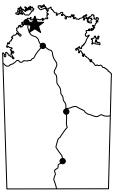


Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre



Fact Sheet

Window on the Wetlands Visitors Centre is perched on Beatrice Hill, one of the highest points on the Adelaide River floodplain.

Beatrice Hill was named on 6 June, 1864 by Naval officers Hutchinson and Howard while surveying the Adelaide River on board HMS Beatrice.

The Limilngan-Wulna people speak for this land and call Beatrice Hill *Ludawei*. The three hills represent Turtle Dreaming called LULAK. This site is an important part of their culture.

The Northern Coastal Wetlands

The Adelaide River is one of eight rivers in the Top End which have large floodplains in their catchments. Together, their floodplains create a great expanse of coastal wetlands, one of the rarest and most threatened land systems in the world.

They are collectively known as the northern coastal wetlands. The Arnhem Highway takes you across five of the eight rivers as you travel between Darwin and Jabiru.

The catchments of these rivers are not separate from one another, especially those east of Darwin. Their lower reaches almost join up in the wet season. Large native animals like wallabies move between catchments. Unfortunately so do weeds and feral animals, like pigs and buffalo.

The Visitor Centre

The Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre provides an introduction to the northern coastal wetlands. Details of places to visit, tours, accommodation are available from Parks and Wildlife Commission staff.

There are also interactive displays about the ecological processes that occur in the wetlands, seasonal changes and the problems of feral animals and weeds.

Touchscreen computers help you find detailed information on wildlife and on local Aboriginal and European history.

From the top floor of the Centre you can enjoy superb views across the floodplains, especially during the early morning or late afternoon. In the wet season you can see the flooded wetlands and if you are lucky, spectacular lightning storms.

Entry is free.

Opening hours - 8.00 am - 7.00 pm daily.

Access (see map)

Travel approximately 60 km from Darwin along the Stuart and Arnhem Highways. You'll easily see the upswept line of the Visitors Centre roof, which reflects the contours of the hills in the area.

Safety and Comfort

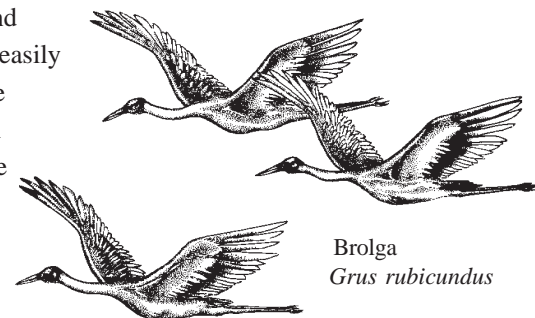
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Ensure your vehicle is well maintained and equipped.
- Beware of theft, lock vehicles and secure valuables.

Please Remember

- Put your rubbish in the bin or take it away with you.
- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected.

Parking - there is quite a steep walk from the car park to the entrance of the Visitor Centre. However, a drop-off area is provided at the entrance for less able passengers.

A visit to Windows on the Wetland can be combined with visits to Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve and/or Mary River National Park, see maps and other Fact Sheets.



