

The Gulf and Victoria River region Savannah Way



The Savannah Way travels all the way east to west from Cairns in Queensland* to Broome in Western Australia or vice-versa.

The Savannah Way offers something for everyone, from picturesque escarpments, huge river systems, waterfalls and some real life 'Aussie outback' experiences. Depending on your vehicle (off-road vs standard), you can choose your own route, but the best part of the Savannah Way is of course in the NT.

*Make sure to check road conditions before travelling from QLD. The National Highway 1 to Borroloola is unsealed. A sealed road is available from Mount Isa to Three Ways into the NT.



DAY ONE AND TWO

NT/QLD border to King Ash Bay & Borroloola

Welcome to the Northern Territory! Get ready to have some of the best experiences you've ever had on a road trip. As you enter the NT, make sure you stop by Borroloola to stock up on some supplies and then head out to King Ash Bay for your first stop. A quaint little fishing 'village' nestled alongside McArthur River, is the perfect base for some great Barra and blue water fishing. Before you wet a line, make sure you are registered for **Million Dollar Fish**. A yearly competition, where a Barramundi









is specially tagged and worth \$1million dollars for the lucky angler. Season is from 1 Oct - 31 Mar.

Optional add on: If fishing doesn't pique your interest, there are a couple of family-owned stations to check out – Manangoora or Seven Emu. Both offer self-sufficient 4WDers exclusive camping spots. We recommend you phone ahead to ensure access and availability.

DAY THREE AND FOUR

Borroloola to Lorella Springs

It's not every day that you drive through the magnificent country of the gulf, so we highly recommend you take the detour if you have a 4WD to explore Lorella Springs Wilderness Park. Lorella Springs is a privately owned one-million acre cattle station and wilderness sanctuary. Surrounded by Limmen National Park, Aboriginal land and kilometres of Northern Territory coastline, Lorella truly is a piece of Australia you need to see.

The road into Lorella can be reached by most vehicles including caravans and campers – but just ring ahead to make sure.

DAY FIVE AND SIX

Lorella Springs to Limmen National Park or Daly Waters

This section of the drive route provides vou with a choice. Depending on the set up of your vehicle there is an off-road or on-road option. If you are geared for some 4WDing, we highly recommend you keep heading north out of Lorella Springs.

Option one: Head towards the Limmen River and travel through some amazing country to explore the Southern Lost City and bush camp at places like Butterfly Springs, Limmen Crossing and Towns River. There are also some fishing and boating opportunities throughout this area, but please remember to Be Crocwise as estuarine (saltwater) crocodiles are present in these areas.

Option two: From Lorella, head south back towards the Carpentaria Highway and continue travelling west back on the smooth bitumen for a few hours. It is roughly four hours easy driving until Daly Waters. The **Daly Waters Pub** is an iconic stop along the route. Not only is it a great place to grab an icy cold beverage and a hot meal, you can wander around and check out the remarkable collection of momento's left by visitors over the vears.

DAY SEVEN AND EIGHT

To Katherine region

Whether you are coming into Mataranka from Daly Waters along the Stuart Highway or Limmen National Park along the Roper Highway, the area around Elsey National Park is an idyllic place to stop off at. Check out both the Mataranka and Bitter Springs thermal pools.

Welcome to Katherine – known as the central hub of the Savannah Way. It may









be a welcome break from some hard 4WDing for a few days. Set up camp at one of the local caravan parks around the town, or at **Nitmiluk National Park** – just 30 minutes from town. Katherine gives you a welcome opportunity to stock up on supplies, with all the essential services available. With so much to see and do in the area, you may wish to extend your time here.

In Katherine must-see destinations include the Katherine Hot Springs, Nitmiluk National Park, and Leliyn/Edith Falls. Activities to include are Marksies Stockmans Camp Tucker Night, Top Didj Cultural Experience and Art Gallery, Katherine Outback Experience, Cutta Cutta Caves, cruise down Nitmiluk Gorge, take a scenic helicopter flight and much more.

Food and drink Finch Café, Nitmiluk Café, Pop Rocket Café, Marksie's Stockman's Camp Tucker Night

Accommodation Nitmiluk Caravan Park, Katherine Holiday Park Tours and activities Top Didj Cultural Experience, Katherine Outback Experience, Nabilil Dreaming Sunset Dinner Cruise.

DAY NINE AND TEN

Katherine to Timber Creek

If hiking is your thing, then a visit to Judbarra National Park is a must – the second largest National Park in the NT (outside of Kakadu). From Katherine it's an easy drive along the Victoria Highway. There are plenty of options for camping throughout this region and lots of places to try out your 4WDing skills. Ensure you are adequately prepared and equipped before attempting any of these 4WD tracks. Please refer to the 4WD track Judbarra/Gregory National Park fact sheet found on the NT Parks and Wildlife website.

The Bullita Stock Route is high on the recommendations – the track is tough but well worth it.

Giwining/Flora River Nature Park is a little more 2WD friendly with some great fishing opportunities, generous camping facilities and bush walks.

DAY ELEVEN

Timber Creek and Judbarra/ Gregory National Park

As you head further west in this great part of the country, you will begin to see the landscape clearly change. This region is full of surprises, and the small town of **Timber Creek** is no exception. There are some great spots to launch a boat, cruise around, take a few walks or just sit back and enjoy your natural surroundings. Swing in to spots like Big Horse Creek Campground, with a boat ramp, toilet facilities and plenty of space to set up for the night. Or head in to Timber Creek and stay at one of the the local caravan parks.

While you're in the area make sure you visit **Gregory's Tree**, an important Aboriginal sacred site and registered



heritage site. Drive to Nackeroo Lookout for breathtaking views of the area. If fishing is your thing – this is the perfect place to throw in a line. Remember to Be Crocwise.

Food and drink

Timber Creek, Victoria River Roadhouse

Accommodation

NT Parks campgrounds, Timber Creek, Giwining/Flora River Nature Park

Tours and activities

Fishing, **birdwatching,** bushwalking, Aboriginal Rock Art, **Gregory's Tree,** Old Victoria River Crossing

DAY TWELVE AND THIRTEEN

Keep River National Park

One of the most underrated National Parks within the NT borders, **Keep River National Park** is definitely a place you will want to spend some time in. There are plenty of opportunities for bush walking, exploring Aboriginal rock art sites and the best part is some of the Park is accessible by all vehicle types. Choose to camp at either Goorrandalng or Jarnem. The camping facilities are comparable at both locations, so make sure you are well equipped and enjoy the solitude and bliss of the area for a few days. The landforms in this national park are comparable to other landmarks around Australia, and you will even be able to discover some Aboriginal rock art up close. Make sure you check out the Keep River National Park fact sheet for more information or pop in and chat to the local ranger – they'll be sure to provide the best advice.

DAY FOURTEEN

Keep River National Park to WA/NT border

Before you leave the beautiful Territory, remember WA have some strict quarantine guidelines.

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Optional add-on

Bullo River Station

Consider a stopover at **Bullo River Station**. A working cattle station that invites people to see what life is really like working off the land. Bullo River will exceed all expectations and you will be spoilt with unique and authentic experiences. There are remote waterholes, helicopter scenic flights, private picnic spots and much more.