

Gapuwiyak

Top End Region

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Gap-oo-wee-yack

Alternate name: Lake Evella

Location: Gapuwiyak is on the shore of Lake Evella in northeast of Arnhem Land

NT Region: Top End

Population: Approx. 1080 residents

Access: Road and air

Language groups: Djambarrpuyngu, which is a dialect of Yolngu Matha

Phone: 4G Telstra

Internet: Only personal use of internet in the accommodation



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
Winter (June to August)	Cooler and dry	6°C to 19°C
<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>		
Summer (December to February)	Hot and humid	25°C to 38°C
<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

Church: Yes

Community halls or sheds: Yes

Workforce skills or training facilities: Yes, ALPA Employment Service.

School: Yes

Library: No

Council Office: Yes

Women's Centre: Yes

Childcare Centre: Yes

Aged Care Centre: Yes

Community Safety: Yes, Community Care Program.

Banking: Yes, There is an ATM located at the ALPA Store.

Recreational/other facilities: Gapuwiyak community has a sporting facility with a sports ground for AFL football and a basketball court. Recreational activities include swimming, fishing, and camping. All visitors can also enjoy the Arts Centre and museum.

Community store

**Arnhem Lands Progress Association (ALPA)
Gapuwiyak Store**

Telephone (08) 8987 9107

The Gapuwiyak store is owned and managed by ALPA providing basic groceries including fresh milk, fresh fruit, vegetables and frozen meat. You can also purchase hardware, personal items, CDs, DVDs, kitchenware, and clothing.

It is advisable to bring any specific long lasting grocery items with you as they may not be available in the store.

Opening hours

Monday – Sunday

9:00am – 5:00pm

Food orders

Woolworths

Telephone (08) 8995 9371

Coles

Telephone (08) 8941 8055

Delivery Service

Telephone (08) 8928 9300

Fly Tiwi arrange freight transport to remote communities across the Northern Territory, including Lake Evella.

Commercial accommodation

**Gapuwiyak Culture and
Arts Accommodation**

Telephone (08) 8987 9110

Email accommodation@gongdal.com.au

Lot 131 Marrangu Road, Gapuwiyak Community, East Arnhem Land, NT 0880

Comfortable demountable style self-contained units with one or two bedrooms, linen and cooking utensils are provided.

**Gurrambalk Accommodation and
Business Village**

Telephone (08) 8987 9333

12 Ridharrngu St, Gapuwiyak NT 0880

Located in Gapuwiyak, the community-run accommodation offers units with single and double beds, WIFI access, a shared kitchen with a kettle and fridge, undercover parking and shared laundry. Airport transports to and from the accommodation is available for an additional cost.

Fuel	Gapuwiyak Community Fuel Point Lot 107 Bubawoynagumi St, Gapuwiyak NT 0880. Opal and diesel fuel are available.	Telephone (08) 8970 1107
Police station	Gapuwiyak (Lake Evella) Police Station	Telephone (08) 8987 9318
Community Safety	Gapuwiyak has a Community Safety Program	
Other police contract	Police assistance line	Telephone 131 444
Telephone/internet/mail		
Mobile phone¹/phone	4G Telstra and Optus	
Internet	Yes, personal use is available.	
Mail	Gapuwiyak (Lake Evella) CPA 9 Bambinamirri St, Gapuwiyak NT 0880.	Telephone (08) 8970 1100
Access		
Road	Gapuwiyak is approximately 550kms away from Katherine on an unsealed road. It will take around 8-10 hours in good conditions, but the road can become cut off during the wet season. Gapuwiyak is a 220km drive from Nhulunbuy via the unsealed Central Arnhem Highway. The highway can be cut off for prolonged periods during the wet season. To access Gapuwiyak via road, you will need a 4WD.	
Air	The airstrip is sealed and runs parallel to the town. Mission Aviation Fellowship, Charters and Fly Tiwi Air run flights from Darwin that take approximately one hour and 15 minutes.	
Regular passenger transport	Bare Foot Bus Service The Bare Foot Bus Service runs in conjunction with Katherine coaches. This service goes to Gapuwiyak weekly from Katherine every Tuesday.	Telephone 1800 263 442
Health centre		
Health service²	Miwatj Aboriginal Health Clinic Gapuwiyak 1 Babawuynagumi St, Gapuwiyak NT 0880	Telephone (08) 8987 9150 Email gapuwiyak.clinicmgr@nt.gov.au Web https://www.miwatj.com.au/project/gapuwiyak/
	Operating hours	Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm Saturday – Sunday Closed
	Facilities	Six consult rooms, one treatment room, one emergency room, one dental room, one x-ray room and a hearing room.
On-call services	Yes, 24/7 on-call service.	

¹ 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/>

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

Medical Records System³

Communicare

Vehicles

The health centre maintains a Toyota Troop Carrier that has been converted for use as an ambulance.

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

GPs

Yes, there is a permanent GP is based in the clinic.

Visiting services

The visiting services consist of a Dietician, Midwife, Podiatrist, Dental, Obstetrician, Ophthalmologist, Women's Health Professionals, Mental Health Professionals, ENT Nutritionist and Gynaecologist.

Acute care

Care Flight

Other

Birthing women birth in Gove or Darwin

Alcohol

Alcohol⁴

This community is a dry community, no alcohol is permitted. This applies to everyone, including visitors.

Governance

Local Government

The Local Council is West Arnhem.

The Land Council is the Northern Lands Council NLC.

Other tips and relevant information

Other tips/relevant information

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.

³ Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community.

⁴ 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

Canberra Office

Unit 34, 2 King St, Deakin ACT 2600

Alice Springs Office

Centre for Remote Health, Cnr Simpson & Skinner St, Alice Springs 0870