

COBOURG PENINSULA SANCTUARY AND MARINE PARK BOARD

PERMITS OFFICE

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Garig Gunak Barlu National Park on Cobourg Peninsula is Aboriginal owned land, run by a Board consisting of both traditional owners and Northern Territory Government representatives. It is a remote area with scenic coastlines and sandy beaches overlooking the Arafura Sea.

The Park offers visitors a wide range of experiences within a low-key pristine coastal area. *With this in mind, facilities and access within the Park are, and will remain limited.*

There are a number of approved commercial operators within the Park who cater to specific visitor needs that range across the market spectrum. These operators offer services and activities including various levels of accommodation, guided boat tours, guided fishing tours, walking tours, dinghy hire and hunting safaris.

Recreational Opportunities

Walking tracks
Photography
Beachcombing
Boat tours
Hunting safaris

Fishing
Bird watching
Tour of Victoria Settlement
Dinghy Hire
Vehicle tours

There are many spots for fishing throughout the Park for visitors without a boat. The coast along the scenic drive has many suitable fishing spots and Caiman Creek is also suitable for fishing without a boat.

Boats are available for hire at Black Point from the General Store.



Safety Information

JETTY: The Jetty is CLOSED – The structure is unsound and it is unsafe for use under any circumstances.

CROCODILES: The entire systems of rivers, swamps, coast and inland waters are NOT safe for swimming.

Victoria Settlement

For visitors with a boat, Victoria Settlement in Port Essington is a valuable experience. The Settlement is located approximately 25km from Black Point Ranger Station and is accessible only by boat or commercial tour.

There is a walking track around the settlement approximately 3.7 kilometres in length that takes approximately 2 hours to complete.

In 1838 the early British settlement of Victoria was established at Port Essington, and lasted eleven years until it was finally abandoned in 1849. The ruins of a number of buildings and the jetty are still clearly visible today.

Travel to Victoria Settlement is by watercraft with a minimum of 20 HP, and at least six hours is needed, weather permitting, to complete the journey.

Boats should be fitted with safety gear as per NT Regulations. The Ranger Station can advise you on requirements. Throw or cast nets are allowed (see below for fishing items not permitted).

It is a condition of your permit to notify the Rangers if you intend to visit Victoria Settlement.

Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds, at the far end of the airstrip, near Smith Point. There are two campgrounds that have bore water, tables, BBQ, showers and toilets. Bins and toilets are cleaned regularly. Generators are restricted to Campground 2. Fires are to be lit in designated fireplaces only. Firewood may be collected within the Park but not within Arnhem Land.

Prohibited

Pets	Crab Pots
Firearms	Prawn Traps
No entry into Paspaley Pearl Leases	Nets (excluding throw or cast nets)
No entry to Aboriginal Living Areas	No entry into Reef Point
No off-road driving	

- NT Fishing Regulations apply

Fuel

Fuel may be purchased at Jabiru and East Alligator store during normal business hours. No fuel is available at Murganella. Fuel is also available from Black Point during store opening hours. Petrol and Diesel fuel is available. You may want to consider whether it is more convenient to purchase fuel at Black Point rather than carry fuel with you.

For further enquiries on fuel availability, please phone (08) 8979 0262 or (08) 8979 0455.

Please consider your vehicle's fuel capacity and consumption according to the following distances:

Darwin – Jabiru	250km
Jabiru – East Alligator	40km
East Alligator – Murganella (Wauk) Turn-off	40km
Murganella Turn-off – Murganella	95km
Murganella – Black Point Ranger Station	135km
Darwin – Black Point Ranger Station (total)	560km

Alcohol

Alcohol may be carried but NOT CONSUMED while travelling through Arnhem Land to Garig Gunak Barlu National Park.

General Supplies

Visitors should try to be self-sufficient in all respects. Some food and fishing supplies (including bait) are available at the Gurig Store at Black Point which is open between 4 – 6pm Monday to Saturday (closed Sunday and Public Holidays). For more information about the store telephone 8979 0455 or 8979 0262.

Drinking water is available at Murganella and Black Point.

Road Conditions

Road access is via an unsealed road (4WD only) through Arnhem Land and generally only accessible between the months of May and October, depending on the rainfall from the previous wet season. Roads can be closed for ceremonial reasons with little notice. Please contact the Parks and Wildlife Commission's Permit area on 8999 4814 to confirm road conditions prior to your departure.

The road within the Park is graded twice a year and at times can be very corrugated. Drive slowly between Murganella and Black Point where the road is narrow and has many sharp corners. At high speeds, you are more likely to lose control of your vehicle and slide into the path of oncoming vehicles.

Neither the Board nor Parks and Wildlife Commission is responsible for the maintenance or condition of the access road through Arnhem Land.

Travellers should consider the tides of the East Alligator River Crossing (Cahill's Crossing), as they determine what time you can cross safely (See attached information). After mid-August, only the spring tides have an effect on the crossing (7 metres plus).

Caravans and motor bikes are not permitted. Off road vans are allowed but at own risk, as there is no mechanical service in the Park.

Ranger Station

Garig Gunak Barlu National Park is a remote area and travellers should prepare accordingly.

It is recommended that you carry sufficient food and water (consider unexpected delays), spare tyres and vehicle parts, comprehensive tool kit and a first aid kit.

If an injury or medical emergency occurs, Rangers can contact the Northern Territory Aerial Medical Service.

Ranger's Telephone: (08) 8979 0244

Telephone

A public telephone box is located near the Visitor Centre/Ranger Station.

Buffer Zones

Entry into the Marine Buffer Zones surrounding Coral Bay and the Pearling Lease areas is restricted to invited guests or employees only.

Permits

Permits are issued from the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory.

Permits are only supplied between May and October depending on weather, land and road conditions. Any applications for camping in the campgrounds received before January each year will be confirmed by late January or early February prior to the season.

- Permit conditions apply.
- Camping & road fees apply. Costs are \$232.10 per vehicle for up to seven nights. This covers up to five adult passengers.

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