting out, as fuel stations can be few and far between in remote areas. It's wise to fill up whenever possible.

Plan Your Route

- Familiarise yourself with your route and any potential hazards. Use a reliable map or GPS and check road conditions before departing.

Carry a Spare Tyre and Tools

- Flat tyres can happen, especially on unsealed roads. Carry a spare tyre, a jack, and tools for changing a tyre, as well as a basic first aid kit.

Stay Hydrated

- The Northern Territory can get extremely hot. Keep plenty of water on hand and take regular breaks to stay hydrated.

Emergency Communication

- Mobile phone coverage can be limited in remote areas. Consider carrying a satellite phone or emergency beacon for communication in case of breakdowns or emergencies.

Drive to Conditions

- Adjust your speed according to road conditions. Unsealed roads can be rough, and weather conditions can change rapidly.

Be Aware of Road Trains

- If you encounter road trains (long trucks with multiple trailers), give them plenty of space when overtaking. They can take a long time to pass, and their size can make them difficult to navigate around tight bends.

Stay on Designated Roads

- Avoid driving off marked tracks, as this can damage the environment and lead to getting stuck. Stick to designated roads and trails to minimise your impact.

Be Crocwise

- When driving near waterways, be mindful of crocodiles. Always follow local guidelines and warnings regarding crocodile safety.

Check Weather Conditions

- Before setting off, check the weather forecast and road conditions. Heavy rain can lead to sudden flooding, and certain areas may become impassable.

Let Someone Know Your Plans

- Inform a friend or family member of your travel itinerary, including your route and expected return time. This can be crucial in case of emergencies.

Pack Emergency Supplies

- Carry extra food, water, and blankets in case you become stranded. It's also a good idea to have a fire starter and a torch.

NT 4x4 Hire Driving Guide Terms & Conditions

No Affiliation

1. NT 4x4 Hire is not affiliated with any of the parks, reserves, or off-road tracks mentioned in this guide. The information provided is intended as a general guide for suggested destinations in the Northern Territory and is in no way a direct recommendation or endorsement of any specific park, trail, or activity.

Hirer Responsibility

1. It is the sole responsibility of the hirer(s) to thoroughly check all road conditions, park openings, safety warnings, and weather forecasts prior to visiting any of the listed locations. NT 4x4 Hire accepts no liability for any incidents, accidents, injuries, or damages incurred while following the suggestions provided in this guide.

Safety

1. Road and track conditions in the Northern Territory can change rapidly due to weather, flooding, and other factors. Hirer(s) must remain informed and vigilant about road closures, hazards, and government warnings (e.g., "If it's flooded, forget it," and "Be Crocwise") throughout their journey.

Vehicle Use

1. While the suggested tracks are suitable for general 4x4 vehicles, NT 4x4 Hire does not guarantee that every trail will be passable at all times, and certain tracks may still require a higher level of driving experience in adverse conditions. Hirer(s) are responsible for assessing their own driving ability and choosing routes accordingly.

Indemnity

1. NT 4x4 Hire will not be held responsible or liable for any personal injury, property damage, or loss arising from the use of this guide, including but not limited to accidents, vehicle damage, or issues with park entry and exit. The hirer(s) assume full responsibility for their actions, safety, and well-being during their trip.
2. Check Local Conditions
3. We strongly advise that hirer(s) contact relevant local authorities or park management to confirm access, track conditions, and safety requirements before setting out on any journey to the locations mentioned in this guide.

Updates

1. NT 4x4 Hire may update this guide periodically; however, it remains the hirer(s) responsibility to stay up to date with the latest travel advisories, weather alerts, and local road information. By using this guide, you acknowledge and agree to these terms and conditions. Always drive safely and be prepared.

