This 292,008 hectare National Park is owned by the Jawoyn Aboriginal people and jointly managed with the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory. Some of the Park’s features include spectacular dissected sandstone country, broad valleys and numerous, significant cultural sites. The deep gorge carved through ancient sandstone by the Katherine River is the central attraction of the Park.

Access
The Park’s main entrance is located 30 kilometres northeast of Katherine via a sealed road.

When to Visit
The most comfortable time to visit the Park is from May to September. During the wet season, flooding of the Katherine River may restrict the range of activities available and in some cases prevent access to the Park.

What to See and Do

Boat Tours - Nitmiluk Tours operate a variety of boat tours in the Gorge system ranging from the popular two hour cruise, to half day and full day safaris. Tours depart from the boat ramp and can be booked at the Nitmiluk Centre.

Flying - A helicopter ride is an excellent way to see the gorge system. Flights of 12 minutes and longer are available and provide magnificent views of the Arnhem Land Plateau and Gorge system. Trips are available for up to three passengers with a minimum of two people.

Walking - There are numerous walking tracks in the Park offering a variety of experiences from riverbank strolls to spectacular overnight walks up to 65 kilometres in length. Overnight walkers are required to register with rangers at the Nitmiluk Centre. Some of the features of the many walks include the fascinating geology of the sandstone escarpment, spectacular waterfalls and a large variety of wildlife.

Aboriginal art can be seen along the base of the sandstone escarpment in the Gorge system. Other evidence of Jawoyn activities are located throughout the Park. More detailed information is available in the Nitmiluk Centre or in the Guide to Nitmiluk National Park Walking Map.

Canoeing - Canoes can be hired at the Gorge by the hour, half day, full day or overnight. Private canoes can be used in the Gorge but only after registering and paying a small fee at the Nitmiluk Centre first. The upper gorges are accessible to canoes but portage can be quite strenuous as canoes and equipment must be carried over the rockbars between each gorge. There are several designated camping areas for canoeists. Numbers are restricted and registration is required.

Camping - There are two options for campers; either use one of the well serviced sites at the Gorge or Leliyn (Edith Falls) or for canoeists and walkers bush camping sites can be utilised. See the facilities section for more information. Bush campers are charged a small fee and should check at the Nitmiluk Centre for the availability of drinking water and location of toilets. Fires are permitted only at bush camping sites away from the Gorge system. No open fires are permitted in the Gorge system.

Boating - Private powered vessels are prohibited from the gorge system from 1
June to 31 August. At other times, unless the river is closed due to the wet season, private vessels are restricted to the first gorge. Vessels must maintain a speed of under seven nautical miles per hour and be under four metres in length, with a motor smaller than 10 hp. Normal waterway rules apply. All private vessels must be registered at the Nitmiluk Centre prior to launching. Fees apply.

**Fishing** - Fishing is a popular pastime for many visitors to the Gorge. Normal barramundi fishing controls apply. No bait fishing is permitted, use lures only.

**Visitor Facilities**

Park facilities at the Gorge include:

- a picnic area with gas barbecues, tables and toilets
- a fully serviced campground with powered sites
- the Nitmiluk Centre with interpretive displays, a cafeteria, souvenir shop and tour booking desk
- the launch tour boat jetty and canoe hire. These facilities are located adjacent to the boat ramp and have a public swimming area nearby.

**Leliyn (Edith Falls)**

This picturesque waterhole is a favoured stopping point for visitors travelling northwards. Leliyn is accessed by driving 40 kilometres north from Katherine and then following the sealed access road for 20 kilometres. Park facilities at Leliyn (Edith Falls) include:

- a fully serviced campground with toilet and shower facilities. Unpowered sites only
- a picnic ground with gas barbecues and tables
- Please collect your firewood before entering the Park.

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*Ask at Katherine Region Tourist Association (08) 8972 2650 for more general publications about parks - The Great Outdoors, NT Touring Guide, Touring the Great Outdoors - Parks and Reserves of the Top End.*