

READY TO HOST THE WORLD

# DARWIN CONVENTION CENTRE

Australia's Northern Territory





DARWIN CONVENTION CENTRE  
Australia's Northern Territory



THE TOP END of business



Regional Economic Engine

The hub of northern Australia has one of the strongest investment and growth forecasts in the country. It's a regional centre for energy and minerals with prosperous agribusiness, marine, tourism, and defence industries. As Australia's gateway to Asia, Darwin City has strategic access to the world's most exciting new economies.

But what makes Darwin a compelling place is that aside from a thriving business climate, it also cultivates an enviable "people climate".

Darwin is a place that welcomes and values people of every kind. Its population of over 100,000 is comprised of 50 nationalities. Indigenous Australians are a vital presence in the life of the city; the Larrakia have a unique place in the community as the acknowledged traditional custodians of Darwin and their art and culture are thriving in the city.

With an unpretentious, casual culture and enviable outdoor recreation scene, it's no wonder that Darwin boasts a youthful, creative and fun-loving community.

Australia's Tropical Harbour City

- Vital regional centre with a zest for economic success
- Unique culture characterised by inclusiveness and open-mindedness
- Lively, diverse cosmopolitan scene with multicultural population
- Australia's strategic stepping stone to Asia
- Gateway to premier destinations such as the Outback and World Heritage-listed Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuta national parks

Why Darwin?

Captivating destination

Australia's Northern Territory is one of the most popular visitor destinations in the world. People come to see and enjoy an ancient Aboriginal culture and a multitude of natural and cultural treasures.

Darwin is the gateway to the Australian Outback and some of the country's best tourism experiences. Progressive, vibrant, and energising, Darwin is a breath of fresh air that will always prove irresistible to potential delegates, encouraging high attendance.

Wealth of knowledge and specialist expertise to share

The Territory's increasing status as a world leader in energy development and mineral exploration has made Darwin the destination of choice for the resources industry's most prestigious and influential events.

Home to the largest number of Indigenous Australians per capita, the Northern Territory also has extensive experience in a wide range of indigenous matters including health, education, training and business development.

Darwin is also home to the Menzies School of Health Research, which is internationally renowned for its work in indigenous health, tropical diseases and infections.

Darwin's location offers unique capabilities in areas of tropical expertise. Scientists are working at the cutting edge of tropical medicine, food production, architecture, climate change research, preventing incursions of exotic pests, and fighting tropical diseases.

The Northern Territory is also the ideal place to gain valuable insights in environmental science, geographic information systems (GIS), environmental risks assessments and tropical wildlife management as much of the region remains untouched – from the savannas and wetlands to the dry arid regions.

Northern Territory and Darwin agencies are specialists in remote area management and technologies. They offer expertise in remote area telecommunications, survey and mapping (geophysical and GIS, and remote sensing), potable water detection, groundwater pumping and waste management.

In particular, Territory experts are world-class managers of natural resources, rangelands and bushfires.

Proven track record in events

Darwin has established a reputation for hosting outstanding events that have delivered success to hosts, delegates and attendees alike.

Among the regular events held here are:

- Arafura Games
- Darwin Festival
- Darwin Cup
- V8 Supercar Championship
- Australian Superbikes
- Indigenous art and music festivals
- Boat shows

As an established events centre, Darwin offers a full range of support services. The dedication and professionalism of the city's events organisers along with other suppliers, is recognised by planners and organisations alike.

Enhanced visitor experience

With its established experience in the tourism trade, Darwin's visitor experience is boosted by the genuine enthusiasm of tourism providers as well as the city and state governments to go one step further in ensuring visitors enjoy the very best of what Darwin has to offer.

Renowned for being one of the friendliest cities with a welcoming atmosphere, the pervasive casual and fun approach to life promise to entice potential delegates and event attendees from around the world.

Easy access

Darwin is very accessible from within Australia and Asia with easy connections to Europe and the rest of the world.

Darwin International Airport is a busy hub serviced regularly by Qantas, major regional airlines and low-cost carriers such as Virgin Blue, Jetstar and Tiger Airways.



## SEASIDE HEART of Darwin City



### Lively Business and Recreation Hub

Rising from the foreshore of one of Australia's finest harbours is a 25-hectare lifestyle precinct offering the best that waterfront living has to offer. It's the new seaside heart of tropical capital, Darwin City, and a spectacular setting for any conference.

Darwin Waterfront has fine al fresco restaurants, cafes, boutiques, hotels, apartment towers, a wave lagoon, seawall promenades, lush parklands, beaches, and a cruise ship terminal.

Traversed by a network of boardwalks cantilevered over the water, the precinct is also directly linked to the city centre via a dedicated walkway.

The spectacular Darwin Convention Centre, perched on the edge of the harbour, is the architectural highlight of this vibrant urban waterfront. Its striking design and unique setting make it one of the most distinctive landmarks in northern Australia.



### Vibrant City Waterfront

- Seaside promenade – weaving along the edge of the water providing great harbour views
- Wave lagoon – a wave-making 4,000sqm lagoon with up to 1.2 metre high waves
- Wharf apartments – contemporary, relaxed tropical living for a very Darwin way of life
- Accommodation - two first-class hotels
- Dining and shopping – al fresco restaurants and cafes, spa, boutiques and retail outlets



- Art and entertainment – public art on view and entertainment hubs flow through the precinct
- Beach – for lazy days, lolling on the sand and enjoying the balmy breeze
- Parks and gardens – wide, open parklands with barbeque, picnic and play areas
- Cruise Ship Terminal – port of call for interstate and international cruise ships



### Ready to Host the World

Looking to the city from the edge of the Arafura Sea, Darwin Convention Centre is an iconic landmark of Australia's tropical harbour city.

Its waterfront setting is quite befitting. To the Larrakia people the harbour is a place of connection where, for centuries, they have welcomed visitors while trading with other indigenous tribes and Southeast Asian neighbours.



Darwin Convention Centre is a multi-awarded venue with experienced, dedicated, and enthusiastic professionals committed to making any event the best it can be.

The Centre is passionate about putting Darwin on the global map as a topflight business events destination. Whether the focus is on sharing innovative ideas, showcasing new products and services, celebrating milestones or providing entertainment, the Centre's resources are put to work to provide an outstanding event experience.



Choosing a special venue like the Darwin Convention Centre enhances stronger attendance, adds a level of anticipation and excitement to an event and gives people a unique taste of northern Australian culture they might not encounter otherwise.



“THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF ALL LAND AND WATERS OF GREATER DARWIN WELCOME ALL TO LARRAKIA COUNTRY.

THE LARRAKIA APPRECIATE RESPECT FOR THEIR SPECIAL CONNECTION TO THEIR LAND AND CULTURE. CARING FOR THE PLACE ALL PEOPLE LIVE IN AND SHARE IS A MUTUAL OBLIGATION.”

#### Award-winning Venue

Having a world-class convention facility recognises both Darwin's long-standing reputation as a unique destination as well as its emerging status as a dynamic business hub.

Since opening in 2008, the Centre has won several industry awards for outstanding performance in many facets of venue services.

