“There seems to be a very easygoing and appealing nature to Darwin ... I look forward to coming back next time I am on holiday.”

Nicole Kidman
Source: Northern Territory News

Enchanting romance and outback adventure was all in a days work on set of Australia. But when the cameras stopped rolling, Hollywood stars Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman went out to play in the NT.

On location in Darwin, Nicole and buff country singer husband, Keith Urban, soaked up the atmosphere at the iconic Roma Bar in Cavanagh Street.

The celebrity couple then took to the streets on scooters, taking in the natural beauty and historical hot spots of this tropical city.

Not to be overlooked, Nicole boarded a chopper flight to the World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park, getting up close and personal with salwater crocodiles and other wildlife on the renowned Yellow Water Billabong cruise.

The much-anticipated flick is due for release in November. Now is the time to take your Nicole and Hugh inspired Territory adventure. Visit www.travelnt.com today.

WHERE THEY FILMED
Anniki
You can explore the beauty of Darwin Harbour with a three-hour cruise aboard the fully-restored pearling lugger Anniki, with Australian Harbour Cruises.

Stokes Hill Wharf
Used in the film to depict the bombing of Darwin, take time to wander along this historic wharf and imagine what life was like in Darwin during WWII.

WHERE THEY STAYED
Hastings over Mindil
Resort-style residential apartments located a short walk from Mindil Beach Sunset Markets, the Botanical Gardens, SKYCITY Casino and the picturesque East Point.
www.hastingsovermindil.com

WHAT THEY DID
Darwin Scooter Hire
Explore Darwin by scooter or mountain bike and soak up the tropical climate!
ph: 0418 892 885

Yellow Water cruise
Yellow Water Cruises provide a marvellous opportunity to see the varied birdlife of Kakadu’s World Heritage wetlands.
www.yellowwatercruises.com

Helicopter ride
Take a scenic flight over one of the Northern Territory’s world-renowned National Parks and gain a new perspective.
www.albatrosshelicopters.com.au
www.kakaduhelisafaris.com

WHERE THEY DINED
Roma Bar
Established 25 years ago and located in Darwin’s Cavanagh Street, the Roma Bar has a colourful history and eclectic clientele.
www.romabar.com.au

Char Restaurant
Innovative cuisine, fine wines and superb service make for a great dining experience.
www.charrestaurant.com.au

Hanuman
Renowned Territorian chef Jimmy Shu’s exquisite dishes reflect his love of Thai, Nonya and Tamil flavours.
www.hanuman.com.au

Pee Wees at the Point
Dine in the natural beauty of East Point Reserve, with sweeping views across Fannie Bay to the skyline of Darwin.
www.peewees.com.au

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Darwin's historic connections are being celebrated in Baz Luhrmann's upcoming epic *Australia*.

Take a self-guided tour of the tropical city and discover a city rich in history and vibrant in life.

1. Northern Territory Parliament House  
   Located in State Square, Northern Territory Parliament House is Australia's newest. Opened in 1994, it was built on the site of the old Darwin Post and Telegraphic Office, which was virtually razed in the first bombing of Darwin. Parliament House is open daily with free guided tours.  

2. Darwin Wharf Precinct  
   Used as part of the set in 'Australia' the movie, the old wharf precinct was a target for Japanese bombs during World War II. Historical landmarks remain and there's a number of family-friendly restaurants on the pier as well as a pearl exhibit. The Wharf Precinct is just a short 20 minute walk from the city centre.

3. The Old Court House and Police Station  
   Built in 1884 for the South Australian Government, these colonial style buildings built from local stone have housed criminals, Navy and today the NT Administrator’s Offices. Restored after damaged by Cyclone Tracey, these buildings are a stark reminder of the Darwin of yesteryear.

4. World War II Oil Storage Tunnels  
   Burrowed deep beneath the city, the World War II Oil Storage Tunnels were built to the vulnerability of standard storage tanks to aerial attacks. Two of the tunnels are open and feature photographs of Darwin during World War II.

5. Brown’s Mart  
   Opened in 1885 as the store ‘Solomon’s Emporium,’ Brown’s Mart played many roles over the years, and is used today for theatre and performances. Check their website for details.  

6. Old Town Hall Ruins  
   Built from local porcelainite stone and Cyprus pine, the Town Hall was opened in 1883 and had many uses before functioning as a Navy workshop and storage area during the war. Located opposite Brown’s Mart.

