

Darwin

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Population: 70,250

Time Zone: GMT/UTC plus 9.5 hours

Telephone Area Code: 08 INTRODUCTION

Darwin boasts a relaxed, cosmopolitan population and magnificent sunsets. It is a young and vital city on the move, and it is developing as a modern city full of surprises.

About 100,000 people live in Darwin and nearby Palmerston, its satellite city just 20 minutes south of Darwin . Darwin is well-planned, clean and green. It boasts modern amenities and beautiful parklands. Although still casual in many ways, it is increasingly sophisticated and is a popular tourist destination for both Australian and overseas travellers. The Northern Territory coastline stretches over 5000km and Darwin has one of Australia 's finest natural harbours and has a harbour twice the size of Sydney 's harbour.

The city of Darwin is probably the most cosmopolitan in Australia with more than 60 nationalities and some 76 ethnic groups. Just over one quarter of the Northern Territory population identify themselves as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. THINGS TO DO

Darwin has a great range of restaurants, many of which really take advantage of their amazing settings, surrounded by tropical gardens under traditional elevated houses, overlooking the boardwalk and the yachts at Cullen Bay or looking back from East Point over the sea towards the lights of Darwin city.

Darwin has multi-cinema complexes just like the ones in other major cities, and there is also an open air Deckchair cinema, overlooking Darwin Harbour , where you can enjoy a glass or wine while watching an art house film or Hollywood classic. HEALTH

The health needs of people living in NT differs depending on whether they live in the metropolitan centres of Darwin or Alice Springs, or outside these regions in areas populated by people from mining towns and cattle stations, tourists that arrive in the dry season each year and remote Aboriginal communities.

There are 570 public hospital beds in the Territory. There are major public teaching hospitals in Darwin and Alice Springs and smaller public hospitals in the Arnhem Region, Katherine and Tennant Creek.

Most primary health care in remote regions of the Northern Territory is delivered by Aboriginal Health Workers who are from the local community, and Remote Area Nurses in Territory Health Service funded clinics. Emergency services, along with transport of patients, doctors and other practitioners in and out of these communities, are made possible by the 'Royal Flying Doctor Service. For further information, please contact Naiman Clarke on (02) 9233 7977.