*“Hosting our event in Darwin gave us the opportunity to attract business and speakers from Asia, access truly unique venues and services, work one-on-one with key suppliers and create a real ‘Taste of the Territory’ experience. We achieved and surpassed all KPI’s set by the Association.”*

*The Centre’s team displayed the utmost professionalism and efficiency. From a venue perspective, the advanced technology and wireless systems excelled in every way.”*

**Julie Hood, APPEA Director of Events**  
Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association 2009 Conference & Exhibition, 1703 delegates

*“The evolution of the Darwin Waterfront combined with the new Darwin Convention Centre makes the city a very appealing location for convention organisers and delegates.*

*Many delegates remarked that Darwin had all the services and facilities of a major city but in a relaxed tropical environment. The city has its own special character with the added bonus of being so close to Asia for international participants.*

*The idyllic climate created an easy-going atmosphere that encouraged stronger networking opportunities.”*

**Mark Chalmers, AIMM Conference Chair**  
Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy International Uranium Conference , 280 delegates

*“Darwin and the Northern Territory have a whole new fan club! Many attendees had not been to Darwin before or had not been for many years. The positive spirit, the recent developments and the many tourism activities either experienced in or accessible from Darwin were continually commented upon by the delegates.*

*The Darwin Convention Centre worked beautifully for us; its size and flexibility were ideal for our event. The staff were also terrific to work with and went out of their way to ensure the success of the event.”*

**John King, ATEC Chairman**  
2009 Australian Tourism Export Council Symposium, 450 delegates

*“Darwin Convention Centre is second to none; in fact it was one of the best venues ever to hold our event. The food was excellent, the auditorium had great visibility, the audio visual and IT communications were outstanding.*

*The Centre’s staff were informative, very friendly and polite and the location was magnificent, overlooking the crystal blue waters of Darwin harbour.”*

**Dr Amy Ramsay, IAWP International President**  
International Association of Women Police 46th International Association of Women Police Annual Training Conference, 540 delegates



CREATIVE SPACES in a world-class facility



**Venue with a Sense of Occasion**

Nature, architecture and technology converge in this waterfront venue to provide not only the finest facilities but also to create the ideal environment for successful events. Ringside views of Darwin's serene seascapes amidst a "harbour city within a city" complete the sense of occasion at this world-class venue.

The first purpose-built convention centre in Darwin City, the Centre's role is to provide a high quality venue of international standing, attracting prestigious events from Australia and the world.

Darwin Convention Centre spans a total floor area of 22,900 square metres offering a wide selection of conference, exhibition and function facilities for 10 to 4,000 delegates.

**Integration**

All under one roof are an auditorium, multi-purpose halls, function and a range of meeting spaces.

**Flexibility of Size and Function**

The auditorium can be subdivided into two equal spaces and the multi-purpose halls

can be adapted for up to three concurrent events including space for catering and coffee breaks, plus seven meeting rooms. Retractable partition walls can shape halls and breakout rooms to specific needs, making them as large or as small as required.

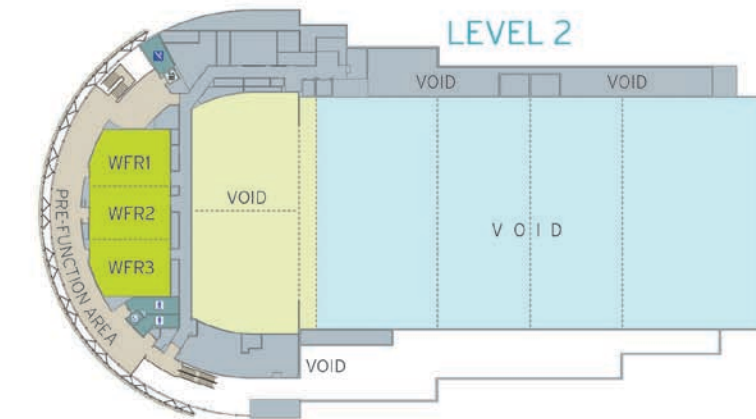
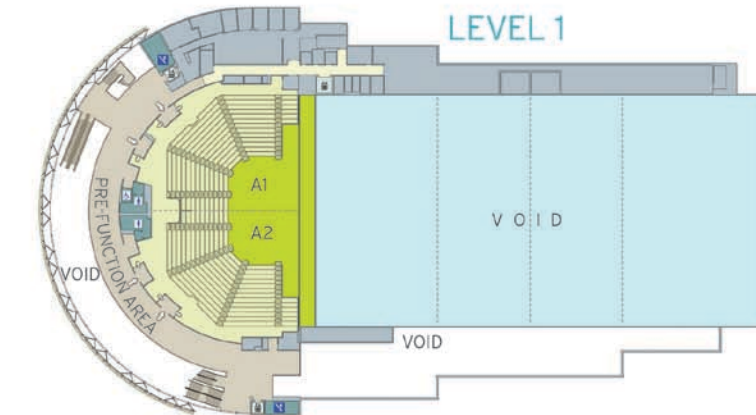
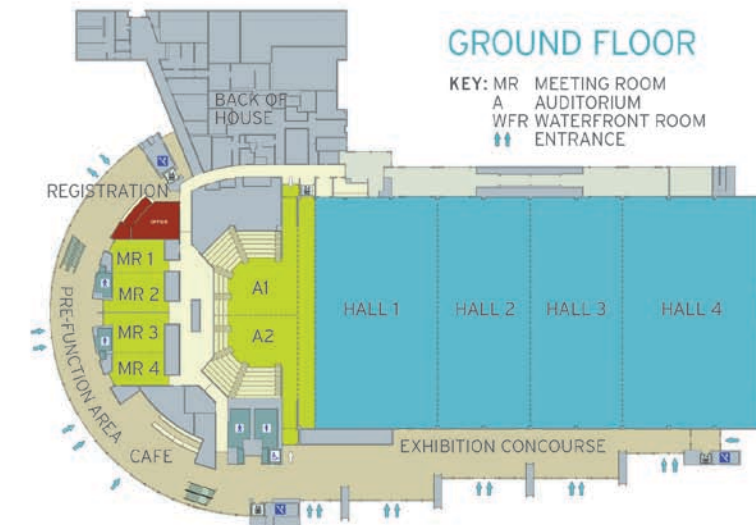
**On-site Services**

Essential facilities and services on site include catering, audio-visual production, a café and parking for 300 vehicles.

**Sustainability**

The Centre's goal is to be a sustainable business event operation. It has put in place integrated strategies to fulfill economic, environmental and socio-cultural obligations, contributing to employment, maintaining cultural integrity, and preserving essential ecological processes.

- Ground Floor
- First Floor
- Second Floor



**Auditorium**

Seating for 1,500 with writing tablets; can be divided into two equal spaces.

