

Jabiru

Top End Region

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Jab-a-roo

Alternate names: Djabiluka

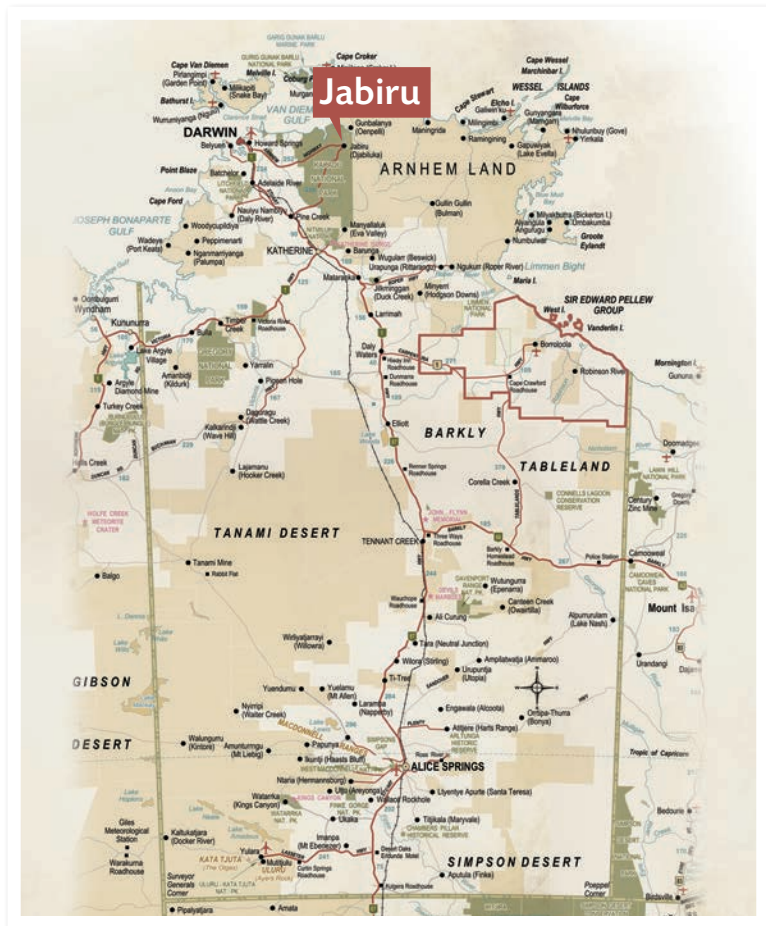
Location: Jabiru is in the heart of the famous World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park. It is 255 km east of Darwin on the sealed Arnhem Highway. It is a bitumen road into Jabiru and a mix of bitumen and dirt roads to the various outstations. All roads are passable in conventional vehicles

NT region: West Arnhem

Population: Approximately 1500 residents in Jabiru and the wider Kakadu region. In Jabiru itself 1129 (2011 census)

Access: 2½-3 hours drive via Stuart and Arnhem Highways. Kakadu Highway can be used, although it is a longer trip

Language groups: English is spoken in the town and local languages (Gundjeihmi and Kunwinjku) are spoken in the outstations



Climate (Top End)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
Winter dry season (May to September)	Cooler and dry	15°C to 33°C
Humidity Range 20% – 50%. The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.	Fine weather with no rain and much lower humidity than wet season and a possibility of becoming cold by Territory standards during June/July.	
Summer wet season (October to April)	Hot and humid	22°C to 35°C
Humidity Range 30% – 95%. The temperature can rise above 40°C in summer. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.	The build-up occurs from September with building humidity, intermittent lightning storms and downpours. Rains typically arrive December/January with regular heavy downpours and the possibility of cyclones.	



History

Jabiru was established on the lands traditionally owned by the Bininj people.

The town was built in 1982 to accommodate the workers of the Ranger Uranium Mine.

The town has steadily grown since then due to the increasing publicity for Kakadu National Park, which Jabiru lies within. The town therefore operates as a large tourist centre during the dry season months.

Community Life

Description of community:

Jabiru is located on a 13 square kilometre lease within the vast World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park which has camping sites, magnificent walking trails through tropical forests, billabongs and rivers. Although Jabiru was originally built to support a nearby mine (Ranger Uranium Mine), it has become a focus for tourism as well as a regional service centre for Aboriginal communities in the area.

Changes in population: Population figures are estimates, as several factors impact on movement. These include seasonal changes, ceremonial activity and movement between outstations.

How is it affected by seasons: Can be quite affected by heavy rains during the wet season.

Major landmarks or cultural factors: Kakadu National Park.

