

# Galiwin'ku

## Top End Region

### Community Profile

**Pronunciation:** Gally-wing-coo

**Alternate name:** Elcho Island

**Location:** South of Elcho Island in Northeast Arnhem land 150km west of Nhulunbuy.

**NT Region:** Top End

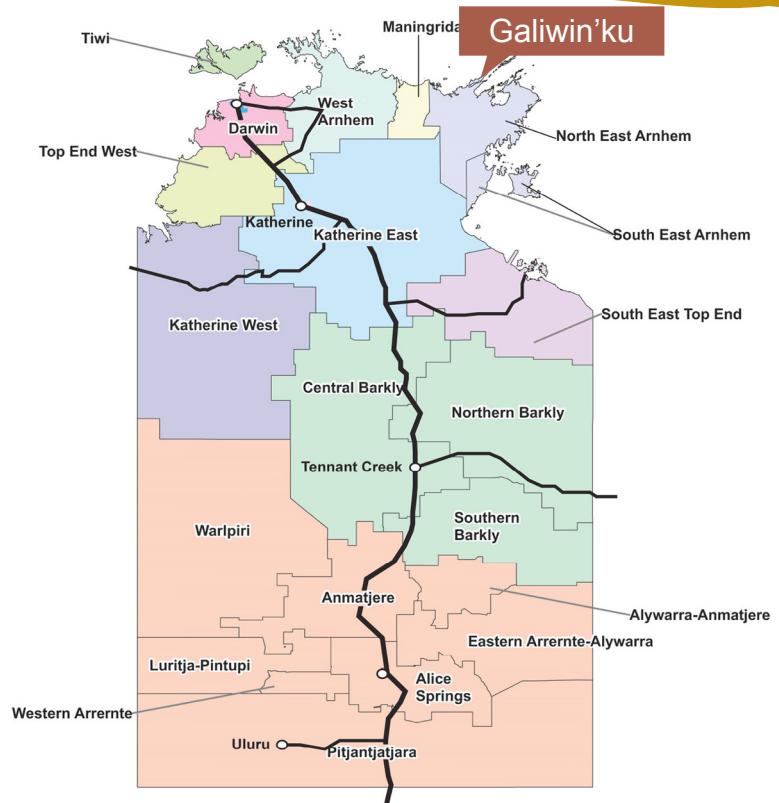
**Population:** Approx. 2453 residents

**Access:** Air

**Language groups:** Djambarrpuyngu, Gupapuyngu, Djinang, Galpa, Golpa, Golumala, Gumatj, Liya'gawumirr, Wangurri, and Warramiri

**Phone:** 4G Telstra

**Internet:** Limited use of internet in the clinic



*This map of the Northern Territory, divided into regions, has been adapted from the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) Program Management and Implementation Section (2008) Map of the Northern Territory*

### Climate (Top End)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
<b>Winter (June to August)</b>	<b>Cooler and dry</b>	<b>6°C to 19°C</b>
<p>The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.</p> <p>Humidity Range 20% – 50%.</p> <p>Fine weather with minimal rain and the possibility of getting quite cold by Territory standards during June/July.</p>		
<b>Summer (December to February)</b>	<b>Hot and humid</b>	<b>25°C to 38°C</b>
<p>The temperature can rise above 40°C during the day in summer. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes.</p> <p>Humidity Range 30% – 95%.</p> <p>The build-up occurs from September with building humidity, intermittent lightning storms and downpours. Rains typically arrive December/January with regular heavy downpours and the possibility of cyclones.</p>		

## Infrastructure, facilities and services

Community	<b>Church:</b> Yes <b>Community halls or sheds:</b> Yes <b>Workforce skills or training facilities:</b> Yes <b>School:</b> Yes <b>Library:</b> Yes <b>Council Office:</b> Yes <b>Women's Centre:</b> Yes <b>Childcare Centre:</b> Yes <b>Aged Care Centre:</b> Yes <b>Community Safety:</b> Yes, Community Care Program. <b>Banking:</b> Yes <b>Recreational/other facilities:</b> In Galiwin'ku there is a basketball court, tennis courts, campground, sports ground and Yolŋu owned art centre, Elcho Island Arts.		
Community store	<b>Galiwin'ku Store</b>  The Galiwin'ku store is operated by the Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA). Limited fresh food, sometimes fresh milk, basic groceries, hardware and clothing are sold.  <b>Opening hours</b>  Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm Saturday 9:00am – 12:00pm Sunday Closed	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8987 9036	
Other food outlets	There are two other small stores and takeaway food outlets in Galiwin'ku.		
Food orders	<b>Woolworths Darwin</b>  <b>Toll Shipping</b>  Toll Shipping can deliver food orders from Woolworths in Darwin.	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8919 8308 <b>Website</b> <a href="http://www.woolworthsonline.com.au">www.woolworthsonline.com.au</a>  <b>Telephone</b> 1800 220 436	
Commercial accommodation	<b>Marthakal Motel</b>	<b>Telephone</b> 0417 086 864	
Fuel	Opal and diesel fuel are available in the community.		
Police station	Galiwin'ku Police Station.	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8987 9298	
Community Safety	Yes, Night Patrol.		
Other police contract	Police assistance line.	<b>Telephone</b> 131 444	
Telephone/internet/mail			
Mobile phone <sup>1</sup> /phone	4G Telstra		
Internet	Limited use of the internet is available in the clinic.		
Mail	Australia Post – Galiwin'ku (Elcho Island) CPA	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8987 9073	
Access			
Road	Not accessible by road.		

