

FREE Guided Activities
Come get wild with us!

**2022 Central Australia
& Barkly**
1 MAY - 31 AUGUST

Parks Alive

- Guided Walks
- Campfire Talks
- Interactive activities
- and more....



Highlights

Central Australia & Barkly Region

Immerse yourself in a living cultural landscape

In the dreaming, ancestral beings created the physical and cultural landscapes and inscribed on them religious and customary laws that endure today. Reflect on this as you walk among the gravity-defying boulders at **Karlu Karlu / Devils Marbles**; see the giant rock spire tower above the desert plains at **Chambers Pillar**; watch the setting sun light the colours of **Rainbow Valley**; or wander about the petroglyphs at **N'Dhala Gorge** and **Napwerte / Ewaninga**.



Explore on foot

Slow down while strolling along short interpretive walks and gain an insight into the country surrounding you. Escape from civilisation for a while: hike the **Ormiston Pound Loop** (8.5 km), the **Giles Track in Watarrka** (22 km overnight), or the **Larapinta Trail** through **Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park** (over 230 kms in 12 sections).



Re-live the experiences of the early settlers

Explore the homestead of one of the first cattle stations in central Australia along the **Owen Springs** 4WD track. Visit **Arltunga**, the first established central Australian town, and relive the thrill of the gold rush. Learn about the first cross-continental communication system at the **telegraph stations** of Alice Springs, Barrow Creek and Tennant Creek.

Enjoy a refreshing swim

In **Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park** you can swim at **Ellery Creek Big Hole** or **Ormiston Gorge**. Look out for some of the nine species of fish that can survive in these desert extremes. Bring a snorkel to get even more out of your swim! Be aware that the water can get extremely cold at all times of the year.

Making the most of Territory Parks

Camp in a scenic park

Experience the brilliance of the outback night sky, fall asleep to the sounds of the bush and wake with the dawn chorus. Choose from our 23 campgrounds, ranging from remote bush sites to powered camping areas with showers and free gas barbecues.



Bike through the bush

Pedal through 17 km of secluded bushland. Ride the sealed path starting opposite **Flynn's Grave**, west of Alice Springs, and finish at **Simpsons Gap**. The gentle terrain is suitable for the whole family. For a more technical ride, head to **Alice Springs Telegraph Station**. Ride the Centre's best mountain bike trails that give you plenty of opportunity to test your skills and create your own adventure.



Drive in to an adventure

Take a 4WD track away from the crowds. For a short trip, travel to **Palm Valley** to see relicts of a wetter time. For a challenge, drive along the **Finke River** to **Boggy Hole** and through to **Illamurta Springs**. For a truly remote experience, explore the tracks of **Iytwelepenty / Davenport Ranges**. Remember to travel well equipped and check road conditions before departure.



Stroll through a living field guide

The **Alice Springs Desert Park** truly is a living field guide, with 2 km of gentle paths winding through fully-described desert habitats, eight large aviaries, aquaria, and a nocturnal house. Visit for a few hours or stay the whole day, it is the ideal introduction to the nature and cultures of central Australia. Alice Springs Desert Park is open daily from 7.30 am to 6.00 pm. Entry fees apply.

Parks and Wildlife welcomes you to our unique natural, cultural and historic places. Please enjoy them safely and look after them for future visitors.

Safety and Comfort

- Observe all safety signs.
- Swim only in designated areas to protect fragile desert waterholes.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, long sleeved clothing, insect repellent, sunscreen & sturdy shoes.
- Don't forget your camera.

Bring a chair or blanket and torch to campfire talks. Choose a walk to match your fitness.

Respect and Care

- Most Parks have a 'take it in, take it out' policy and do not provide rubbish bins.
- All plants and animals, as well as historic and cultural sites are protected.

Plan Ahead

- Camping fees apply and campsites must be booked online before you arrive. To book, visit nt.gov.au/park-bookings

BEAT THE HEAT

Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, Stay Alive!

Check conditions before you walk.
Temperatures can be extreme.
Be well prepared and observe all warnings.

SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!

NT Maps on the Go



Download the **Avenza Maps App** on your device whilst you are still in range to find the FREE local park map you need. Once downloaded, the maps can be used without a network connection. Your device's built in GPS will plot your real-time location within the park onto the map. These GPS enabled maps will assist you to stay on track.

For more information:

Department of Environment,
Parks and Water Security
Ph: 08 8951 8250
nt.gov.au/parks

Alice Springs Visitor Information Centre
Ph: 1800 645 199
discovercentralaustralia.com

Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park
Ph: 08 8956 1128
environment.gov.au/parks/uluru

Tennant Creek Visitor Information Centre
Ph: 08 8962 1281
discoverthebarkly.com

Send Us Your Feedback

We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas for our Ranger guided activities and events.

Ph: 08 8951 8208 or Email: interpsupport.PWCNT@nt.gov.au

Rate
Your
Visit:





Central Australia

Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve

Interactive Activity

When: Fri 6 May to Sat 14 May
Time: 9.00am - 4.00pm
Meet: Old Post Office in the Heritage Precinct
Entry fees may apply

Morsecode in Action - See the Old Telegraph Station come to life. Come and meet the Morsecodians Fraternity and learn how the first text messages were sent.