Local industry/mine: Tourism and mining.

Tourism: World-Heritage listed Kakadu National Park - Bowali Visitor Centre, Jabiru Town Lake (picnic areas and barbecues), freshwater fishing, the Yellow Water cruise, day trips to Ubirr Rock, Jim Jim Falls and the Twin Falls and Tours of Ranger Uranium Mine.

Arts/crafts: Culture centres, galleries and several examples of ancient rock paintings in the area.

Websites:

www.kakadu.com.au/regions/jabiru.html

www.jabirusafarilodge.com.au

****Please check with the Health Centre on arrival for sacred sites to avoid and health or social issues to be aware of.**

Governance

Local Government

West Arnhem Shire

Telephone (08) 8979 9444

Web www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au/jabiru

Community or other governance structures

Jabiru Town Council

Telephone (08) 8979 9444

Djabulukgu Association

Telephone (08) 8938 3200

Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation

Telephone (08) 8938 2200

Web www.mirarr.net

Warnbi Aboriginal Corporation & Gagudju Association

Outstations

13 outstations are serviced by Jabiru Health Centre. Population approximately 300-400.

Permit System¹

All visitors must obtain a permit from the appropriate authority for the duration of their stay. Permits may be required for any person visiting the community including activities such as fishing, camping and visiting certain beaches.

Permit application for Jabiru is through Northern Land Council (NLC).

Web www.nlc.org.au

Infrastructure, facilities and services

Community

Church: Uniting Church and Catholic services are held on alternating Sundays.

Community Halls and Sheds: Large Community Hall in the centre of town.

Workforce Skills or Training Facilities: Branch of Charles Darwin University.

Government Offices: Centrelink, Dept. of Human Services, Dept. of Transport, Northern Land Council.

Post Office: Located at the community store.

School: West Arnhem College - primary and secondary to year 12.

Library: Jabiru Public Library .

Telephone (08) 8979 9459

Council Office: West Arnhem Shire HQ, Jabiru Council.

Women's Centre: Yes

Childcare Centre: Jabiru Town Council Childcare Centre

Telephone (08) 8979 2247

Aged Care Centre: No centre, but aged care is run by the council.

Banking: Westpac Bank and ATM.

Community store

Foodland Supermarket:

Telephone (08) 8979 2292

Supermarket includes a deli and a butcher as well as all your fresh produce. A huge range of supplies, much like an urban local supermarket.

- **Opening hours** Monday to Friday 9am – 5.30pm
Saturday and Sunday 9am – 1pm

Other food outlets

There is a bakery, café and restaurant.

Food orders

Takeaway at service station.

Telephone (08) 8979 2001

Recreational facilities

Swimming pool, recreation park with playground and BBQ facilities, 9-hole golf course, sporting ovals (AFL, rugby, soccer), basketball, tennis, gym, judo and aqua-aerobics.

¹ RAHC HPs are not required to obtain permits for their placement as they are exempt under legislation related to the Emergency Response.

Commercial accommodation	Gagudju Crocodile Holiday Inn, Kakadu Lodge (and Caravan Park), Lakeview Park Kakadu. Other accommodation (including camping) throughout the National Park.
Fuel	All fuel is available - Mobil Service Station.
Mechanic	Two workshops.
Police station	Yes, also service outstations. Telephone (08) 8979 2122
Alt. police contact	Emergency Only Telephone 000
Other	None
Telephone/internet/mail	
Mobile phone²	Mobile phone service in Jabiru. Telstra mobile is the preferred network as they have the best coverage available in the area.
Internet	Access available. Also ADSL Internet/email access.
Mail	Mail comes in on a daily basis.
Other	Satellite dish at clinic.
Alcohol	
Alcohol – allowed³	There are restrictions on bringing alcohol into Jabiru. Visitors can consume alcohol in opened containers on licensed premises, but cannot purchase takeaway alcohol unless a member of the Jabiru Golf Club.
Access	
Road	Darwin (2½-3 hours⁴): 255 km east of Darwin on the sealed Stuart and Arnhem Highways. It is a bitumen road into Jabiru and a mix of bitumen and dirt roads to the various outstations. All roads are passable in conventional vehicles. Access: Exceptionally heavy rain in the wet season may close sections of both highways. For the latest road access report, visit www.kakadu.com.au/access or call Bowali Visitor Centre (Kakadu National Park Headquarters) on (08) 8938 1120 . Other Services: Greyhound Bus Service, Darwin to Jabiru 3 days per week. www.greyhound.com.au
Air	Facilities: There are no commercial flights between Darwin and Jabiru. However, aircraft can be chartered from Darwin or Jabiru through Kakadu-Air and other Darwin-based charter companies.
Regular passenger transport	None

