

# Santa Teresa

## Central Region

### Community Profile

**Pronunciation:** Santa Teresa

**Alternate names:** Ltyentye Apurte

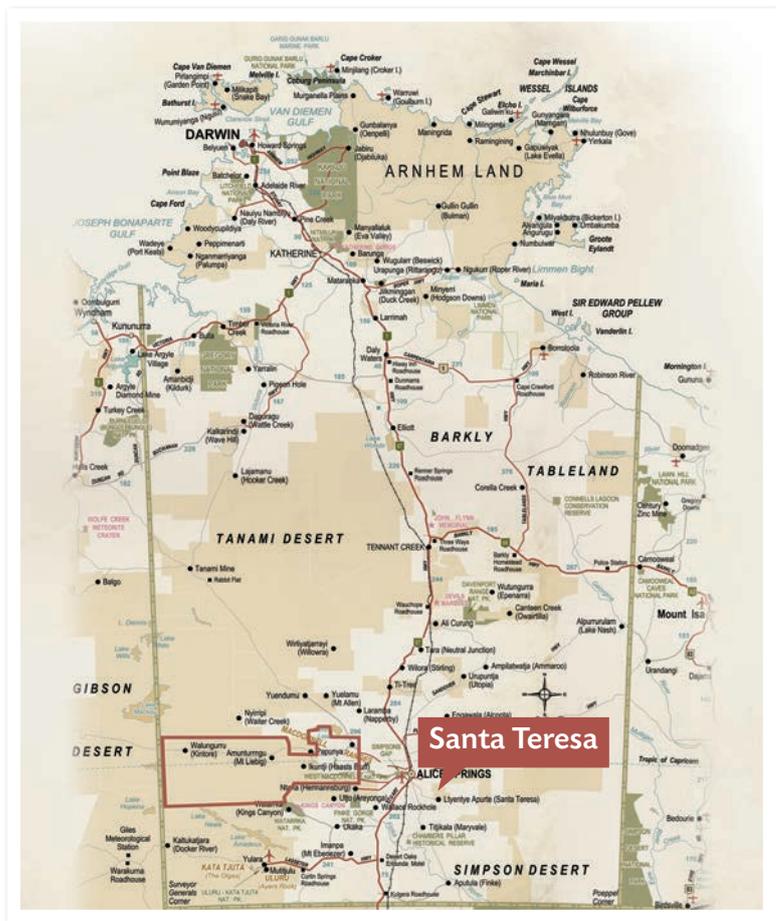
**Location:** Approximately 80km south east of Alice Springs

**NT region:** Central

**Population:** Approximately 600

**Access:** Via road from Alice Springs

**Language groups:** Arrernte



### Climate (Central)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
Winter (June to August)	Cooler and dry	-3°C to 32°C
	The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.	Fine weather with no rain and the possibility of getting quite cold by Territory standards during June/July. Spring (Sept-Nov) and Autumn (Mar-May) in Central Australia see warm days and cool evenings.
Summer (December to February)	Hot and dry	17°C to 46°C
	The temperature can rise above 40°C in summer. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.	Central Australia has a semi-arid climate. In the summer months, the days are generally hot, sometimes very hot. If rain is to fall, it is more likely in the summer months, which may lead to road closures.



## History

The community was established in 1953 and the Catholic Marist Brothers have been working in the community, mainly in education, since 1977. The area is known as Ltyentye Apurte to the local Eastern Arrernte speakers.

## Community Life

**Description of community:** The town is divided into four areas: East Side, New Houses, Old Village and Through the Fence.

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

**How is it affected by seasons:** After heavy rain the roads can flood and road closures can occur. The road is often quite rough with corrugations and sand, and 'bull dust' patches are not uncommon. A few creek crossings make the road impassable in extreme wet conditions.

**Major landmarks or cultural factors:** Men's-only areas and women's-only areas.

**Local industry/mine:** Tourism, arts and cattle grazing.

**Tourism:** Community tours depart from Alice Springs. You can meet local Aboriginal artists at the Keringke Art Centre, learn about Aboriginal culture and view beautiful murals on the walls of the historic church building. You will also have the opportunity to purchase works directly from local artists.

**Arts/crafts:** Keringke Art Centre

### Websites:

<http://www.travelnt.com/en/alice-springs-and-surrounds/tour/alice-wanderer-and-centre-sightseeing/santa-teresa-aboriginal-community-tour>

<http://keringkearts.com.au/artworks/>

<http://macdonnell.nt.gov.au/communities/santa-teresa>

**\*\*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** MacDonnell Shire Council. **Telephone** (08) 8958 9600

**Community or other governance structures** MacDonnell Shire Council, Santa Teresa office. **Telephone** (08) 8956 0999

**Outstations** Phillipson outstation.

**Permit System<sup>1</sup>** RAHC HPs are not required to obtain permits for their placement as they are exempt under current legislation. Government workers (and contractors to government) do not require a permit. A permit is required for all visitors to the community who are not on official government business. Permit application forms are available through, Central Land Council (CLC).

**Web** [www.clc.org.au](http://www.clc.org.au)

## Infrastructure, facilities and services

### Community

**Church:** Catholic Church.

**Community Halls and Sheds:** Recreation Hall.

**Workforce Skills or Training Facilities:** Provided by Catholic Care.

**Post Office:** Mail can be posted at the council office.

**School:** Yes

**Library:** The school library is available to the public.

**Council Offices:** MacDonnell Shire office.

**Women's Centre:** No

**Childcare Centre:** Yes

**Aged Care Centre:** No

**Banking:** There is an ATM located at the store.

### Community store

**Santa Teresa Community Store:**

**Telephone** (08) 8956 0805

Basic fresh fruit and vegetables are available although prices are higher due to transportation. Frozen meat and vegetable are often available.

