

Maningrida

Arnhem Region

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Man-in-gri-dah

Alternate names: Manayingkarirra

Location: The community is located on the Central Arnhem coast at the mouth of the Liverpool River. It is 250 km west of Nhulunbuy and 352 km east of Darwin.

NT region: Maningrida

Population: 2,600 in 2012

Access: From Darwin it takes around 6-10 hours in total (500km). This is around 3 hours on a sealed road between Darwin and East Alligator River, then 3-7 hours unsealed road on to Maningrida. It is a 1 hour flight from Darwin. There is also a weekly barge service from Darwin.

Language groups: Burarran, Guragone, Ndjebbana and Nakkara



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%.	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 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

Maningrida was established as a trading post and rations depot in 1947. At that time, Aboriginal people were trading in crocodile and buffalo skins. Within a few years many people from the surrounding area lived in Maningrida.

People from a variety of language groups around the district congregated at Maningrida to experience the trading post. The town continued to expand, although from the early seventies many people moved back to their traditional homelands, away from the concentrated population at Maningrida. This trend continued for a few years.

Maningrida has become a major regional service centre where people are spending less and less time in the homelands, particularly during the wet season.

Community Life

Description of community: The Kunibídjí people are the traditional landowners of Maningrida. The name Maningrida is an Anglicised version of the Kunibídjí name Manayingkarírra, which comes from the phrase 'Mane djangkarírra', meaning 'the place where the dreaming changed shape'.

The Maningrida community lies on the north coast of Arnhem Land and is best known as a pristine fishing destination. Maningrida's waterways are teeming with species such as barramundi, salmon, mangrove jack, golden snapper, spanish mackerel, trevally and coral trout.

Conical woven fish traps made by the

local men and women are unique to the area, and a popular collector's item. Maningrida is the second largest Aboriginal community in the NT after Port Keats (Wadeye).

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:

There are a number of river crossings between Cahill's Crossing and Maningrida and all are subject to flooding during the wet season.

Over the wet season, virtually all 2600 of the population live in Maningrida. Throughout the dry season up to half the community may reside in surrounding homelands or outstations.

Major landmarks or cultural factors: Maningrida Arts and Culture.

Local industry/mine: Art/craft centre, fishing, tourism, rangers, nursery, mud brick and construction. High quality construction concrete is for sale to outside organisations and for use in building construction. Municipal services.

Tourism: Fishing, art and culture.

Arts/crafts: Maningrida Arts and Culture (MAC) was established in 1973. MAC is known for traditional and contemporary art, bark painting, sculptures, weaving, prints and items of material culture. MAC is currently servicing more than 700 artists from Maningrida and its surrounding 34 outstations, covering an area of more than 10,000 square kilometres.

Websites:

www.maningrida.com

www.schools.nt.edu.au/maningrida/2012

www.babbarradesigns.com.au

www.bawinanga.com

****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/maningrida
Community or other governance structures	Maningrida Community Government Council Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation (BAC), which serves the outstations (under administration).	Telephone (08) 8979 6600 Telephone (08) 8979 6555
Outstations	34 – The clinic services nine of them. Population 1500-3000 with seasonal changes.	
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 Maningrida is through Northern Land Council (NLC). Web www.nlc.org.au	