² Telstra 3G/Next G are typically the only mobile services that work in more remote parts of the Northern Territory. See link - <http://telstra.com.au/mobile-phones/coverage-networks/our-coverage/>

³ It is an offence to consume or bring alcohol into a dry community in the Northern Territory

⁴ Approximate travel time one-way

Health Centre

Health service

Department of Health (DoH)

Telephone (08) 8979 3500

Web www.health.nt.gov.au

Email jabiru.clinicmgr@nt.gov.au

Staff

- Manager 1
- Remote Area Nurse 5 (4 in dry season)
- Medical Practitioner 2 GPs + GP Registrar + Prevocational Doctor
- Aboriginal Health Worker 3
- Aboriginal Community Worker -
- Administration Officer 1
- Driver/Gardener/Cleaner 2
- Other: *

* Women's and Children's Health Nurse, Social Health Workers, Aged Care Personnel, Pharmacy Assistant and Youth Engagement Officers.

Facilities

The clinic is spacious, well maintained and air-conditioned throughout. It has three GP consulting rooms, a treatment room with four cubicles and three Aboriginal Health Worker consulting rooms.

Operating hours

Monday to Wednesday and Friday	9am – 12pm and 1pm – 4pm
Thursday	8am – 12pm
Saturday and Sunday	Emergency Only

On call

Nursing staff are available for after hours emergencies 7 days a week. Doctors are not on duty weekends and public holidays.

Services

- Women's and Children's Health
- Well Women's Screening
- Childcare Centre
- Children's Clinic
- Immunisation
- Antenatal Clinic and post-natal follow-up
- Men's Health
- Well Men's Screening
- Men's Health Clinic
- Family Violence and Substance Misuse
- Client assessment, counselling and family support services to victims of family crisis, including family violence
- Drug and Alcohol Counselling and Support
- Individual support services, built around assessment, counselling and case management
- Community Aged Care Services - elderly and disabled client support to assist continued living at home
- Health Education and Promotion
- Health and Lifestyle Education with support and coordination from the Health Educator.

Medical Records System⁵

PCIS

⁵ Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community

Vehicles	The Health Centre maintains a Toyota Troop Carrier that has been converted for use as an ambulance. **Note: All Troop Carriers are 4WD, manual and take Diesel fuel.
GP	Two GPs, GP Registrar and Prevocational Doctor.
Visiting services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Surgeon • Obstetrician and Gynaecologist • Paediatrician • Children’s Hearing Service • Eye Specialists • Medical Imaging • Remote Mental Health Team • Speech Therapist • Physiotherapist • Optometrist.
Acute care	A Nurse is on call 24/7 for emergencies and evacuations. Emergency evacuations can be made to Darwin via Royal Flying Doctor Service air ambulance.
Other	Pregnant women birth in Darwin.
Accommodation	
Accommodation	Accommodation is a three bedroom house. **Note: Sharing of facilities may be required.
Facilities	Washing machine, telephone, air-conditioning, fridge, freezer, microwave, TV and radio.
Linen	Provided
Vehicles	
Vehicle	Visiting GP provided with vehicle by Health Centre.
Policy	NT DoH has a strict policy on vehicle use. Any non-clinical use is not acceptable.
What to pack for placement	
Clothes	<p>Possibility of cool nights in middle of year, so light warm clothing is useful. In wet season (October – April), clothing for very hot, humid days – loose cotton clothing.</p> <p>Please refer to this website for information on appropriate clothing to wear whilst out in a community.</p> <p>http://ntgpe.org/wp_site/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Appropriate-Clothing-2.pdf</p>
Supplies	Bring any specialty foods and a small quantity of fresh food. **Note: Please be mindful of weight restrictions on plane travel.
Personal effects	Bring a hat, sturdy shoes, insect repellent, sunscreen and toiletries.

Other tips or relevant information

Other tips/relevant information

Be prepared for variable standard of accommodation in communities. A sleeping bag sheet insert is a good idea for protection against biting insects.

Disclaimer

This information is prepared in good faith and to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing. However, Aboriginal communities, like any community, can change as the population shifts and people move on. Please contact the RAHC Regional Coordinator or the Health Centre Manager to confirm any key issues or concerns you may have ahead of your RAHC placement. RAHC also values any input and up to date information or photos you can provide to improve our Community Profiles. Updated June 2014.

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Darwin Office

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T 08 8942 1650 F 08 8942 1676