7. Burnett House at Myilly Point  
   Four houses make up the Myilly Point Heritage Precinct and are the last of their kind in their original location. They are prime examples of pre-World War II Darwin architecture. Located five minutes from Darwin’s CBD, at Myilly Point Heritage Precinct. Entry fee is by gold coin donation. Also open for high tea every Sunday.  
   [www.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nationaltrust.org.au)

8. Fannie Bay Gaol  
   Fannie Bay Gaol operated as Darwin’s major prison for almost 100 years from 1883. Two maximum security wings were added during the 1950s and the gallows were used for executions until 1952. The building’s grim and oppressive history can be felt as you walk through.

9. East Point Military Museum  
   Most Australians are familiar with the battlegrounds of Europe and the Pacific Islands, but are ill-informed about Darwin’s war-time history. Here, war-time Darwin is revealed.

   For guided tours contact Batji Tours on 08 8981 6309 or visit [www.darwinwalkingtours.com.au](http://www.darwinwalkingtours.com.au)
Signature Experiences

ROMANCE
Seven Spirit Bay
Peppers Seven Spirit Bay is located in the Northern Territory’s mystical Arnhem Land, sitting amid a mosaic of sandy beaches, open woodlands, coral reefs and a unique rainforest.

Enjoy the romance of the landscapes by indulging in a private candlelit dinner and a complimentary bottle of wine on a cliff-top that overlooks Coral Bay, with a décor of dazzling Top End stars.

www.peppers.com.au/Seven-Spirit-Bay

Bamurru Plains
The coastal floodplains of the Mary River delta host the wild bush luxury of Bamurru Plains, where you can enjoy a diversity of wildlife from the close proximity of your luxurious lodgings.

Discover the romance of the Outback with a wildlife safari at sunset, partaking in champagne and canapés as buffalo amble around, birds fly home to roost and the sun dons gowns of red, orange and gold.

www.bamurruplains.com

OUTBACK
Bullo River Station
Discover life on a working cattle station that covers half a million acres of one of the Northern Territory’s most remote and magnificent regions. Get your hands dirty in the cattle yards, before relaxing on a private gorge cruise, then join the station family for sundowners and dinner.

For the ultimate experience, board a helicopter with your swag, supplies and significant other, and fly over the incredible landscapes to a series of cascades and rock pools, accessible only by chopper. Bed down on the white sand and gaze up at the towering rock walls and tenacious palm trees that surround you, as the sunset gives way to a canopy of illustrious stars and the flickering warmth of your campfire. It doesn’t get more exclusive than this.

www.bulloriver.com

ABORIGINAL CULTURE
Davidson’s Arnhem Land Safaris
Discover an ancient culture at Mt Borradaile in Arnhemland. Here, the relationship developed between guide Max Davidson and the traditional owners lends access to one of the most comprehensive collections of rock art in the world.

Paintings date back 50,000 years, and the galleries include an impressive 18-foot rainbow serpent, a figure that is integral to the Aboriginal creation story, and first-contact art with depictions of European men on horseback.

www.arnhemland-safaris.com

Odyssey Tours and Safaris
Discover the hidden gems of the Northern Territory’s Top End on a private charter with Odyssey Tours and Safaris. With access to special regions of World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park, Litchfield National Park and Manyallaluk Aboriginal Lands, you will see rock art galleries that are rarely seen by non-indigenous people.

www.odysaf.com.au

ADVENTURE
Jatbula Trail
Discover the ancient rock art of the Jawoyn people, hidden amongst the rocky escarpments and overhangs of the landscape on the Jatbula Trail. Starting at Katherine Gorge (Nitmiluk National Park), the trail links the 13 gorges of the water way and the allocated campsites are all located adjacent to refreshing swimming holes.