**Halls 1-4**

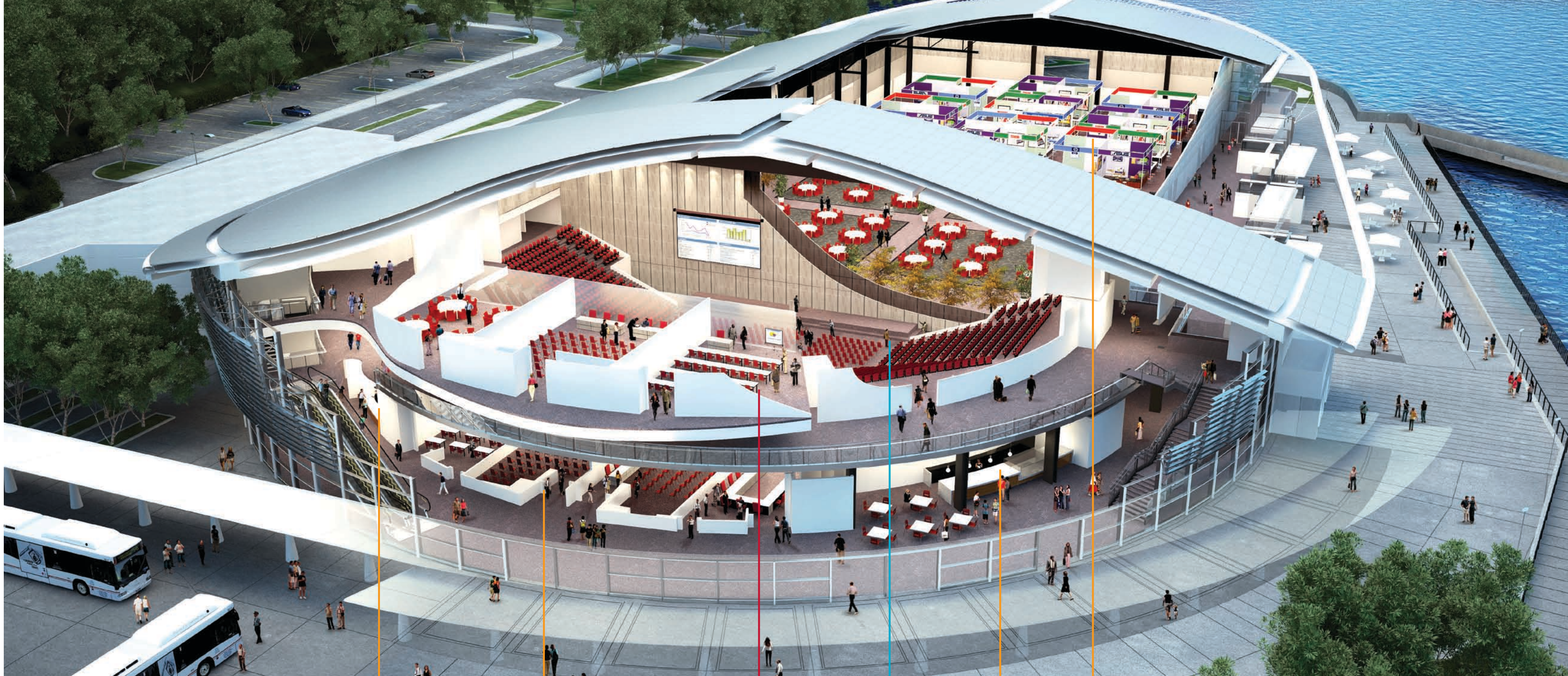
Area of 4,000 square metres with capacity for up to 225 exhibition booths, 3,000 delegates banquet style, 4,200 delegates theatre style; can be divided into three spaces.

**Meeting Rooms**

Can accommodate from 70 to 170 delegates theatre style; can be divided into two or four spaces.

**Waterfront Rooms**

Cater for up to 630 delegates theatre style or 420 banquet style; can be divided into three spaces.



- Ground floor
- First floor
- Second floor

● REGISTRATION DESK ● MEETING ROOMS ● WATERFRONT ROOMS ● AUDITORIUM ● CAFÉ ● HALLS



## THE ART AND CRAFT of successful conventions

VENUE	AREA		SEATING CAPACITIES			STANDING	TRADE BOOTHS
	metres <sup>2</sup>	feet <sup>2</sup>	THEATRE	CABARET	BANQUET	COCKTAIL	3m x 3m
Auditorium 1 & 2	669	7024	1500	-	-	-	-
Auditorium 1	334	3507	750	-	-	-	-
Auditorium 2	335	3517	750	-	-	-	-
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2	148	1554	170	96	110	170	8
Meeting Rooms 3 & 4	148	1554	170	96	110	170	8
Meeting Room 1	63	661	70	40	50	70	3
Meeting Room 2	85	892	100	48	70	100	5
Meeting Room 3	85	892	100	48	70	100	5
Meeting Room 4	63	661	70	40	50	70	3
Waterfront Rooms 1, 2 & 3	508	5334	630	280	420	630	28
Waterfront Rooms 1 & 2	337	3538	420	184	280	420	19
Waterfront Rooms 2 & 3	338	3549	420	184	280	420	19
Waterfront Room 1	170	1785	210	96	140	210	9
Waterfront Room 2	167	1753	210	88	140	210	9
Waterfront Room 3	171	1795	210	96	140	210	9
Halls 1 & 2	2000	21000	1990	-	1480	2220	112
Halls 1, 2 & 3	2800	29400	2900	-	2150	3230	157
Halls 1, 2, 3 & 4	4000	42000	4200	-	3000	4700	225
Hall 1	1200	12600	960	-	800	1200	68
Hall 2	800	8400	630	-	460	700	45
Hall 3	800	8400	630	-	460	700	45
Hall 4	1200	12600	960	-	800	1200	68

SEATING CAPACITIES REPRESENT MAXIMUM NUMBERS WITH ALLOWANCE FOR A LECTERN ONLY. LARGER STAGING AND AUDIO VISUAL REQUIREMENTS WILL REDUCE NUMBERS. BANQUET CAPACITIES SHOW MAXIMUM SEATING WITHOUT ALLOWANCE FOR STAGING OR DANCE FLOOR. CABARET STYLE BASED ON 6 PER TABLE. BANQUET STYLE BASED ON 10 PER TABLE.

### Green Initiatives

Darwin Convention Centre was built to be the most energy efficient building possible in a tropical climate, with careful consideration to the orientation, shape, and integrative design.

The Centre's green design features delivers 15% saving on air-conditioning consumption and 25% water usage reduction.

Darwin Convention Centre is working towards becoming a world-leading sustainable event facility. The aim is to achieve Green Globe 21 accreditation and a Five Star Green Star rating from the Australian Building Council. Green Globe is the global benchmarking, certification and improvement system for sustainable travel and tourism, established by the World Travel and Tourism Council.



### Event Planning

Alongside superb facilities, the Darwin Convention Centre boasts an award-winning team of event professionals.

Responsiveness, flexibility and accessibility are the foundation of the Events Team's ability to deliver creative and effective solutions to all client requirements.

The Centre has a proven track record in collaborating successfully with event planners and coordinators, logistics specialists, and event services suppliers.

### Audio Visual

The Centre's in-house Audio Visual Team is well-equipped to design and implement imaginative solutions for lighting, sound and imaging.

With an in-depth knowledge of the venue and its constantly developing technical infrastructure, the team is in the best position to offer complete flexibility and confidence.

From the requirements of a simple presentation to a spectacular production, the Audio Visual Team will provide the perfect level of support and advice. Alternatively, Darwin Convention Centre will work in partnership with a client's appointed production company to achieve the best technical outcomes.

