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**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Complimentary Sunset Welcome Function**  
**on Wednesday evening, 23rd June 2021**

# DARWIN

## 2021

24 - 28 June

**Living Our Dream**  
**Together in the Top End**

62<sup>nd</sup> Australian National Square Dance Convention      Marrara Stadium, Darwin

Issue No.5

The Dream Team Newsletter

October 2019

### ***History of Darwin - Cyclone Tracy***

Darwin was the scene of the biggest airlift in Australian history after Cyclone Tracy devastated the city in the early hours of Christmas Day 1974. Cyclone Tracy caused almost total destruction taking 71 lives and injuring thousands more. Many of those who died or were injured were struck by flying debris. It was Australia's worst natural disaster.



*Cyclone Tracy Damage in suburban Darwin*



Cyclone Tracy reached wind speeds of 217 km/h registered at Darwin Airport before the equipment was itself blown away and there are estimates of maximum speeds of up to 300 km/h. The total damage cost was \$1 billion.

As a result of so much destruction of both homes and infrastructure, more than 30,000 of the city's then 45,000 people were evacuated to cities and towns all over Australia immediately after the devastation of Tracy. Many of the families that left never returned to resume their lives in the capital city of the Northern Territory.

After the cyclone, the city was subsequently rebuilt to a strict cyclone code with newer materials and techniques during the late 1970s by the Darwin Reconstruction Commission. Steel became a popular building material and led to distinctive modern style associated with Darwin known as Troppo. The rebuilding of the city gradually turned Darwin into the most modern capital city in the nation. The rebuilding attracted many people from many different places resulting in a young, diverse population who rebuilt the city.





## MYTH: THE NORTHERN TERRITORY IS TOO FAR AWAY.

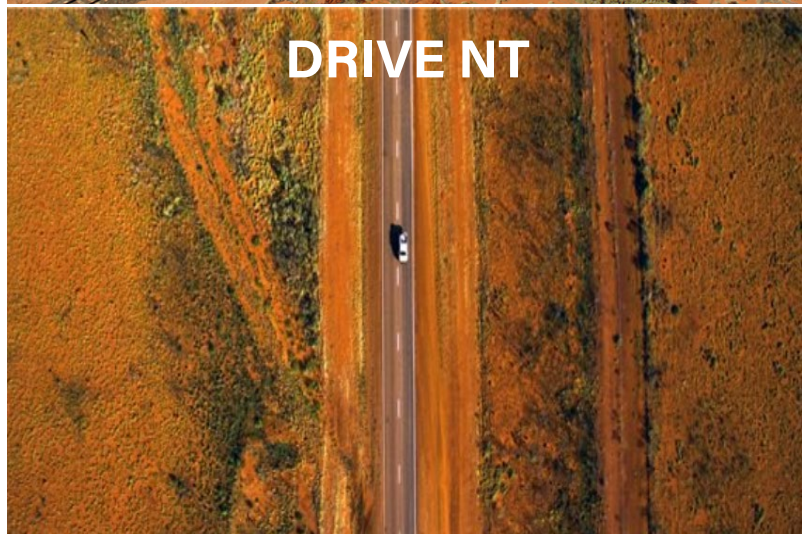
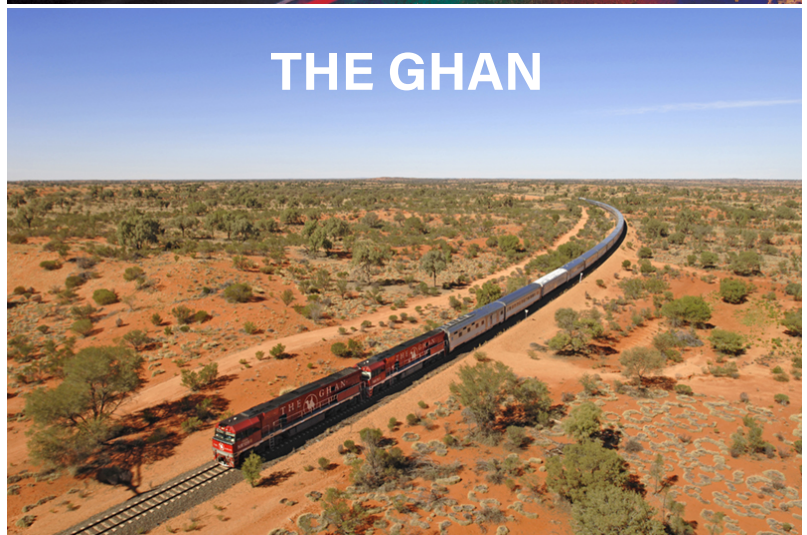
This is a total misconception - the NT is actually much closer than you think. Qantas, Virgin Australia, Tigerair and Jetstar all operate [regular domestic flights](#) into the NT from most major Australian capital cities. You could be in Darwin, Alice Springs or Uluru in just a bit longer than the time you waste during your average Sydney traffic jam.