Brulga
Grus rubicundus

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

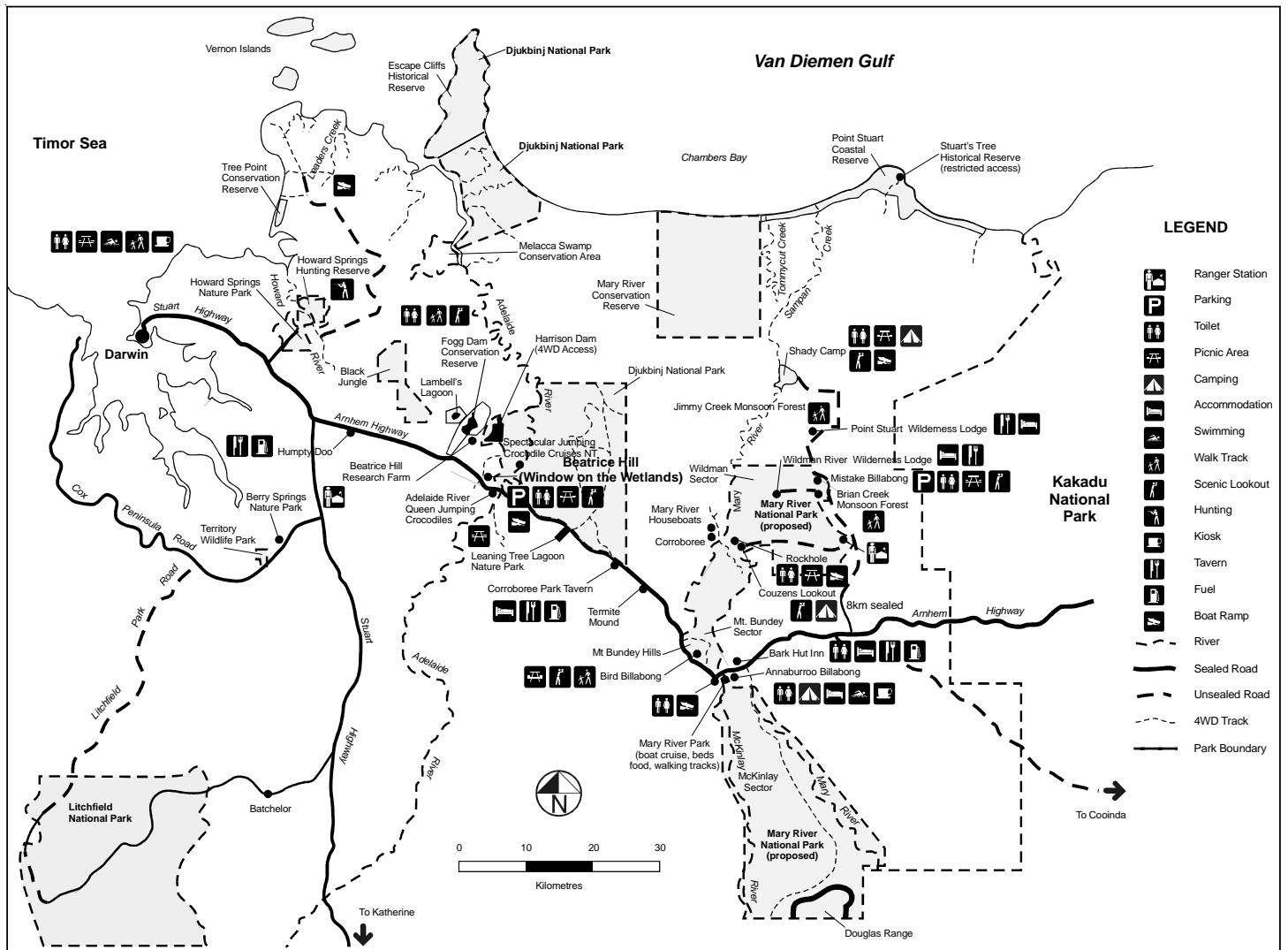
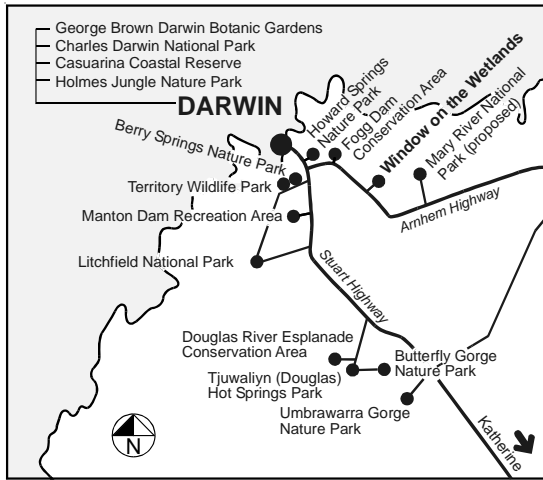
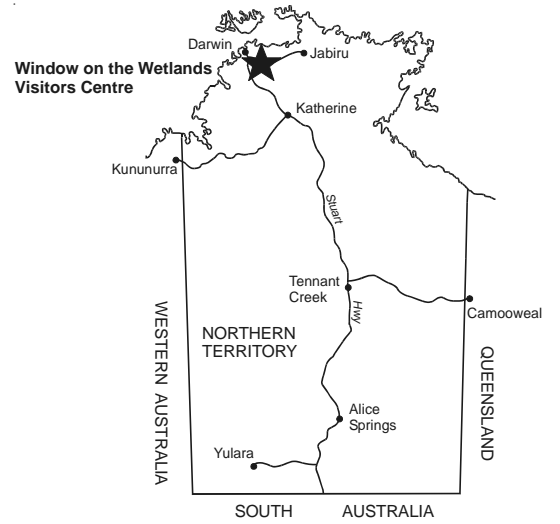
Window on the Wetlands Office
Ph: (08) 8988 8188
Fax: (08) 8988 8123
www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks

Head Office - Goyder Centre
25 Chung Wah Tce PALMERSTON NT 0830
PO Box 496 PALMERSTON NT 0831



Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre

Fact Sheet



For more information see our website: www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks or contact
Tourism Top End (08) 89362499 or 1300 138 886.