Guided Walk

When: Sundays - 5 June to 26 June
Time: 10.00 - 10.30 am
Meet: Wigley Waterhole carpark (high clearance vehicle recommended)

Wonders of Wigley Waterhole - Join a Ranger to learn about some of unique features of this special place. Wear sturdy shoes and a hat and bring water.

Display Table

When: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
 27 June to 30 June
Time: 10.00 - 10.45 am
Meet: Walks information shelter

Heritage and nature discovery zone - Join a Ranger to learn about some of the natural and heritage items found in this area. Great activity for kids of all ages.

Guided Walk

When: Sundays
 3 July to 31 July
Time: 10.00 - 10.30am
Meet: Walks information shelter in the picnic area

Telegraph treasures - Come along to discover some of the secrets of this Reserve and some of its past uses that you may not be aware of. Wear a hat and bring water.

Finke Gorge National Park

Chat with a Ranger

When: Saturdays - 7 May to 27 August
Time: 3.00 - 3.45 pm
Meet: Palm Valley Campground

Casual coffee and chat - Bring a coffee and meet one of the Rangers for a casual chat about life at Finke Gorge National Park. Find out what the Rangers get up to when the river's flowing.....among other things!

Guided Walk

When: Saturdays - 7 May to 27 August
Time: 10.30 - 11.00 am
Meet: Palm Valley Information Shelter - at the start of the Arankaia Walk

Mystery of the Palms - Enjoy a short guided walk and have ample photo opportunities of Palm Valley. Be amazed by Red Cabbage Palms and how they survive in the desert. Bring a water bottle, wear a hat and sturdy shoes.

For more information

08 8951 8250
 nt.gov.au/parks
 /ParksandWildlifeNT

Please Note

Some activities may need to be cancelled at short notice. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Plan ahead

Arrive 10 minutes early.

Heading North?

Look for the Top End **Parks Alive** posters at tourism outlets and Parks for events happening around the Darwin and Katherine regions.



Already on Park?

Look for **Parks Alive** posters and signs at visitor sites to see what is happening and when.



Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park

Ormiston Gorge

Nature Talk

When: Fridays - 6 May to 26 August
Time: 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Meet: Ormiston Gorge Amphitheatre

Signs of Life - How good are you at spotting the subtle clues left behind by our wildlife? Join a Ranger and learn how to recognise animal tracks and traces. A great activity for both kids and adults!

Guided Walk

When: Wednesdays - 1 June to 31 August
Time: 5.30 - 6.30 pm
Meet: Ormiston Gorge walks information shelter

Sunset over Ormiston - Join a Ranger and hike to the Ghost Gum Lookout for a spectacular view over Ormiston Gorge. The many stairs are worth the effort and along the way you'll discover more about this stunning part of the Park. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a torch.

Simpsons Gap

Guided Walk

When: Saturdays and Mondays
 2 May to 29 August
Time: 9.00 - 9.45 am
Meet: Information Shelter at Simpsons Gap

Secrets of the Gap Revealed - Discover the amazing survival strategies plants and animals use in the desert's unpredictable climate. At the end of the walk, see if you can spot the wonderfully camouflaged Black-footed Rock-wallabies among the rocks.

Watarrka National Park

Ranger Talk

When: Mondays and Wednesdays
 2 May to 31 August
Time: 3.00 - 3.45 pm
Meet: Kings Canyon Shelter (small shelter near the toilets)

Wonders of Watarrka - Join a Ranger and learn more about why Watarrka is such an amazing place. From natural springs to elusive wildlife, this talk is not to be missed.

Trephina Gorge Nature Park

Ranger Talk

When: Saturdays - 4 June to 20 August
Time: 10.00 - 11.00 am
Meet: Trephina Gorge Information Shelter

Foods of the Desert - Come along and learn about traditional bushfoods and medicine plants of central Australia. Find out how Aboriginal people survived in this arid environment and discover that, in this landscape, there is more than meets the eye.

SPECIAL EVENTS - 150th anniversary of the Overland Telegraph Line

Throughout the month of August, events will be held to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first telegram being sent along the Overland Telegraph Line.

Alice Springs Telegraph Station week

When: 8 to 12 August
What's happening: Historic and cultural talks, Morse Code demonstrations.
Open Day on 13 August.

Barrow Creek Telegraph Station Open Day

When: 16 August
 10 am - 3 pm
What's happening: Historic talks with free tea and coffee.

Tennant Creek Telegraph Station Dinner under the Stars

When: 20 August
 5 - 8 pm
What's happening: John McDouall Stuart play, displays, food stalls and historic talks.

Barkly Region

Karlu Karlu (Devils Marbles) Conservation Reserve

Campfire Talk

When: Mondays - 6 June to 25 July
Time: 7.00 - 8.00 pm
Meet: Shelter on the western side of the campground

Being a Ranger in the Barkly Region - Learn about the diverse role of a Ranger in the remote Barkly region, from rescuing wildlife to maintaining biodiversity. Find out what there is to see and do in the Barkly and discover that there is more to the Marbles than Rocks! Bring a chair and a torch.