If you're travelling from Europe or Asia, Darwin is your gateway to Australia. No trip Down Under would be complete without a visit to the Outback, and Darwin is the perfect launchpad for your adventure.

The Territory is serviced by major international and domestic airlines, providing passengers with easy access to destinations across the Northern Territory from almost anywhere in the world. Peak season for air travel to the Northern Territory is June – August; it's advisable to book well ahead during these months.

If you have a bit more time, the [Ghan Railway](#) is internationally renowned for both its scenery and its luxury, while [self-driving](#) experiences let you combine *getting there* with the fun of actually *being there*. Journey to a part of the country where blue skies and breathtaking landscapes make driving a pleasure. From the red desert sands of Uluru, to tropical Kakadu National Park, and the bright blue waters of Darwin Harbour.

The diversity of the Northern Territory will astound you. Follow the trail blazed in the 1860s for the [Overland Telegraph](#) and drive past striking natural attractions, historic outback pubs and towns brimming with culture and activity. Named after [John McDouall Stuart](#), the first explorer to successfully cross Australia from south to north and return, the [Explorer's Way](#) extends from Adelaide to Darwin. On your travels you'll hit the Territory's star attractions, including World Heritage-listed [Uluru](#) and Kata Tjuta, spectacular Katherine Gorge (Nitmiluk National Park), and the waterfalls and waterholes of Litchfield National Park. **Source Tourism NT**



## OCTOBER PROMOTIONAL VIDEO



October's Darwin's 2021 promotional video highlights some of the fantastic attractions that you'll see including the fabulous sunsets at Mindil Beach, the beauty of Uluru, the ancient gorges, the many swimming waterholes, the Indigenous culture, camel adventures and of course the expected 2021 Square Dancing Convention. Click on the adjacent image to view.

## OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR



### PRE AND POST CONVENTION TOURS



### *Why not see more of Australia on the way to Darwin or post the Convention in 2021*

Fantastic Aussie Tours who are also major sponsors of the Blue Mountains Convention in 2020 are planning two special tours for Darwin2021 delegates. The first, the Banjo Patterson tour, travelling from Sydney or Brisbane through Central Queensland into the Northern territory and onto Darwin. The second tour will be post the Darwin2021 Convention to discover the highlights of the Kimberley travelling from Darwin to Broome. All tours will be travelling in luxury long distance touring coaches, quality accommodation, most meals and entry fees to attractions. Fantastic Aussie Tours has been operating extended tours around Australia for over 40 years and offer a wide range of guided holidays within Australia and overseas.

Register your interest for either tour or even both at [info@fantastic-asussie-tours.com.au](mailto:info@fantastic-asussie-tours.com.au) full itineraries will be published at a later date. Phone: 02 4780 0700



## 61<sup>st</sup> AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

Don't forget to support the 61<sup>st</sup> Australian National Square Dance Convention. Details are available on the adjacent panel. You can access further details by clicking on the panel

### COME AND JOIN THE DREAM

You can register an *Expression of Interest* for Darwin2021 by visiting our website at <https://www.darwin2021.com/registration> and completing the online form. We'll place you on our email list and forward all details, including newsletters, as they become available. We look forward to sharing our next newsletter in November.

*Marilyn van Sambeek, Convenor*



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