

Yirrkala *Top End*

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Yirr-Kala

Location: 18kms southeast of Nhulunbuy

NT Region: Top End

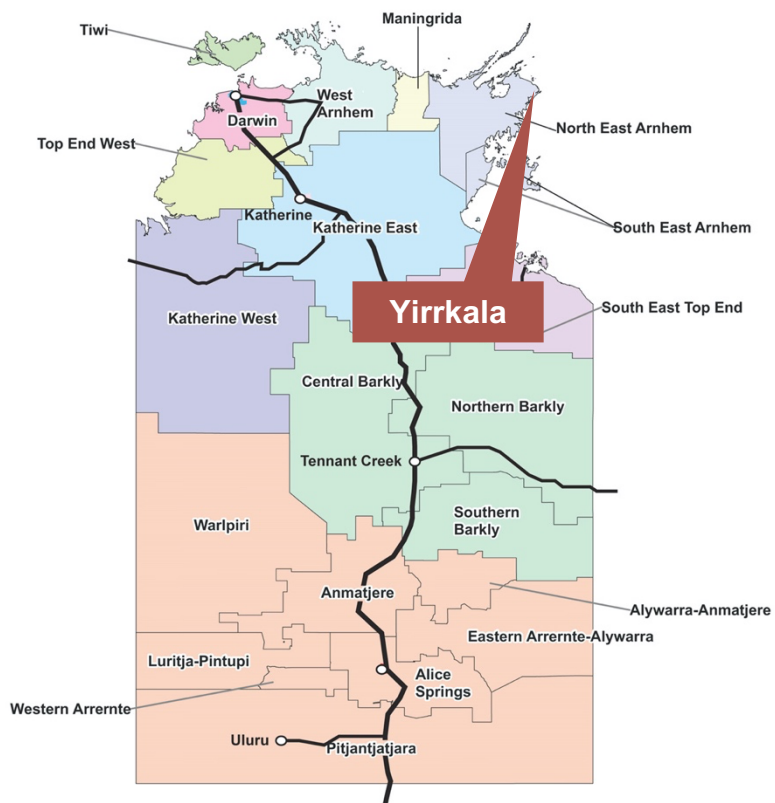
Population: Approx. 950 residents

Access: Road and air

Language groups: Yolngu Matha

Phone: 4G Telstra

Internet: Only personal use of internet in the accommodation



Climate (Top End)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
Winter (June to August)	Cooler and dry	6°C to 19°C
<p>The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.</p> <p>Humidity Range 20% – 50%.</p>	<p>Fine weather with minimal rain and the possibility of getting quite cold by Territory standards during June/July.</p>	
Summer (December to February)	Hot and humid	25°C to 38°C
<p>The temperature can rise above 40°C during the day in summer. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.</p> <p>Humidity Range 30% – 95%.</p>	<p>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.</p>	

Infrastructure, facilities, and services

Community	Church: Yes Community halls or sheds: Yes Workforce skills or training facilities: Yes School: Yes Library: No Council Office: Yes Women's Centre: Yes Childcare Centre: Yes Aged Care Centre: Yes Community Safety: Yes, Community Care Program. Banking: No Recreational/other facilities: Yirrkala Art Centre and Museum, guided bush walking and 4WD driving, camping and fishing. The community also has a sports facility for football and seasonal sports.
Community store	Yirrkala Community Store Telephone (08) 8987 3112 The Yirrkala Store provides fresh fruit and vegetables, fresh meat, dairy, dry and refrigerated goods, snacks, cold drinks, household goods and some takeaway foods. Opening hours Monday – Saturday 8:00am – 7:00pm Sunday 9:00am – 12:00pm
Food orders	Woolworths Telephone (08) 8965 2000 Opening hours Monday – Sunday 8:00am – 8:00pm Woolworths is located on Endeavour Square, approximately 500m from the centre of Nhulunbuy, 20 minutes' drive from Yirrkala.
Commercial accommodation	Yirrkala Guest House Telephone (08) 8987 1701 Email guesthouse@yirrkala.com
Community Safety	There is a Community Safety Program
Other police contract	Police assistance line Telephone 131 444
Telephone/internet/mail	
Mobile phone¹/phone	4G Telstra
Internet	Yes, personal use is available.
Mail	Yirrkala CPA Telephone (08) 8939 2404 East Arnhem Shire Council, Lot 81 Galpu Road, Yirrkala, NT, 0880.

¹ 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/>

Access

Road	Yirrkala is 18km southeast of Nhulunbuy by road via the Central Arnhem Road, which takes approximately 15 minutes.	
Air	Gove Airport is a sealed airstrip 13km west of Yirrkala, and is accessible all year round.	
Regular passenger transport	Airnorth	Telephone 1800 627 474
	Airnorth provides regular passenger flights to Nhulunbuy from Darwin Airport.	
	Gove Peninsula Bus	Telephone (08) 8987 0900

Health Centre

Health service²	Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation Yirrkala	Telephone (08) 8987 2650
	144 Rankine Road, Yirrkala, NT, 0880	Email execsec@miwatj.com.au
		Web www.miwatj.com.au
	Operating hours	Monday – Friday 08:30am – 4:30pm Saturday – Sunday Closed
	Facilities	One emergency room, one dental room and four consult rooms.
On-call services	No.	
Medical Records System³	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.	
GPs	Yes, there is a permanent GP is based in the clinic.	
Visiting services	Visiting services include Dietetics, Midwifery, Podiatry, Dental Health, Women's Health Professionals, Mental Health Professionals, ENT Nutritionist, Gynaecology, and Hearing Health.	
Acute care	St Johns Ambulance and Care Flight	
Other	Birthing women birth in Gove or Katherine.	

Alcohol

Alcohol⁴	This community is a dry community, no alcohol is permitted. This applies to everyone, including visitors.
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Governance

Local Government	Local Council is the East Arnhem. Land Council is the Northern Lands Council NLC.
Outstations	None.

² For more detailed description of the health centre and their services, please contact the Health Service directly.

³ Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community.

⁴ It is an offence to consume or bring alcohol into a dry community in the Northern Territory.

Other tips and relevant information

Other tips/relevant information

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

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.

On arrival, please check with the Health Centre to understand any health or social issues within the community. They can also let you know of any sacred sites to avoid.

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 NT Remote Locum Program to confirm any key issues or concerns you may have ahead of your NT Remote Locum Program placement. NT Remote Locum Program also values any input you can provide to improve our Community Profiles.