It is advisable to bring in as much fresh produce as possible and any specialty products/items required.

• **Opening hours** Monday to Friday 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm

Saturday 9am – 12.30pm

Sunday Closed

### Other food outlets

There is a cafe at the Op Shop.

### Food orders

Small orders via Coles or Woolworths online may be ordered and collection arranged with clinic staff/visitors travelling to community. Speak to Health Centre Staff to confirm.

**Woolworths:** **Telephone** (08) 8958 6575

**Coles:** **Telephone** (08) 8952 5166

### Recreational facilities

Recreation Hall and basketball stadium.

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

<b>Commercial accommodation</b>	Available on request to Council Services Manager.	
<b>Fuel</b>	Petrol and Diesel available from the store; please check opening hours.	
<b>Mechanic</b>	Yes	
<b>Police station</b>	Yes	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8956 0887
<b>Other</b>	Police assistance line	<b>Telephone</b> 131 444
<b>Telephone/internet/mail</b>		
<b>Mobile phone<sup>2</sup></b>	Limited Telstra 3G coverage available. Please check with your mobile provider before heading out bush.	
<b>Internet</b>	Limited personal usage at the clinic. Please check with Health Centre Manager.	
<b>Mail</b>	Mail can be lodged via clinic. Please check with staff.	
<b>Other</b>	Landlines available in staff accommodation.	
<b>Alcohol</b>		
<b>Alcohol - not allowed<sup>3</sup></b>	Santa Teresa is a dry community. This applies to everyone, including visitors.	
<b>Access</b>		
<b>Road</b>	<p><b>Via Alice Springs (1 hour approx.<sup>4</sup>):</b> Whenever possible avoid being on the road from dusk till dawn. Apart from the unfenced cattle station, the region has a population of feral horses, donkeys, dogs and the occasional camel along with a native population of Kangaroos and Dingoes. All of which are a significant road hazard.</p> <p><b>Bus / Other services</b></p> <p>There is an irregular "Bush Bus" service that operates on an ad hoc basis.</p>	
<b>Air</b>	<p><b>Facilities:</b> Day time dirt strip only – weather dependent.</p> <p>Private charter flights available from Alice Springs.</p>	
<b>Regular passenger transport</b>	None	

<sup>2</sup> 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/>

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

<sup>4</sup> Approx. travel time one-way

## Health Centre

### Health service

**Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (CAAC)**

**Telephone** (08) 8956 0911

**Website** <http://www.caac.org.au/client-services/remote-health-services/santa-teresa>

### Staff

(when fully staffed)

- Manager 1
- Remote Area Nurses 3
- Medical Practitioner 1
- Aboriginal Health Workers 2
- Aboriginal Community Workers 1
- Administration Officer 3
- Drivers/Gardeners/Cleaners 6
- Other: Pharmacy assistant 1

### Facilities

7 consulting rooms and one emergency room.

### Operating hours

Monday to Friday 8.30am – 12.00pm and 1.00pm – 4.30pm.

### On call

RNs are on a rotating roster of 1st and 2nd on call.

### Services

- Women's health
- Men's health
- Child health
- Chronic disease
- Dialysis
- Pharmacy dispensing service
- Patient transport

### Medical Records Systems<sup>5</sup>

Communicare.

### 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

There is a GP present at the clinic most days.

### Visiting services

- Optometrist
- Podiatrist
- Cardiologist
- Audiologist
- Dentist
- Mental Health Professionals.

### Acute care

RFDS evacuation.

### Other

Pregnant women birth in Alice Springs.

<sup>5</sup> Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community

## Accommodation

**Accommodation** Either a free standing house or single occupancy demountable “Donga” style.  
**\*\*Note: Sharing of facilities may be required.**

**Facilities** Usual domestic amenities including microwave, fridge, oven/stove, washing machine, TV and split system air-conditioning.

**Linen** Provided.

## Vehicles

**Vehicle** No vehicle is provided for personal use.

**Policy** CAAC has a strict policy on vehicle use. Any non-clinical use is not permitted.

## What to pack for placement

### Clothes

For advice on what to wear while on placement (in community), please refer to [http://ntgpe.org/wp\\_site/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Appropriate-Clothing-2.pdf](http://ntgpe.org/wp_site/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Appropriate-Clothing-2.pdf)

It is important to familiarise yourself with this document for cultural reasons.

It does get very cold in Central Australia during the winter months. It is not unusual for the nights during this time to get down to below zero in temperature. If you are preparing for a placement in Central Australia from April to October, ensure you pack something warm. From May to August, gloves, beanie and scarf are a good idea (especially for late night/early morning call-out).

A sun hat is essential. A sturdy work-boot style shoe is recommended to keep out the dust & sand in the dry and the mud in the wet. A fly net is recommended in the summer months.

### 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. Bring a reusable water bottle for drinking water. Dust resistant shoes are also a good idea as you may be walking in red, soft dirt at times.

#### 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 August 2016.*

#### Canberra Office

Unit 34, 2 King St, Deakin ACT 2600  
T 02 6203 9588 F 02 6203 9598

#### Darwin Office

Level 4, Darwin Central Offices, 21 Knuckey Street, Darwin NT 0800  
T 08 8942 1650 F 08 8942 1676