The 58km trail follows an ancient Jawoyn trade route and can be completed in either four or five days.

www.geckocanoeing.com.au

Outback Jackeroo & Jillaroo Experiences
A lot of people travel Australia’s outback, but many go home without having experienced what life is really like there. Travellers can put themselves in the midst of the action and take a week-long Jackeroo/Jillaroo course. Ride quad bikes and horses, learn fencing techniques and participate in a mini cattle drive. Get dusty, dirty and bone tired, and walk away with your inner cowboy completely satisfied.

www.outbackjj.com

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www.bulloriver.com
What’s new in the NT

1 Outstation

A new Aboriginal art gallery has opened at Parap, five minutes drive from Darwin city. Outstation is the third gallery located at the cultural hub, sourcing works from 11 community art centres in the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

The gallery features canvases, woodwork, weaving and craft items from communities including Yuendumu, Yirrkala, Nguu, Milikapiti, Milingimbi, Kununurra, Warmun, Fitzroy Crossing, Balgo, Broome and Alice Springs.

Outstation directors, Matt Ward and Ben Danks, have a wealth of experience in the Indigenous art industry and aim to raise the profiles of their respective artists.

www.outstation.com.au

2 Batji Tours

Discover Darwin through the eyes and stories of Larrakia Traditional Owner Robert Mills. A fourth generation Larrakia man, he offers guided cultural walking tours of the city.

www.batji.com.au

3 Arafura Sailing Adventures

Sail the idyllic waters of northern Australia aboard a luxury 50ft catamaran with Arafura Sailing Adventures on a small-group tour or private charter.

Join the seven-day Tiwi Islands and Cobourg Peninsula tour, which includes a mix of offshore and sheltered water sailing and a visit to Munupi Arts and Crafts Centre on Melville Island, or choose from the shorter three-day Bynoe Harbour eco-cruise, or four-day Tiwi Islands cruise.

www.arafurasailing.com.au

4 Kakadu Secrets

Invoke the spirit of the Northern Territory’s iconic landscapes while pampering yourself in your own bathroom with the new, 100 per cent indigenous-owned and homemade, skincare range Kakadu Secrets. The products are based on oils that are extracted from native plants, all of which are local to the Kakadu region.

The wide range of natural products is available from Marrawuddi Arts Gallery at the Gagadju Crocodile Hotel Jabiru and Beach Hibiscus Florist & Gifts Shop, Nightcliff.

kakadusecrets@bigpond.com
## Darwin Festival

### WHAT
Come and join the celebrations as Darwin city once again sets the stage for the Darwin Festival, bringing creativity to life in the Northern Territory. The festivities will be held at various venues, including the George Brown Botanic Gardens, Darwin Foreshore and in the centre of town.

The Festival differentiates itself from other Australian capital city festivals through its focus on celebrating the Territory’s indigenous culture, its proximity to Asia and multicultural diversity.

A highlight of the festival is the Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Other highlights include singing sensation Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu being joined on stage by the highly regarded East Timorese singer/songwriter Ego Lemos. The critically acclaimed Crossing Roper Bar will feature Paul Grabowsky, Ruby Hunter and musicians from Ngukurr, while Shellie Morris, Leah Flanagan and Lou Bennett will merge musical styles with women from Darwin’s Liberian refugee community to create moving Liberty Songs. The Darwin Chorale and East Timorese choirs will come together for the first time in Cantor Timor, while Tanah Merege is an eagerly-awaited collaboration of local indigenous musicians Yilila and Indonesian musicians from the village of Watublapi.

### WHEN
The Darwin Festival is held in August every year and this year is from 14 to 31 August.

### WHY
The Northern Territory is rich in cultural and artistic diversity and the festival is a great opportunity to showcase local indigenous talent alongside national and international artists within the community. This year’s program has a strong emphasis on indigenous and Asian work, featuring artists from all artistic genres, political and spiritual persuasions and cultural backgrounds.

### HOW
An entertaining selection has been drawn from local, national and international sources. Comedy, dance, visual arts, music, film and theatre are on the program, which has been created to appeal to all sectors of the community.

### SIDELINE
The Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award will be held at the Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory.

