

Year Ending December 2021-2023 (3 year average)

Visitor numbers in Alice Springs MacDonnell

Overnight Visitation (3 year average)	Intra- Territory	Interstate	Domestic	International	Total
Visitors	97,000	182,000	279,000	22,000	301,000
Visitor nights	404,000	928,000	1,331,000	212,000	1,543,000
ALOS (average length of stay, nights)	4.2	5.1	4.8	9.5	5.1
Expenditure	\$99M	\$175M	\$274M	\$21M	\$295M
ASPT (average spend per trip)	\$1,025	\$960	\$983	\$948	\$980



Annual overnight visitor numbers to the region

Year ending December 2019 508,000 Year ending December 2020 194,000 268,000 Year ending December 2021 303,000 Year ending December 2023 333,000

Region definition

The Alice Springs MacDonnell tourism region comprises the Alice Springs and MacDonnell regions. The regional boundaries of the Alice Springs MacDonnell tourism region are defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Cat. No. 9503.0.55.001.

Alice Springs

Alice Springs.

MacDonnell

East and West MacDonnell National Parks, Tanami Desert, Hermannsburg, Yuendumu and Ti Tree.

Source note: All information is derived from Tourism Research Australia's National and International Visitor Surveys unless otherwise stated. For more information on the surveys, please refer to the 'More Information' section. Some variables in the graphs may not appear due to no results over this period. Data is rounded and may affect some tables.





WHERE do visitors come from and WHY?

Year Ending December 2021-2023 (3 year average)

Purpose of visit (3 year average)	Intra- Territory	Interstate	Domestic	International	Total	ľ
Holiday	34,000	96,000	130,000	20,000	150,000	•
Visiting friends and relatives	10,000	13,000	23,000	1,000	24,000	
Business	42,000	65,000	108,000	<1,000	108,000	
Other reasons*	13,000	10,000	23,000	1,000	24,000	•

*Includes employment, education, other reason and in transit.

Alice Springs MacDonnell source markets



Country of origin (3 year average)	Rank	Visitors	Visitor nights	ALOS (nights)
International		22,000	212,000	9.5
USA	1	4,000	48,000	10.8
Germany	2	4,000	15,000	3.7
United Kingdom	3	3,000	8,000	3.1
New Zealand	4	2,000	33,000	20.9
Netherlands	5	1,000	3,000	2.6
Canada	6	1,000	3,000	3.6
France	7	1,000	6,000	7.6
Switzerland	8	1,000	3,000	4.9
Scandinavia	9	1,000	2,000	2.5
China**	10	1,000	4,000	5.5

(3 year average)	Visitors	Visitor nights	ALOS (nights)
Intra-Territory	97,000	404,000	4.2
Interstate	182,000	928,000	5.1
Victoria	47,000	265,000	5.7
Queensland	43,000	195,000	4.5
New South Wales	37,000	160,000	4.4
South Australia	33,000	120,000	3.6
Western Australia	17,000	143,000	8.5

The largest visitor market is the interstate visitor market with visitors from Victoria being the main source market for interstate visitation, although visitation from Queensland and New South Wales is also sizable.

The largest international visitor market is the United States, followed by Germany and the United Kingdom.

Holiday visitation remains the primary

purpose of visitation to the Alice Springs MacDonnell region, with business being a

close second.

While international borders opened in February 2022, recovery of international travel to the region has been slow, although has grown quarter on quarter since borders opened.



**China includes Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong

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WHERE else did they go in the Territory?

- Visitors to the Alice Springs MacDonnell region are most likely to disperse to the Lasseter region, with this destination being the most popular place to disperse for intra-Territory, interstate and international visitors alike.
- International visitors are also highly likely to disperse to Greater Darwin. Smaller numbers are dispersing to Katherine Daly, Barkly and Kakadu Arnhem.
- Interstate visitors, similar to international visitors, are likely to disperse to Greater Darwin although in smaller proportions, with almost a fifth (18%) visiting the region. Interstate visitors also visit the Barkly or Katherine Daly regions, with Kakadu Arnhem the destination least dispersed to.
- Intra-Territory visitors are not very likely to disperse outside of the Alice Springs MacDonnell region, with less than 10% of intra-Territory visitors dispersing to any other region in the Territory.



WHERE did they go in the Alice Springs MacDonnell region?

Statistical Area Level (3 year average)	Annual visit	Proportion of region	Yuendumu
Alice Springs (SA2)	237,000	79%	Tanami Anmatjere
Sandover - Plenty [SA2 group]	39,000	13%	
Tanami (SA2)	57,000	19%	Ly tom
Yuendumu - Anmatjere [SA2 group]	5,000	2%	Sandover -
MacDonnell Region not fully defined (SA2)	<1,000	<1%	Alice Plenty
Alice Springs MacDonnell total	301,000	100%	Image source: Australian Bureau of Statistics.



TOURISM NT

NORTHERN TERRITORY TOURISM NT

Year Ending December 2021-2023 (3 year average)

WHAT time of year do visitors come?



WHAT activities did they do?



Note: Activities include both international and domestic overnight visitors. Activities reported for domestic visitors took place in the NT, while activities for international visitors could have taken place anywhere within Australia (including the NT).



NORTHERN TERRITORY TOURISM NT

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WHO are our visitors travelling with?



*Includes school/uni/college group, non-school sporting group/community group or club and other.

WHAT age are our visitors?





