

Mary River National Park (proposed)



Fact Sheet

The Mary River National Park (proposed) protects a part of the Mary River catchment. Freshwater billabongs, paperbark and monsoon forests provide visitors with excellent opportunities for wildlife watching, fishing, bushwalking and photography.

The Mary River is one of eight rivers in the Top End which have large floodplains in their catchments. The Arnhem Highway takes you across five of the eight rivers as you travel between Darwin and Jabiru.

Access (see map)


Located 150 km east of Darwin along the Arnhem Highway. In the dry season (May to September) most areas are accessible to all vehicles, however, many roads are unsealed. During the wet season (October - April) flooding causes road closures.



When to Visit

Commercial tours and accommodation are available all year. For more information, contact Tourism Top End. The most comfortable time to visit is during the dry season (May - September)

What to See and Do

   **Mary River Crossing** - on the Arnhem Highway 3km west of the Bark Hut Inn. A picnic area, toilets and boat ramp make this an ideal site to access the Mary.


 **Hardies 4WD Track** - is accessible from the Arnhem Highway, about 5km west of the Mary River or from Rockhole road. A separate information sheet is available.



  **Bird Billabong** - a walking track and viewing platform provide access to a billabong where birdlife gather as waters recede on the wetlands.



   **Rockhole** - a popular access


point to the waterways of the Mary River. A boat ramp and picnic facilities are located here. Barramundi fishing is popular.




  **Couzen's Lookout Camping Area** - offers secluded camping beside the Mary River. It is only a short walk to the lookout where the sunsets are stunning.

 **Wildman 4WD Track** - links the Rockhole and Wildman roads. You can start at either end and explore the wetlands. A separate information sheet is available.



  **Brian Creek Monsoon Forest** - a patch of diverse monsoon forest which contrasts strongly with the surrounding woodlands. Easily accessible.

  **Mistake Billabong** - a viewing platform provides shade while you watch life on the billabong.

 **Jimmy Creek Monsoon Forest** - a formed track and boardwalk provide access to dense monsoon forest. Located behind the Point Stuart Wilderness Lodge.

   **Shady Camp** - a popular fishing spot with boat ramps, picnic areas, toilets. A viewing platform offers excellent views of the river and its many crocodiles upstream. A barrage helps prevent saltwater entering the freshwater wetlands.

Point Stuart Coastal Reserve and Stuart's Tree Historical Reserve access is restricted to this sensitive area and requires a research permit available from Parks Permits. Phone 8999 4795.

  **No swimming** - estuarine crocodiles inhabit these waters.

Safety and Comfort

- Observe park safety signs.
- Observe Crocodile warning signs.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- Carry a first aid kit.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Ensure your boat and vehicle is well maintained and equipped.
- Beware of theft, lock vehicles and secure valuables.

Please Remember

- Put your rubbish in the bin or take it away with you.
- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Pets are not permitted in this Park.
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted.
- Take care with fire, light fires only in fireplaces provided.
- Camp only in designated camping areas.
- Collect firewood before arriving at your picnic or campsite.
- Collect fallen timber only.
- Observe all fishing and boating regulations.
- Check that your vehicle is not transporting pests like weeds and Cane Toads.
- Wash away from water courses.