This prestigious award recognises the unique contribution indigenous artists make to the art world at large. Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are eligible and this results in a broad range of both regional and urban based entries. The Award has been sponsored by Telstra since 1992 and has continued to develop its profile and prestige within the industry. The prize money of $40,000 is the highest amount offered for any Indigenous art award.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Garma Festival, Yirrakala</td>
<td>Providing unique opportunities to share knowledge and culture, Garma is Australia’s major indigenous cultural exchange event. Held in north-east Arnhem Land it features a unique line up of entertainment, education and real cultural interaction. <a href="http://www.garma.telstra.com">www.garma.telstra.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Freedom Day, Kalkaringi</td>
<td>Commemorating the ‘Wave Hill Walk Off’ and the beginning of the modern land rights movement in 1966, this festival includes an official ceremony, arts, workshops and tours of heritage sites. It culminates with the Freedom Day Concert at Kalkaringi. <a href="http://www.freedomday.info">www.freedomday.info</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Darwin Festival</td>
<td>A feast of local, national and international performances make up the festival program, with everything from free outdoor events to theatre, dance, music, cabaret, films, workshops, comedy and sensational cuisine. <a href="http://www.darwinfestival.org.au">www.darwinfestival.org.au</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stone Country Festival: Gunbalanya (Oenpelli) Cultural Open Day</td>
<td>Share the culture of the Kunwinjku-speaking people of western Arnhem Land. The open day features a football carnival, scenic flights, cultural dancing, spear throwing, weaving demonstrations, bush foods, didjeridu-playing demonstrations and children’s activities. <a href="http://www.gunbalanya.org">www.gunbalanya.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Henley-on-Todd Regatta, Alice Springs</td>
<td>Defying the desert sands, teams and individuals race their ‘boats’ on the dry bed of the Todd River. Sit back and enjoy the entertainment as seemingly sane competitors shoulder their bottomless ‘eights’, ‘oxford tubs’ and yachts. <a href="http://www.henleyontodd.com.au">www.henleyontodd.com.au</a></td>
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<td>Sept</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kakadu Mahbilil Festival</td>
<td>Aboriginal people from throughout Kakadu and further afield flock to Lake Jabiru for the Mahbilil Festival, which includes traditional dancing, market stalls and bush foods. The grand Magpie Goose cooking competition is the highlight for many. T: 08 8979 2200</td>
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<td>Alice Desert Festival</td>
<td>A kaleidoscope of events from theatre and dance to pottery and writing are held throughout the event, which showcases Central Australia’s community of visual and performing artists, both indigenous and non-indigenous. <a href="http://www.alicedesertfestival.com.au">www.alicedesertfestival.com.au</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Desert Mob, Alice Springs</td>
<td>This indigenous exhibition celebrates and defines a living art movement expressed through the heritage values of the oldest living culture in the world. Works can be purchased from Aboriginal organisations of the central desert region. The exhibition finishes on November 9. <a href="http://www.araluencentre.com.au">www.araluencentre.com.au</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>NT Billfish Championship, Gove</td>
<td>Hosted by the Gove Game Fishing Club Inc, this is the Territory’s premier bluewater event. This tag-and-release competition targets marlin and sailfish only, and is a team event. T: 08 8987 2012</td>
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<td>Lasseter’s Open, Alice Springs</td>
<td>This is the richest tennis tournament in the Northern Territory and attracts players from all over Australia. Invitational, B Grade and Under 14 national points events are all included in the open. T: 08 8953 2538</td>
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5 Day Romantic Getaway
From $2600 per person
Discover an exclusive wildlife experience in the safari-style camp on the Mary River floodplains north of Darwin and enjoy a sunset dinner cruise around Darwin City Harbour.

Includes
- 4 day vehicle hire unlimited km
- 2 nights accommodation - Feathers Sanctuary
- Alfred Nobel Sunset Dinner Cruise
- 2 nights accommodation including meals, beverages and activities at Bamurru Plains.

Departs Daily
Phone 13 67 68 for more information

5 Day Discover the Outback
From $2213 per person
Explore the rocky azure coastline of Darwin City Harbour on a chartered fishing cruise and escape to a remote working cattle station in the Top End.

Includes
- 4 day vehicle hire unlimited km
- 2 nights accommodation - Mantra on the Esplanade
- Darwin Harbour Fishing
- 2 nights accommodation including all meals, beverages, station activities, gorge cruises and fishing at Bullo River Station.

Departs Daily
Phone 13 67 68 for more information

4 Day Cultural Experience
From $764 per person
Escape on an adventure to Kakadu National Park, cruise along the lily-covered billabongs, view the ancient Aboriginal rock art galleries and venture into the unspoilt wilderness of Arnhem Land.

Includes
- 2 nights accommodation - Palms City Resort
- 2 day Kakadu & Arnhem Land Tour
- Highlights include: Yellow Water Cruise, Nourlangie Rock, Aboriginal rock art, entry permits to Arnhem Land.

Departs Daily
Phone 13 67 68 for more information