Infrastructure, facilities and services

Community	<p>Church: Uniting Church with services held in language.</p> <p>Community Halls and Sheds: Yes</p> <p>Workforce Skills or Training Facilities: Maningrida Council Inc., Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation (CDEP host), Maningrida Progress Association (MPA), Maningrida Aboriginal Enterprise Trust (MAET).</p> <p>Government Offices: Centrelink, Dept. of Housing.</p> <p>Post Office: Yes Telephone (08) 8979 5454</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening hours Monday to Friday 10.30am – 3.30pm <p>School: Primary and Secondary to year 12. Open learning via correspondence available, requires parental supervision.</p> <p>Library: At the school</p> <p>Council Office: West Arnhem Shire and Maningrida Community Council</p> <p>Women's Centre: Babbarra Women's Centre Telephone (08) 8979 5775</p> <p>Childcare Centre: Yes. Also the Maningrida Child Safety Service consists of a group of Maningrida women who seek to protect local children and educate the community to generate change. They educate young people about sexual health and positive life skills, substance abuse and protective behaviours. The Safety Service is run by BAC and funded by the Northern Territory and Australian Governments.</p> <p>Aged Care Centre: Mala'la Flexible Aged Care Centre Telephone (08) 8979 5474</p> <p>Banking: ATM machine available in both shops. Eftpos is also available.</p>	
Community store	<p>Maningrida Store: Telephone (08) 8979 6000</p> <p>Maningrida store is managed by MPA. A reasonable range of supermarket items are available including fresh fruit, vegetables, bread, fresh and frozen meat and milk. The store also stocks a limited supply of hardware, household goods, basic chemist supplies, white goods, electrical, clothing and takeaway food. It is advisable to bring in any specialty products/items required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening hours Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm Saturday 9am – 12pm <p>BAC Outdoor Supply and Bush Deliveries: Telephone (08) 8979 6555</p> <p>BAC provide a weekly 'tucker run' to supply outstations with basic foods, household goods and clothing</p>	

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

Other food outlets	Three takeaway outlets and one kiosk.
Food orders	<p>There is a barge that delivers weekly to Maningrida. Food orders can be made through Darwin supermarkets and placed on the barge. A full range of supermarket items, including cooler and freezer items, can be ordered.</p> <p>Woolworths Darwin: Telephone (08) 8919 8308</p> <p>Coles Darwin: Telephone (08) 8941 8055</p> <p>Toll Marine Logistics: Telephone 1800 220 436</p>
Recreational facilities	Fishing, camping, AFL, basketball, volleyball, swimming pool, bush walking, natural environment appreciation and cultural tours.
Commercial accommodation	<p>Djinkarr Lodge: Located at Djinkarr outstation 18 km from Maningrida (unsealed roads) and has the following amenities available - three luxury twin share rooms with one queen and one single bed per room. All bedding and towels are provided. Shared fully-equipped kitchen with dinnerware for 12 guests and dining and lounge space. Shared bathroom facilities.</p> <p>Arnhemland Barramundi Nature Lodge: Situated on an escarpment fringe with panoramic views of the Liverpool and Tomkinson River Valleys, 20 minutes inland from Maningrida.</p> <p>MPA Motel: Has 10 rooms.</p>
Fuel	Two fuel stations (one with a small shop) - no unleaded available. OPAL fuel is used for petrol cars. Diesel available. Fuel cards widely available in community. Can also have a private account with one of the fuel outlets if you wish.
Mechanic	Both councils have mechanics employed who will service private vehicles.
Police station	Yes - with three police officers. Telephone (08) 8987 5939 or (08) 8979 5924
Alt. police contact	Health Centre access. Telephone see clinic
Other	Community Night Patrol. Telephone Contacted via radio in clinic or by ambulance – channel 29
Telephone/internet/mail	
Mobile phone²	Telstra 3G
Internet	Internet access is available in both doctors' offices at the Health Centre for reasonable personal use.
Mail	Mail is delivered twice daily with Airnorth flights.
Other	Satellite broadband at Health Centre available for staff. Also 2 phone lines in both GPs' houses but no broadband. Phone cost covered by employer, except for international calls.
Alcohol	
Alcohol – not allowed³	Maningrida essentially is a dry community with legal import of two cartons of beer or 12 bottles wine per fortnight via a permit system.

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

Access

Road

Darwin (6-10 hours⁴): From Darwin it is around 500 km. Starting with 3 hours on a sealed road between Darwin and the East Alligator River, via the Oenpelli Road turn-off just before Jabiru. The unsealed road, which begins after the East Alligator crossing, is then 3-7 hours to Maningrida (250 km). River crossings make driving possible only during the dry season. Even then river crossing depth can vary and a 4WD with snorkel is advised. Months when the road is open vary, depending on the extent of the wet season, but road is usually open from June to November.