The Centre maintains top of the line equipment tailored to the needs of today's event professionals – from sound systems and video and data projection to comprehensive lighting packages.

*"The personal approach made us feel quite special in every way, from the General Manager popping her head into the Conference dinner, to the IT trouble shooting and support, to the superb catering keeping that kept us well fed. It truly was a great team effort!"*

**Mark Stevens, Audio Visual Manager**  
2009 Thoracic Society of Australian & New Zealand (TSANZ) and Australian & New Zealand Society of Respiratory Scientific Meetings  
890 delegates



SAVOUR THE HEART AND SOUL of the Territory

### Communications

Darwin Convention Centre is equipped for interactive multi-media technology, wireless internet and networking with technology specialists on hand to ensure all communications needs are met. ADSL/ISDN/STD telephone, facsimile and data lines can be accessed from any meeting room. The Centre has a complete fibre optic category six backbone linking all meeting rooms.

Special requirements such as wireless connectivity, cyber cafes, video conferencing, high speed data processing, simultaneous multi-lingual translations or digital voting systems can be organised on request.

### Exhibitions

Darwin Convention Centre offers conference organisers a wide choice of exhibition space. An area of 4,000 square metres of fully air-conditioned, column-free interiors provide flexible accommodation whether at full capacity for up to 225 exhibition booths or subdivided to one, two or three flexible spaces.

### Staging and Rigging

Darwin Convention Centre's mobile staging facilities cater for stage sizes up to 12m x 12m x 1.2m (40' x 40' x 4') with p.a. wings. Extensive flying points throughout the Centre's ceilings allow for the most complex rigging design for the hanging of special lighting and AV equipment as well as promotional displays.

### Special Building Features

LCD display screens throughout the Centre provide a facility for daily program information, special announcements, PowerPoint presentations, promotional footage and sponsor advertising.

Electronic signage at the registration desk can be used for information or promotion opportunities or simply to welcome delegates. For exhibitions and trade functions, service pits installed in the floor of the Exhibition Hall provide power, data and telephone lines, as well as water and waste facilities.

### Specific Needs

The Centre aims to be a venue where all feel welcome – from parents with prams to the elderly, and the disabled.

There is lift and ramp access to all areas of the Centre, automatic doors, designated drop-off points and parking bays for people with disabilities. The width of external and internal doors has been designed for easy wheelchair access. The back row seating in the auditorium is removable to accommodate delegates in wheelchairs.

A wireless hearing augmentation system has been incorporated throughout the Centre to assist hearing-impaired people. Lifts, meeting and function rooms have braille directional and architectural signs to assist the vision impaired.

There are rest rooms designed for the physically challenged, as well as for parents with baby-change facilities.

### First-aid

The Centre has a fully equipped first aid room with a defibrillator, evacuation chair, and wheelchairs. Designated staff have been trained in first aid emergencies. Each event is allocated with a qualified First Aid Officer.

### Security

Darwin Convention Centre strives to create a safe and secure environment for every event it hosts. The Centre can provide security 24 hours, seven days a week. The Centre's staff are not only trained in every aspect of security but they are friendly and knowledgeable of the facility and its surroundings. Special security planning is easily arranged on request.

### Parking

On-site parking offers 300 spaces. Easily accessible private parking is also available at a number of locations in the Darwin Waterfront precinct.



### In-house Catering

Darwin Convention Centre is determined to reset standards on what venue meals taste like.

Its five-star catering team is passionate about delivering high quality services and providing Darwin visitors with a taste experience that is unique to the Territory.

The region is famous for wild barramundi, coral prawns, mud crabs, fresh Asian vegetables, and delicious exotic fruit. All prepared on-site, the extensive menu selection showcases not only the best of local seafood

fare and produce but also Darwin's indigenous and multicultural facets.

Specialised menus can be tailored to meet dietary needs. The creative catering team also welcomes requests for innovative dining concepts to match specific conference themes.

### Sustainable Food Service

Following environmentally responsible practices is not only part of the Centre's goal to be a sustainable business, it also provides a higher quality of food service to any event.

Using locally grown produce means ingredients travel a shorter distance from farm to plate resulting in fresher, more flavourful food.

Only the freshest Territory seafood makes it to the Centre's kitchen. It is not unusual for dinner guests to enjoy line-caught fish caught in the morning.

Other sustainable measures include:

- Use of energy-efficient star rating appliances, including cookers with burners that maximise energy utilisation, and heat-directing baffles

- Use of reusable platters, tableware and serving dishes as well as biodegradable and recyclable alternatives
- Provide on-site recycling of paper, plastics, metal, and glass used in the food service
- Donate good-quality leftover food
- Partnerships with other "green-conscious" food service businesses



### Five-star Menus

With signature style and imagination, the Centre's catering team has concocted delectable menus for all occasions – from conference packages to three course dinners and cocktail parties.

Here's a sampler from the Centre's extensive menu selection:

#### Canapés

Rare beef on Turkish croute with mustard aioli

Cajun crocodile with pickled cucumber, sweet potato straws and fresh coriander

Marinated tomato petals with bocconcini and tapenade

Smoked Northern Territory barramundi and lime aioli spoons

Tiger prawn won ton with nuoc nam dipping sauce

Sichuan pepper crusted squid rings, vodka and aioli

Mini pizzetta with goat's cheese and prosciutto

#### Entrees

Seafood plate including coriander prawns, cumin carrot scallops, salmon nori, ginger oyster, green lip mussel, lemon and chilli jam

Lamb tenderloin sumac rubbed, hummus, grilled eggplant and rocket onion ginger jam

Ravioli of crab, scallops and prawns with creamed leeks and tomato confit

Goat's cheese and slow cooked onion tart with micro greens and red pepper dressing

Crocodile nummus, lemon, lime, coriander and shredded vegetables

Steamed dumpling basket with dipping sauces

#### Mains

Herb and pistachio crusted lamb loin with peppered grilled zucchini, creamed pumpkin mash and thyme scented lamb jus

Free range kangaroo strip loin seasoned with bush spices on roasted sweet potato mash with concentrated beetroot jus and mountain pepper, zucchini crown

Breast of chicken filled with bocconcini, basil and pine nut pesto on a lightly tossed ratatouille of eggplant, zucchini, capsicum and vine ripened tomato

Wild Northern Territory barramundi seasoned with lemon myrtle served on crisp bok choy and steamed potatoes with kaffir lime leaf butter sauce

Mediterranean stack of grilled eggplant, sun dried tomato pesto, bocconcini, roasted capsicum, artichoke and smooth tomato sauce fillet of beef wrapped in parma ham served on truffle mash with bourbon and pine nut sauce, accompanied by salsa

#### Desserts

Apricot and cardamom tart tatin (warm) with vanilla bean ice-cream

Rose water panna cotta with almond crisp bread, pomegranate molasses and Persian fairy floss

Sweet pineapple and mint carpaccio with roasted coconut thread ice cream

Chocolate ganache tart with grand mariner oranges and pure cream

Baked vanilla and raspberry cheesecake with caramel sauce and cream

White chocolate mousse in martini glass with mango swirls and cristolli

#### Taste of the Territory

Tabletop buffets for those in search of authentic and exotic Australian flavours.