<sup>1</sup> Telstra 3G/Next G are typically the only mobile services that work in more remote parts of the Northern Territory. See link – <http://telstra.com.au/mobile-phones/coverage-networks/our-coverage/>

## Air

There is a sealed aerodrome located 500 metres from the community.

**Airnorth:** Weekly passenger flight service between Darwin and Elcho Island (Galiwin'ku).

**Fly Tiwi:** Weekly passenger flight service between Darwin and Elcho Island (Galiwin'ku).

**Territory Air Charters:** Regular charter to community.

### Health centre one

#### Health service<sup>2</sup>

**Ngalkanbuy Health Centre**

**Telephone** (08) 8970 5700

**Email** [woodsc@miwati.com.au](mailto:woodsc@miwati.com.au)

**Web** [www.miwatji.com.au](http://www.miwatji.com.au)

#### Operating hours

Monday – Tuesday	8:00am – 4:30pm
Wednesday	8:00am – 12:00pm
Thursday – Friday	8:00am – 4:30pm
Saturday – Sunday	Closed

#### Facilities

Five treatment rooms.

#### On-call services

Emergencies only.

#### Medical Records System<sup>3</sup>

Communicare

#### Vehicles

The health centres maintains a Toyota Troop Carrier that has been converted for use as an ambulance as well as other vehicles.

**\*\*Note: All Troop Carriers are 4WD, manual and take DIESEL fuel.**

#### GPs

Yes, a permanent GP is based in the clinic.

#### Visiting services

Specialists (including physician) and dentists.

#### Acute care

Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS)

#### Other

Birthing women birth in Gove or Darwin.

### Health centre two

#### Health service<sup>4</sup>

**Marthakal Homeland Health Service**

**Telephone** (08) 8970 5566

**Email** [healthmanager@marthakal.org](mailto:healthmanager@marthakal.org)

**Web** <http://www.marthakal.org.au>

#### Operating hours

Monday – Friday	8:00am – 4:30pm
Saturday – Sunday	Closed

#### Facilities

Marthakal Homeland Health services the outlying homelands and communities.

#### On-call service

Yes

#### Medical Records System<sup>5</sup>

Communicare

<sup>2</sup> For more detailed description of the health centre and their services, please contact the Health Service directly.

<sup>3</sup> Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community.

<sup>4</sup> For more detailed description of the health centre and their services, please contact the Health Service directly.

<sup>5</sup> Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community.

<b>Vehicles</b>	The health centres maintains a Toyota Troop Carrier that has been converted for use as an ambulance as well as other vehicles. <b>**Note: All Troop Carriers are 4WD, manual and take DIESEL fuel.</b>
<b>GPs</b>	Yes, a GP visits the clinic for one week per month.
<b>Visiting services</b>	Visiting services include dentists, oral health services, dermatology, podiatry, men's health specialist and women's health specialist.
<b>Acute care</b>	Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS)
<b>Other</b>	Birthing women birth in Gove or Darwin.
<b>Alcohol</b>	
<b>Alcohol<sup>6</sup></b>	This community is a dry community, no alcohol is permitted. This applies to everyone, including visitors.
<b>Governance</b>	
<b>Local Government</b>	The local council is East Arnhem Regional Council. The land council is Northern Land Council.
<b>Outstations</b>	Approximately 25 including Rorruwuy, Gawa, Mapurru, Mata Mata, Mudhamul, Garriyangurr, Nikawu, Nyekala, Wunbirri, Yirringa, Dhudupu and Galawarra.
<b>Other tips and relevant information</b>	
<b>Other tips/relevant information</b>	Be prepared for the variable standard of accommodation in communities. A sleeping bag sheet insert is a good idea for protection against biting insects.  Whenever possible, avoid being on the road from dusk till dawn. Apart from the unfenced cattle station, the region has a population of feral horses, donkeys, dogs and the occasional camel along with a native population of Kangaroos and Dingoes. All of which are a significant road hazard.  On arrival, please check with the Health Centre to understand any health or social issues within the community. They can also let you know of any sacred sites to avoid.

*Disclaimer*

*This information is prepared in good faith and to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing. However, Aboriginal communities, like any community, can change as the population shifts and people move on. Please contact the RAHC Regional Coordinator or the Health Centre Manager to confirm any key issues or concerns you may have ahead of your RAHC placement. RAHC also values any input you can provide to improve our Community Profiles.*

<sup>6</sup> It is an offence to consume or bring alcohol into a dry community in the Northern Territory.

**Darwin Office**

Level 4, Darwin Central Offices, 21 Knuckey Street, Darwin NT 0800  
T 08 8942 1650 F 08 8942 1676

**Canberra Office**

Unit 34, 2 King St, Deakin ACT 2600  
T 02 6203 9588 F 02 6203 9598

**Alice Springs Office**

Centre for Remote Health, Cnr Simpson & Skinner St, Alice Springs 0870  
T 08 7904 4003 F 08 8942 1676