Year Ending December 2021-2023 (3 year average)

WHAT transportation* did they use to get here and around?



*Transportation refers to stopover transportation and includes transportation used to arrive and used within the region. **Includes long distance transport, local transport, other land transport, water transport, other transport and not stated/asked.

WHERE did they stay? 56% 45% Intra-Territory Interstate International 39% 24% 24% 22% 18%17% 15%11%11%10%8% %9 %9 5% 2% 1%Hotels Friends or relatives caravan or camping Aaccommodation* park or camping ground Backpacker or hostel Commercial caravan Non-commercial property Other

*Includes guest house/bed and breakfast, other commercial accommodation (e.g. boat, glamping, other), own property, other private accommodation, other accommodation, in transit and not stated/asked.



TOURISM NT

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NORTHERN TERRITORY TOURISM NT

Year Ending December 2021-2023 (3 year average)

Youth visitation to the region

Youth (3 year average)	Intra- Territory	Interstate	Domestic	International	Total	<i>Youth is defined as any visitor aged 15</i>
Visitors	13,000	14,000	27,000	6,000	33,000	to 29 years of age, who did not travel as part of a family group (parents and
Visitor nights	89,000	124,000	213,000	63,000	276,000	
ALOS (nights)	6.7	8.7	7.7	11.4	8.4	children) or school group.

Youth purpose of visit



While the youth market constitutes 11% of all visitors to the Alice Springs MacDonnell region, they contribute a significant number of nights in the region with 276,000 or 18% of nights.

Domestic youth visitors make up the largest number of youth visitors to the region, with interstate youth making up over two fifths (43%) of the youth market, and intra-Territory youth making up another two fifths (40%). International youth make up the remaining 17% of the market.

*Includes employment, education, other reason and in transit.

Visitors interested in Aboriginal cultural experiences/participation

Aboriginal culture (3 year average)	Intra- Territory	Interstate	Domestic	International	Total
Visitors	12,000	35,000	47,000	16,000	63,000
Visitor nights	93,000	154,000	247,000	141,000	387,000
ALOS (nights)	7.4	4.5	5.3	8.9	6.2

Aboriginal cultural experiences include: experience Aboriginal art/craft and cultural displays, visit an Aboriginal site/community, attend an Aboriginal performance, go on a tour with an Aboriginal guide, participate in traditional activities, have an Aboriginal food experience and/or have a camping experience on Aboriginal land.

One fifth (21%) of visitors participated in Aboriginal cultural experiences while visiting the Alice Springs MacDonnell region.

The majority of those who were interested in Aboriginal culture were in the region for a holiday. More specifically, 66% of international visitors and 73% of interstate visitors who participated in Aboriginal cultural activities were on a holiday.

*Includes employment, education, other reason and in transit

Aboriginal culture purpose of visit





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The domestic leisure drive* market in focus

Domestic leisure drive (3 year average)	Intra- Territory	Interstate	Domestic	
Visitors	40,000	51,000	91,000	
Visitor nights	103,000	209,000	312,000	
ALOS (nights)	2.6	4.1	3.4	

Approximately a third (33%) of all domestic visitors to the region over the three year period were leisure drive travellers, which is an average of 91,000 visitors per year.

Domestic source markets

NT residents made up 44% of the domestic leisure drive market to the region. Visitors from Victoria, South Australia and Queensland contributed a combined 42%.

Length of stay

Approximately 80% of the domestic leisure drive market stayed for three or less nights.

*Domestic leisure drive is defined as domestic visitors who travelled for the pupose of a holiday or visiting friends and relatives that also used drive transportation in the region.

Information sources accessed on the road

The dominant source of navigation information that helped NT drive tourists during their holiday was Google maps (78%), followed by hard copy maps (27%) and word of mouth (27%). Information on road conditions, weather and travel permits/access was accessed by many.



Source: NT Drive Study 2023, n=276 NT drive tourists during May-September 2023.



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Domestic leisure drive source market



NORTHERN TERRITORY TOURISM NT

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Other regional tourism indicators



Source: Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics.

Park visitation

Year Ending December 2023	Visitors
Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve	180,000
Tjoritja/ West MacDonnell National Park	156,000
Alice Springs Desert Park	59,000
Trephina/ East MacDonnell National Park	32,000
Finke Gorge National Park	14,000

Source: NT Parks and Wildlife Commission.

Desert Park and Telegraph Station



Source: NT Parks and Wildlife Commission.

Alice Springs accommodation





Source: STR Destination Report from June 2019, 2022, 2023 and 2024 Alice Springs hotel accommodation with 10+ rooms.

More information on the surveys:

Visitor numbers, nights and spend estimates are derived from Tourism Research Australia's (TRA) National and International Visitor Surveys (NVS and IVS). These surveys are based on sample rather than census, and as such, are subject to sampling variability. When using these estimates at the destination level, this variability increases. Confidence intervals and sample for the region are highlighted in the table below.

Alice Springs MacDonnell	Sample size	95% Confidence interval		
(3 year average)		Visitors	Visitor nights	
Intra-Territory	128	+/-20%	+/-29%	
Interstate	173	+/-15%	+/-19%	
International	1,888	+/-12%	+/-33%	

np = not publishable

Where available, Tourism NT has provided information from other sources to be used in conjunction with the NVS and IVS estimates. It is recommended that other information sources are also used such as population statistics from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, feedback from local operators, information from local Visitor Centres, data from local councils, Tripadvisor etc.