Bush Tucker – Crocodile nummus, kangaroo fillets, emu and salt bush pies and local barramundi goujons

The Ghan – Mild lamb curry accompanied by dahl, curry puffs, roti and finished with banana fritters

Jabiru – Slow cook leg of lamb surrounded by roast vegetables and accompanied by traditional Aussie damper

The Wharf – Crumbed barramundi fillets with prawn noodle stir fry, Cajun potato wedges and fresh Greek salad





THE HUB of northern Australia



**Tropical Harbour City**

Darwin City is compelling in its uniqueness from the southern capital cities, thanks largely to its geographical setting. Perched on a peninsula on Australia's northern coastline, Darwin plays an important role as the gateway to the country's northern region and strategic transport link to Southeast Asia.

Darwin has a history and heritage unique to itself. Its cultural legacy is an exotic blend of ancient Aboriginal custom, European pioneering and Asian influences.

Against this background has emerged one of Australia's most cosmopolitan cities. There is a pervading unpretentious, warm and welcoming feel.

Darwin has a young population with an average age of 32 years. The city's youthful energy as well as cultural diversity are celebrated in its lively weekend markets, eclectic music, variety of restaurants and its annual calendar of festivals and events.

In Darwin, one gets the impression that life isn't work. It has the most daily average sunshine hours (8.4) of any Australian capital resulting in an enviable tropical lifestyle, where almost everything is done outdoors – dining, shopping and even movie-going. Most of the social activities takes place at the markets, in parks and reserves, by the beach watching jaw-dropping sunsets or on boats down on Darwin Harbour. Locals have a special affinity with the water – fishing, yachting and cruising form the essence of the Darwin lifestyle.



**Access to Darwin**

Getting to Darwin is easy with bustling Darwin International Airport servicing regular flights from within Australia and Asia round the clock.

Darwin enjoys direct domestic air access from all the capital cities as well as the regional centres. Just 2½ hours to Bali and 4½ hours to Singapore and Ho Chi Minh City allow for easy access and connections to the rest of Asia and the world.

Darwin can also be reached by rail on the legendary Ghan, with twice weekly services

from Adelaide. Travellers can commence the journey in Adelaide and disembark in Darwin, or vice versa, with passengers able to stop over in Alice Springs and Katherine en route.

**Airport to Darwin City**

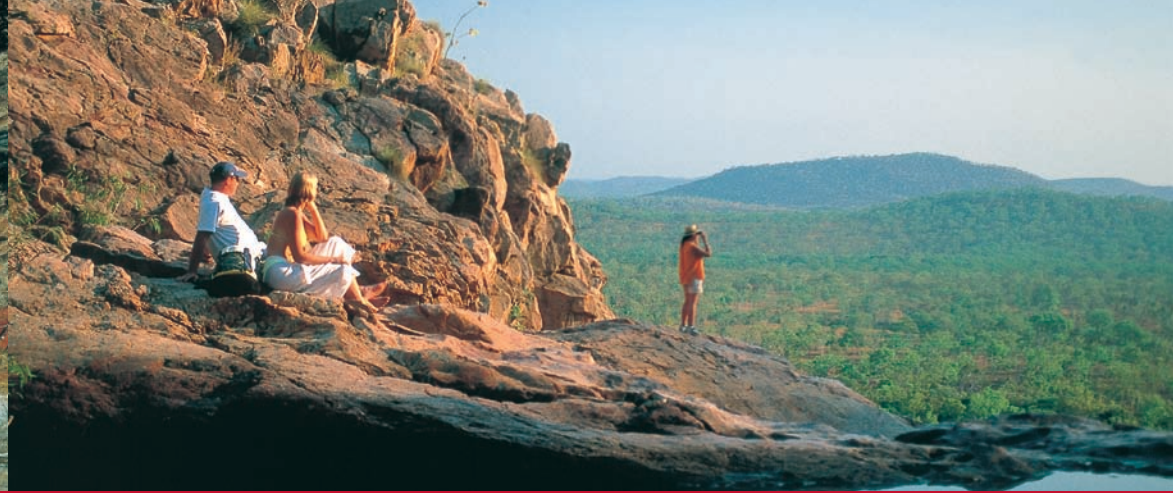
The airport is only 15 minutes drive from the city centre. Darwin Airport Shuttle, a 24-hour scheduled service for all domestic and international flights, is a convenient and reliable transport to and from the airport and all city accommodations charging approximately AUD12.00 one way.

Registered taxis operate 24 hours, seven days a week. Expect to pay AUD25.00 to AUD30.00 for a trip to the central business district. Private hire vehicles and chartered coach buses are also available.

**Getting Around**

Darwin is a compact city with dining and entertainment destinations often a short walking distance from hotels. Darwin Convention Centre is linked by a walkway to the city centre. Chartered coach services can provide transfers to offsite venues and sightseeing trips within Darwin and surrounds.





### Gateway to Australia's Natural and Cultural Treasures

Darwin City is a launching pad to the Northern Territory's vast array of extraordinary natural landscapes and ecosystems, from tropical coastlines to heritage wetlands, wildlife parks, and escarpment vistas. Natural wonders such as World Heritage-listed Kakadu, Katherine Gorge, and Litchfield national parks are all within driving distance from the city and still contain near pre-colonial populations of crocodiles, goannas, snakes, and wallabies.

#### Arnhem Land

This important Aboriginal cultural site – dotted with rock paintings – consists of diverse ecosystems including rainforests, savannah woodlands, extraordinary rock formations, majestic coastlines, and deserted islands. Various tours offer “bush tucker” walks, sunset cruises on billabongs, and wildlife watches.

#### Berry Springs and Howard Springs

Nature lovers will delight in these two nature parks. After a lazy barbeque, the crystal clear, palm-fringed waterholes of Berry Springs

are a relaxing way to cool down. Enjoy the natural waterslides of the creek's cascades.

In Howard Springs, the diverse habitats brimming with wildlife are popular picnic venues. Swim with barramundi and turtles in a crocodile-free waterhole, or walk in parklands, go bird watching, or check out the ibis and wallabies.

#### Kakadu National Park

UNESCO World Heritage-listed Kakadu is Australia's largest national park covering some 20,000 square kilometres. A wealth of natural

and cultural wonders is on display through the lush wetlands, rugged escarpments, and sandstone galleries inhabited by the Bininj for 50,000 years.

#### Katherine Gorge

The Nitmiluk National Park hosts this dazzling landscape carved out by the Katherine River. Has sublime lookouts across the 13 gorges of sandstone walls, 60 metres above the river, tours include kayaking between sheer cliffs, walks to ancient rock art, serene rock pools and waterfalls, and remote fishing locations.

#### Litchfield National Park

This spectacular preserve comprises stunning sandstone escarpments, natural spring-fed waterfalls and tropical lagoons, along with the 'Lost City' of thousands of giant termite mounds. Swim amid the cascades, bushwalk through lush monsoon forests and keep an eye out for native wildlife.

#### Mary River

Accessible year-round and just over 60 minutes drive from Darwin. Barramundi thrive in this tranquil marine paradise, perfect for anglers

and crocodiles alike. With extraordinary birdlife and sublime grand vistas, cruises and walks are popular among tourists.