Other Services: Barge - Toll Ipec (formerly Perkins Shipping). Cost is dependent on volume, minimum cost \$43 (Nov 2010). Weekly delivery.

Air

Darwin (1 hour): It is a 1 hour flight from Darwin. Airstrip is a sealed, day and night strip where aircraft can almost always land.

Mount Isa (30 minutes)

Regular passenger transport

Airnorth runs flights to Maningrida twice daily from Monday to Friday and one flight on Saturday and Sunday.

Health Centre

Health service

Department of Health (DoH)

Telephone (08) 8979 5930
Web www.health.nt.gov.au

Staff

• Managers	1
• Remote Area Nurses	12 (including Manager)
• Medical Practitioners	2.6 GP FTE
• Aboriginal Health Workers	3 (1 female / 2 male)
• Aboriginal Community Workers	2 (working as drivers)
• Administration Officers	2
• Drivers/Gardeners/Cleaners	2
• Others.	-

Facilities

13 consulting rooms. The Maningrida clinic is currently expanding. A 'renal ready' room is being built for home-based haemodialysis adjacent to the clinic, and a dialysis centre is to be built across the road from the clinic. Once the dialysis centre is operational, the 'renal ready' room will be used for consulting. A family care centre is also being built across the road from the clinic, where baby checks may be moved to.

Operating hours

Monday to Friday 8am – 4.30pm

On call

RNs are rostered for on call. GP is 2nd on call

Services

The services include acute care and regular clinic programs such as Antenatal Care, Under 5's, Well-Baby Clinic, Immunisation, Aged Care etc. Other programs include preventative health projects such as School Screening and STD programs. The RAN's based at the clinical are either employed to provide a generalist clinical service or a specialised role (full or part time). Specialised roles include Chronic Disease Management, Women's Health, Midwifery, and Children's Health.

Malabam Health: Service a six bed, low care, Aged Care facility and also provides doctors and allied health professionals such as physiotherapists to the community and runs a number of health programs throughout the year and works closely with the Community Health Centre to provide quality health services to the population.

⁴ Approximate travel time one-way

Medical Records System⁵	PCIS
Vehicles	A fully maintained 4WD twin cab utility is available for private and work use.
GP	One full-time GP is currently residing in Maningrida. Another is employed on a 0.6 full-time basis and flies into the community for around 2 days per week. Currently the other available GP position is covered by locums.
Visiting services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgeon (6 weekly) • Physician (4-6 weekly) • Paediatrician (monthly) • Dental Team (monthly) • Obstetrics and Gynaecology (3 monthly) • Ophthalmology (6 monthly) • Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist (6 monthly) • Mental Health (monthly) • Occupational Therapy (monthly).
Acute care	A Remote Medical Practitioner is on call 24 hours for telephone consultations and evacuations. Emergency evacuations can be made to Darwin via Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) air ambulance.
Other	Pregnant women birth in Darwin.
Accommodation	
Accommodation	<p>GPs: Two houses, both three bedrooms with nice garden areas. Placement housing varies depending if incumbent doctor is away from town for holidays and is happy to give house up. Placement staff may be housed at health flats. Air-conditioning in the house.</p> <p>Nurses: Two to three bedroom house. All necessities are provided. No sharing of room required.</p> <p>**Note: Sharing of facilities may be required.</p>
Facilities	Fridge, freezer, microwave, dishwasher, washing machine, dryer, TV, DVD, Radio/CD.
Linen	Provided.
Vehicles	
Policy	NT DoH has a strict policy on vehicle use. Please check with clinic.
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>

⁵ Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community

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.

Canberra Office

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Darwin Office

Level 4, Darwin Central Offices, 21 Knuckey Street, Darwin NT 0800

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