Magpie Geese
Anseranas semipalmata

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

Wildman Office

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Head Office - Goyder Centre

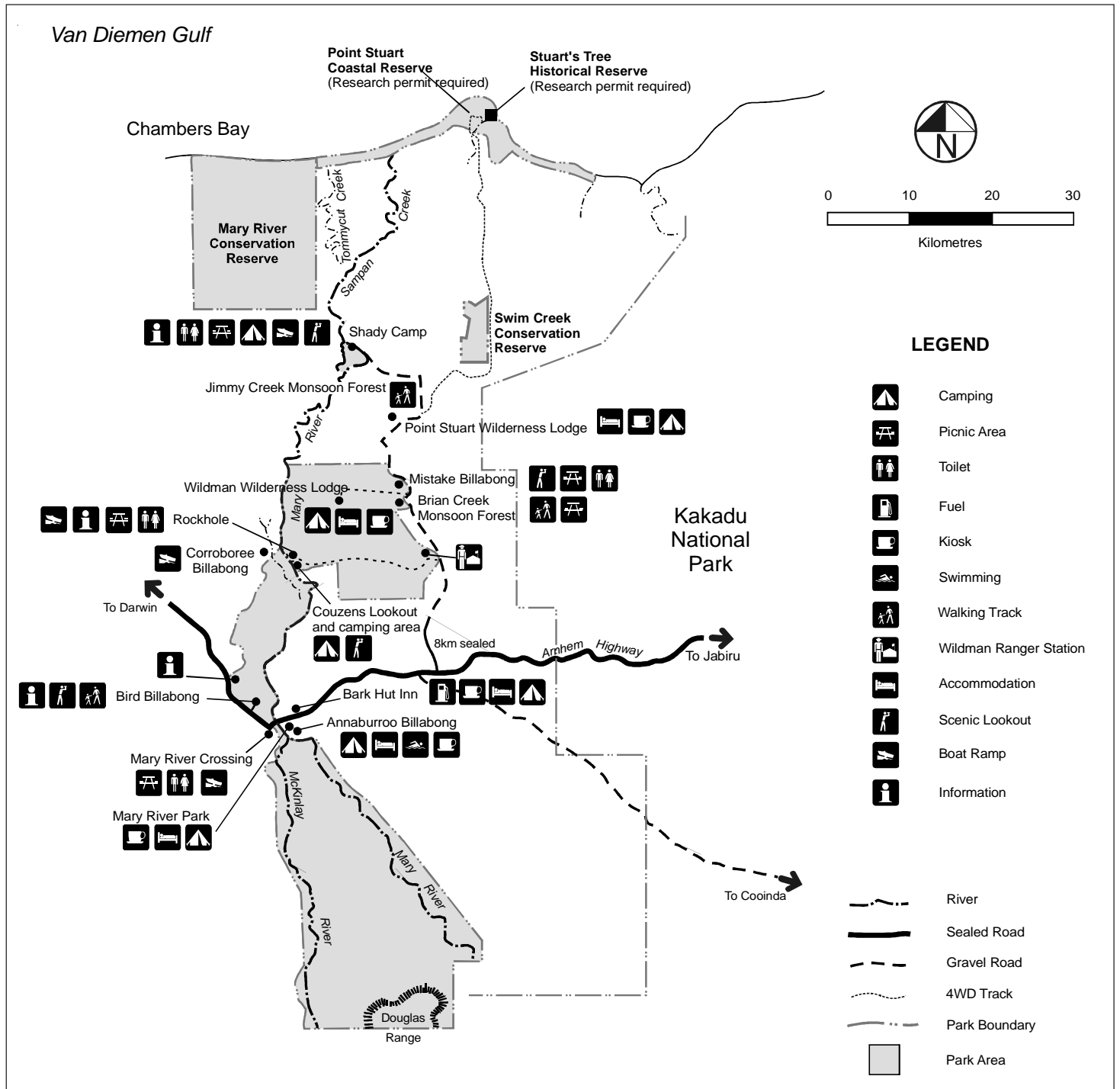
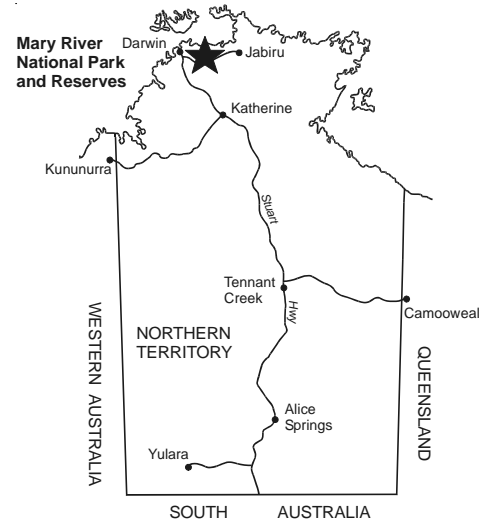
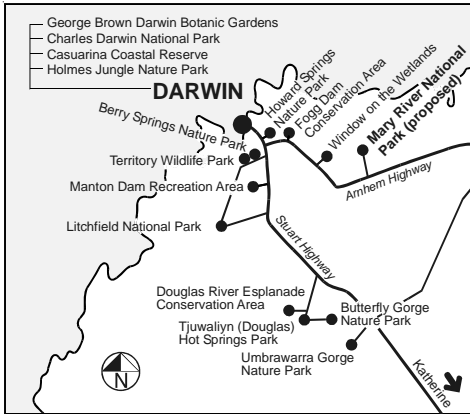
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For more information see our website: www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks

or contact Tourism Top End (08) 8936 2499 or 1300 138 886 www.tourismtopend.com.au