#### Territory Wildlife Park

About 45 minutes south of Darwin, located amid 400 hectares of bushland. With an impressive aquarium complete with crocodiles, a nocturnal house, bird walk, monsoon rainforest, and “Animal Encounters” presentation, it's the perfect opportunity to get up close to the furriest and fiercest creatures down under.

#### Tiwi Islands

Melville and Bathurst Islands are home to one of the world's oldest living cultures. Tiwi hosts welcome visitors, share stories, traditional ceremonies, and artwork. The islands' lush rainforests, pristine beaches and clear rock pools are a 20 minute flight or a two hour ferry from Darwin, with overnight stays possible.

#### Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

Located 440 kilometres south-west of Alice Springs, the park is World Heritage-listed for both its natural and cultural values.

Rising 348 metres high from the broad desert plain is Uluru/Ayers Rock, Australia's most recognisable natural icon. To the west of the “Rock” is Kata Tjuta, also known as The Olgas, a massive pile of rock domes dating back 500 million years. Both Uluru and Kata Tjuta have great Aboriginal cultural significance for the Anangu traditional landowners.



## FAST FACTS

### Profile

- Darwin City is the tropical capital of Australia's Northern Territory, which comprises one sixth of the continent. It has a population density of only 0.1 person per square kilometre, so when you do meet locals, be sure to say "g'day".
- Known in the past as a laid back frontier town, Darwin has evolved into a highly urbanised capital with a broad range of accommodation, cafes and restaurants, art galleries and nightlife options.
- It is the main service centre for mining, offshore oil and gas production, tourism and tropical horticulture. The Port of Darwin is the main outlet for Australia's live cattle export trade into Southeast Asia.

### Location & Access

- Located on the coast of the Timor Sea, Darwin is set on a rocky peninsula that stretches into one of the most beautiful natural harbours on the northern Australia coast.
- Darwin is on average four hours flying time from Australian capital cities and only 2½ hours to Bali and 4½ hours to Ho Chi Minh and Singapore.

- Darwin International Airport is only 13 kilometres or 15 minutes drive from the city centre. Qantas and low-cost airlines Jetstar and Virgin Blue operate regular direct services to Darwin from Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane, Cairns and Alice Springs. Airnorth and Skywest – the major regional airlines for the Northern Territory and Western Australia respectively – provide essential links for regional communities, tourists and businesses.
- The Ghan, the legendary outback train, runs regularly between Darwin and Adelaide with numerous scenic stops. Darwin is also one of Australia's cruise ship ports.

### History

- The Larrakia people lived in the greater Darwin region before European settlement. They had trading routes with Southeast Asia as well as with south and western Australia.
- In 1839, HMS Beagle sailed into Darwin Harbour and the ship's captain named the port after Charles Darwin, the British naturalist.
- The city was founded in 1869 and its population rapidly expanded after the discovery of gold at nearby Pine Creek in 1871.

- The didgeridoo – famed instrument of indigenous Australians – originally came from Arnhem Land, just east of Darwin.
- During World War II, Darwin was a major military base for allied troops in the Pacific. It was attacked twice in 1942 by the same fleet that bombed the Pearl Harbour.

### Climate

- Darwin enjoys a winter-free tropical climate averaging 30°C (86°F).
- From May to September the days are mild, characterised by gentle southeast trade winds and blue skies; the nights are balmy and cool.
- December to March is the ideal time to see the Territory at its greenest and enjoy secluded waterholes, cool waterfalls and billabongs teeming with exotic wildlife.
- The coolest months of the year are June and July, when the daily temperature ranges from 19°C (66.2°F) to 30°C (86°F).
- Casual clothing is a mark of Darwin lifestyle, but smarter attire is expected in the hotels and restaurants. Pack light, comfortable clothing, good walking shoes and a hat.

### Money

- Australia's largest banks all have branches in the city centre. Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) operate 24 hours a day and are found throughout the city.
- All major international credit cards are widely accepted, but not all businesses accept all cards and some may charge transaction fees. Credit cards are usually essential for bookings, like tours and car hire.
- Foreign exchange outlets are available at Darwin International Airport and most banks and major hotels. Those whose banks subscribe to the Cirrus network can use their standard bank debit card in the ATMs.

### Communication

- Many hotels, motels and lodges have internet access. There are also internet cafes within the city centre.
- Darwin is served by mobile networks. Prior to departure, visitors from North America should check with their phone provider to make sure their cell phone will operate in Australia. If visiting for an extended period, a convenient and cost effective option is to purchase a prepaid handset on arrival.





## CONFERENCE SERVICES



### Northern Territory Convention Bureau

The Northern Territory Convention Bureau (NTCB) is a business division within Tourism NT. With extensive local knowledge, practical experience and a professional approach, the NTCB is your best resource for organising a meeting, conference or incentive in Australia's Northern Territory.

T +61 (0)8 8999 3871  
www.ntconventions.com.au

### Conference Organisers and Destination Management Companies

#### Agentur Event Management

Operates Territory-wide, assisting clients with event management, conferences and corporate functions. Agentur has in-depth knowledge of Indigenous culture and a vast network in the Territory's Aboriginal community.

T +61 (0)8 8981 2010  
www.agentur.com.au

#### Darwin Coordinators

Darwin Coordinators can provide a complete event management service or individual components including budgeting and planning, registration processes, catering, technical and audio-visual requirements.

T +61 (0)419 228 785  
www.darwincoordinators.com.au

#### Dreamedia Events

This close-knit team lends a personal touch to event production. Its quality reputation dates back to 1983.

T +61 (0)8 8941 9111  
www.dreamediand.com.au

#### Events NT

With an emphasis on creative flair, these conference professionals specialise in themes and decorations, sourcing MCs and guest speakers, partner programs, entertainment, accommodation, touring options and more.

T +61 (0)407 271 357  
www.eventsnt.com.au

#### Eventuate

Offers registration services, financial management, entertainment and sourcing speakers and exhibition supplies.

T +61 (0)8 8942 2644  
www.eventuate.com.au

#### M.A.D - Managing Australian Destinations

Multi-awarded company with 18 years experience. Known for outside-the-square solutions and personalised service.

T +61 (0)8 8941 1089  
www.m-a-d.com.au

#### Vicky Spence Event Management

Offers complete management and coordination of conferences, exhibitions, corporate functions, gala dinners, award nights, incentive events, product launches, golf days and much more.

T +61 (0)408 838 482  
www.vseventmanagement.com.au

#### Exhibition Hire and Technical Services

##### Fusion Displays and Graphics

Darwin's leading exhibition, themed event and equipment hire company. Fusion has a team of dedicated individuals who are focused on personalised service and customer satisfaction from start to finish.

T +61 (0)8 8947 1990  
www.fusiondisplays.com.au

#### Total Event Services

Established supplier of behind-the-scenes services including staging systems, audio recording, filming, exhibition gear and furniture hire. It is the Northern Territory's largest supplier to the entertainment industry.

T +61 (0)8 8980 8222  
www.tes.com.au

#### Promotional Products and Displays

##### Ausdesigns

Unique products with a distinctly Australian character. Conference delegates will delight in the Indigenous prints from Arnhem Land and the Red Centre which Ausdesigns applies to satchels, caps and a range of promotional products.

T +61 (0)8 8932 5184  
www.ausdesigns.com.au

#### The Exhibitionist

Creating designs with a modern and original visual personality, The Exhibitionist is experienced in both two-and three-dimensional forms. One of the largest display, conference and design companies in Darwin.

T +61 (0)8 8981 3166  
www.exhibitionist.com.au

#### Entertainment

##### Up Town Entertainment

Catering to conventions of all sizes, Up Town supplies juke-boxes, sound and lighting as well as DJs and MCs to ensure your events run smoothly and successfully.

T +61 (0)418 540 870  
www.uptown.net.au



## ACCOMMODATION

Darwin offers a broad range of accommodation options and rate categories to suit meetings of any size. Service, comfort, and value at every price point are easily catered for.

The city boasts more than 3,200 hotel rooms, serviced suites and apartments. More than 1,800 are within one kilometre of the city centre and an additional 1,440 rooms are approximately 10 minutes drive from the Darwin Convention Centre.

Darwin's city centre is linked by an elevated "skywalk" to provide easy access for all convention delegates, or alternatively Darwin Airport Shuttle can provide door-to-door transfers tailor made to any event program.

NUMBER OF ROOMS	PROPERTY	STAR RATING	WEBSITE
Within 100 metres from DCC			
121	Medina Grand Darwin Apartment Hotel	4.5	<a href="http://www.medina.com.au">www.medina.com.au</a>
120	Vibe Hotel	4	<a href="http://www.vibehotels.com.au">www.vibehotels.com.au</a>
Within 1 kilometre from DCC			
235	Crowne Plaza Darwin	5	<a href="http://www.crowneplaza.com.au">www.crowneplaza.com.au</a>
58	Argus Apartments	4.5	<a href="http://www.argusdarwin.com.au">www.argusdarwin.com.au</a>
197	Holiday Inn Esplanade	4.5	<a href="http://www.holidayinn.com.au">www.holidayinn.com.au</a>
204	Mantra on the Esplanade	4.5	<a href="http://www.stellaresorts.com.au">www.stellaresorts.com.au</a>
336	Mantra Pandanas	4.5	<a href="http://www.stellaresorts.com.au">www.stellaresorts.com.au</a>
183	Novotel Atrium Darwin	4.5	<a href="http://www.novoteldarwin.com.au">www.novoteldarwin.com.au</a>
59	Quest Apartments	4.5	<a href="http://www.questdarwin.com.au">www.questdarwin.com.au</a>
132	Darwin Central	4	<a href="http://www.darwincentral.com.au">www.darwincentral.com.au</a>
183	Holiday Inn Darwin	4	<a href="http://www.holidayinn.com.au">www.holidayinn.com.au</a>
225	Travelodge Mirambeena Resort	4	<a href="http://www.travelodge.com.au">www.travelodge.com.au</a>
61	The Cavenagh	3.5	<a href="http://www.thecavenagh.com">www.thecavenagh.com</a>
89	Palms City Resort	3.5	<a href="http://www.palmscityresort.com">www.palmscityresort.com</a>

NUMBER OF ROOMS	PROPERTY	STAR RATING	WEBSITE
Within 5 kilometres from DCC			
117	SKYCITY Darwin	5	<a href="http://www.skycitydarwin.com.au">www.skycitydarwin.com.au</a>
45	Botanic Gardens Apartments	4	<a href="http://www.botanicgardens.com.au">www.botanicgardens.com.au</a>
43	Cullen Bay Holiday Apartments	4	<a href="http://www.cullenbayapts.com.au">www.cullenbayapts.com.au</a>
94	Marina View Holiday Apartments	4	<a href="http://www.cullenbayresorts.com.au">www.cullenbayresorts.com.au</a>
30	Marrakai Luxury All Suites	4	<a href="http://www.marrakai.com.au">www.marrakai.com.au</a>
91	Quality Hotel Frontier Darwin	4	<a href="http://www.frontierdarwin.com.au">www.frontierdarwin.com.au</a>
44	Alatai Holiday Apartments	3.5	<a href="http://www.alataiapartments.com.au">www.alataiapartments.com.au</a>
75	Mediterranean All Suites	3.5	<a href="http://www.mediterraneanhotel.com.au">www.mediterraneanhotel.com.au</a>
36	Peninsular Apartments	3.5	<a href="http://www.peninsularapartments.com">www.peninsularapartments.com</a>
15 kilometres from DCC			
64	Darwin Airport Gateway Motel	4	<a href="http://www.darwinairportgatewaymotel.com.au">www.darwinairportgatewaymotel.com.au</a>
136	Darwin Airport Inn	4	<a href="http://www.darwinairportinn.com.au">www.darwinairportinn.com.au</a>
130	Darwin Airport Resort	4	<a href="http://www.darwinairportresort.com.au">www.darwinairportresort.com.au</a>

*"It was the whole city approach that made Darwin such an exciting destination. From outset, the venue and the suppliers were very enthusiastic in every respect. The waterfront precinct positioning of the Darwin Convention Centre gave the meeting a resort-style feel, so we tried new concepts to match.*

*Being a group of dietitians the food makes or breaks the event. The Centre's catering team were very helpful and showcased an extensive variety of menu options and took great care to label dishes accordingly."*

**Luke Davis, Tour Hosts Conference Manager**  
Dietitians Association of Australia National Conference, 300 delegates



## DINING

Dining in Darwin City is an attraction in itself, with a diversity of culinary choices promising memorable taste adventures. Exotic cuisine from all over the world along with authentic Northern Territory fare like mud crabs, barramundi, kangaroo and crocodile are on offer.

There's a dining experience to match any mood – from fine dining to al fresco meals with a harbour view or platters of seafood over a barbeque. Downtown Darwin is brimming with restaurants, cafés and pubs, some with live entertainment to match.

Outside the city centre, dining waterside in Fannie Bay or Cullen Bay means indulging in seafood, from local specialties to fish and chips. Stokes Hill Wharf offers a variety of take-away food to be relished while watching activity on the harbour.

For a gastronomic expedition, visit Darwin's famous markets. The food stalls of Mindil, Parap and Nightcliff provide a globe trotting experience loved by locals and visitors alike.

### Offsite Venue Options

Darwin is a colourful, multi-faceted city offering a wealth of unique spaces and venues. The desire to create experiences that inspire, engage and enthrall is only limited by the imagination.

#### Aviation Heritage Centre

A B-52 Bomber and other military and civil aircraft provide a unique backdrop to functions, with capacity for up to 450 guests.

#### Charles Darwin National Park

The lookout platform with its wonderful views of the harbour and its wetlands provides a scenic venue for functions.

#### Crocodylus Park

Those in search of a unique Top End setting to their function can be in the midst of the Territory's wildlife – from brolgas to crocodiles and wallaroos.

#### Crococaurus Cove

Set on two outdoor levels, the Cove has function facilities catering to small intimate groups or cocktails for up to 550 people.

#### Darwin Sailing Club

Renowned in yachting circles for having one of the world's most enviable settings, on the shores of the Beagle Gulf. Breathtaking sunsets are definitely a major attraction. The casual, party atmosphere is perfect for barbeque functions.

#### Darwin Trailer Boat Club

Catering for small groups or up to 400 guests, the Club provides a scenic tropical venue. Choose from function areas overlooking the bay, under the sails of the shaded area or beneath the palm trees right on the beach.

#### Darwin Turf Club

Why not make it a race day function? A range of exquisitely appointed venues and the finest cuisine are on offer. Ideal for cocktails and dinners.

#### Deckchair Cinema

Mesmerizing sunsets, starry nights, light reflections from passing ships, – what more can you ask for? The casual, outdoor setting is great for barbeque functions, and a private screening on deck chairs for up to 300 people.

#### George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

Lush with function possibilities, facilities range from secluded gardens for 50 people to beautifully manicured lawns for larger groups like sunny Coconut Grove which has capacity for 1,000 guests banquet style.

#### Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

With a spectacular sunset backdrop, cool sea breezes, lush tropical foliage and magnificent ocean views, the Museum grounds are the perfect location for small to large functions.

#### Skycity Lawns

Set among lush tropical gardens and overlooking the Arafura Sea, The Lawns are the perfect beachside setting for an al fresco gala dinner for up to 5,000 guests, a cocktail party or barbeque function.

#### Stokes Hill Wharf Function Centre

The 1,000sqm stylish facility has an outdoor deck with covered walkways and viewing areas. The Wharf is popular for viewing spectacular sunsets.

### Events City

Darwin's melting pot community has produced a great love for music, the arts, and sports.

Some of the regular events held in Darwin are:

#### Arafura Games

The leading international sporting competition for emerging champions of the Asia-Pacific drawing crowds up to 4,000. It has an exciting line up of events across 27 sporting disciplines including darts, muay thai kickboxing, sepak takraw and paralympics.

#### Australian Superbikes

Darwin's Hidden Valley Raceway is the newest circuit for Australia's premier motorbike series, reflecting the Northern Territory's growing reputation for hosting world-class events.

The series is held in four states with Darwin hosting a round until 2015. Hidden Valley is the Territory's premier motorsport venue.

#### Bass in The Grass

A "must see" live band fest on the Territory calendar. Enjoy the very best regional talent and Australia's headlining acts.

#### Beer Can Regatta

A day of water and beach events, and fun for the family. Participants in the water events are required to build boats out of beer or soft drink cans.

#### Darwin Cup Carnival

One of the most popular races in Australia and one of the biggest tourist attractions in the Territory. Held over eight days, the Darwin Cup Carnival attracts thousands of spectators who come for the high-quality racing on the unique oil-mixed sand racetrack.

#### Darwin Festival

A world-class program that includes everything from free outdoors events to theatre, dance, music, cabaret, films, workshops and comedy, not to mention sensational cuisine. Running for 18 nights, with over 100 events and over 1,000 artists and cultural groups, the Darwin Festival reflects the indigenous, Asian and Pacific cultures of the Territory.

#### Darwin Fringe Festival

A spectacular array of theatre, dance, poetry, music and installations showcasing the best in local as well as interstate performing and visual arts.

#### V8 Supercars Championship

Part of the annual series held in Australia's capital cities. Fans of the high-powered roar of V8 Supercars flock to Hidden Valley less than 10 kilometres from the city centre to watch their heroes race against one another on a fast and tight 2.9 kilometre track.

### In and Around Darwin City

#### Aquascene

Hand-feed hundreds of fish as they come in from the sea at high tide. A unique experience and one of Darwin's most popular attractions.

#### Australian Aviation Heritage Centre

Among the impressive exhibits are a B52 bomber, Spitfire, Zero Fighter, Sabre Jet and Huey Cobra.

#### Crocodylus Park

Home to more than a thousand crocodiles and other wildlife including big cats, primates, birds and hawksbill turtles. It is also a research centre for reptiles.

#### Crococaurus Cove

Set in the heart of Darwin, featuring the awesome Northern Territory Saltwater Crocodile.

#### Cullen Bay

Delightful marina just a short trip from the city centre with restaurants, cafes and bars overlooking the harbour.

#### Deckchair Cinema

An Iconic Darwin experience: Pack a picnic and watch movies under the stars in a picturesque waterfront setting.

#### East Point Reserve

A 200-hectare reserve with sweeping views across Fannie Bay and the harbour.

#### George Brown Botanic Gardens

The tropical flora of northern Australia including 400 palm species is on show in this lovely 42-hectare parkland.

#### Paspaley Pearls

Said to be the most beautiful pearls in the world with unrivalled iridescence and lustre.



## Art Galleries

### Aboriginal Fine Arts

Traditional and contemporary Aboriginal art and craft including authentic works from Arnhem Land and Central Australia. View paintings, works on bark, hand-woven baskets, didgeridoos and carvings.

### Framed

A large and diverse gallery with ten rooms of paintings, sculptures and other works by various artists. Aboriginal artists' communities are strongly represented by Framed exhibitions.

### Maningrida Arts & Culture

Beautiful collection of bark paintings, sculptures, fibre art, books and limited edition prints presented by the community from the Maningrida region in North Central Arnhem Land. One of the country's largest Aboriginal artists' cooperatives.

### Mason Gallery

Aboriginal artwork from the Arnhem Land and Western Desert regions including John Mawurndjul, Dorothy Napangardi and Ronny Tjampitjinpa.

### Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

There are permanent galleries displaying Aboriginal and Torres Strait arts supplemented by additional displays from time to time.

### Nomad Art Productions

Working closely with local artists and Aboriginal Corporations, Nomad Art is dedicated to the production of limited editions and collections of fine art and craft.

### Northern Editions

Situated amongst the tropical gardens of Charles Darwin University. The Gallery exhibits, promotes and sells limited edition etchings, screenprints, lithographs and linocuts.

### Raft Artspace

Represents artists from Northern Australia and Southeast Asia. Presents solo exhibitions and curates group exhibitions.

### The Didgeridoo Hut & Art Gallery

An aboriginal owned business selling genuine indigenous wares from many different areas of the Top End of Australia. There are didgeridoos, bark and canvas paintings, and sculptures.

### 24HR Art

Contemporary art by emerging and established artists including multi-media projects.

### Territory Colours

Paintings, jewellery, fine crafts and glass creations by Northern Territory Artists, including works by stained glass specialist Jon Firth.

### Tiwi Art Network

Take a one-day tour of the three art centres in the Tiwi Islands. Each centre produces traditional and contemporary art with its own unique style. Watch and talk to the artists and learn about the Tiwi culture.

## Tour Experiences

Various day-trips and tours are available and visitors can select from numerous packages or have trips tailored to time allowances and desired sights.

Many of the world-renown attractions are a day-long tour, such as the Tiwi Islands, Litchfield waterfalls, Katherine Gorge, or even a whistlestop trip to Kakadu National Park.

For those with a couple of days in hand, stunning tours can take in Arnhem Land, Kakadu, or a selection of highlights from various parks.

And scenic trips to Alice Springs and Uluru typically comprise six or more days, including stops at the Northern Territory's premier attractions.





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The Darwin Convention Centre is a project of the Darwin Cove Convention Centre Pty Ltd and the Northern Territory Government and is proudly managed by international venue management specialist, AEG Ogden.