

## Lajamanu *Top End*

### Community Profile

- Pronunciation:** Lar-jar-marnoo

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- Alternate name:** Hooker Creek

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- Location:** 560km Southwest of Katherine.

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- NT Region:** Top End

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- Population:** Approx. 700 residents

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- Access:** Road

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- Language groups:** Warlpiri and Gurundji

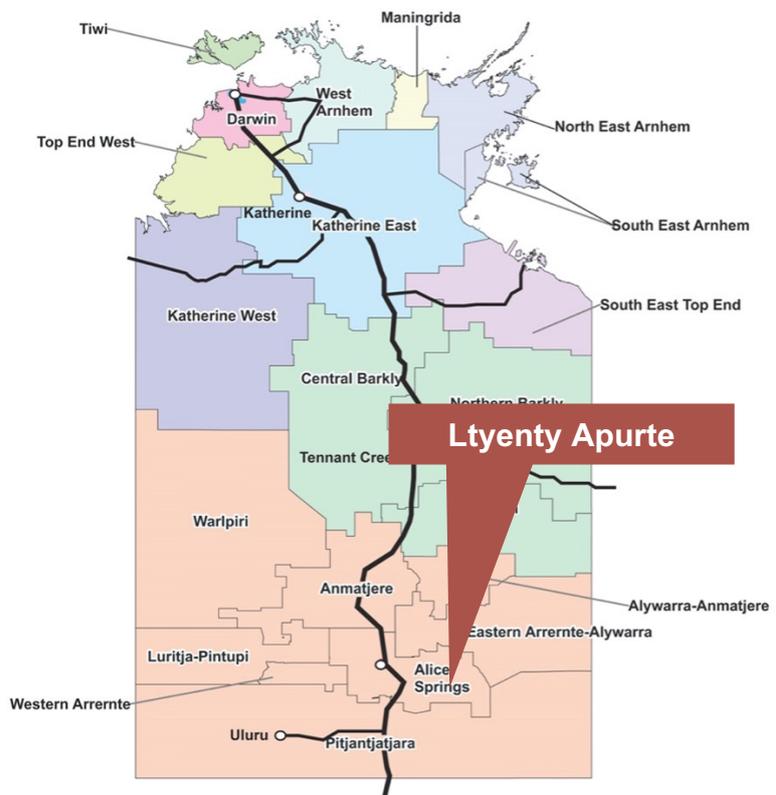
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- Phone:** 3G Telstra

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

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### 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

<b>Community</b>	<b>School:</b> Yes <b>Library:</b> Yes <b>Banking:</b> Commonwealth Bank. There are two ATMs located at the Lajamanu store. There are full Eftpos and credit card facilities at the service station. <b>Recreational facilities:</b> There is a football oval, basketball courts, camping, fishing and swimming.
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<b>Community store</b>	<b>Lajamanu Store</b>	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8975 0986
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The Lajamanu Progress Aboriginal Corporation owns and operates a modern supermarket which has a full range of fresh, frozen chilled and dry goods available, as well as hardware, clothing and takeaway food. Fresh meat comes from Kalkarindji.

<b>Opening hours</b>	Monday - Friday	9:00am - 12:00pm & 1:30pm – 5:00pm
	Saturday	9:30am - 12:30pm
	Sunday	Closed

<b>Other food outlets</b>	There is a takeaway store.
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<b>Food orders</b>	Bush orders can be arranged from Katherine Woolworths – (08) 8934 8100
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<b>Commercial accommodation</b>	<b>Longhouse – Central Desert Regional Council</b>  The Longhouse has six rooms, all with shared bathrooms, lounge and kitchen. Bookings can be made through the CDRC office in Lajamanu. All forms of payment are accepted.
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<b>Fuel</b>	Opal and Diesel fuel are available from the Store. Please check opening hours.
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<b>Police station</b>	Two-post police station	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8975 0622
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<b>Other police contract</b>	Police assistance line	<b>Telephone</b> 131 444
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## Telephone/internet/mail

<b>Mobile phone<sup>1</sup>/phone</b>	3G Telstra
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<b>Internet</b>	Limited use of the internet is available in the clinic.
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<b>Mail</b>	One mail flight per week is conducted in the community aircraft which is owned by the Lajamanu Progress Association and is operated on their behalf by Chartair.
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## Access

<b>Road</b>	880km sealed and dirt road from Darwin via Katherine, it is approx. a 9 hour drive.
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The town is located approximately 450 kms Southwest of Katherine, on the northern edge of the Tanami Desert. Access is west on the Victoria Hwy, approx. 120kms then south onto the Buntine Highway (sealed), approx. 150kms to Top Springs. Continue west on the Buntine Hwy 180kms (sealed road). Access can also be made from Alice Springs utilising the Tanami Road, which is unsealed and often in poor repair.

<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** Flights take one to two hours from Katherine and two and a half hours from Darwin. The air strip is an all-weather sealed runway which closes occasionally following very heavy rains.

**Regular passenger transport** Charter flights are available in and out of the community by Chartair in conjunction with locally owned Lajamanu Air Pty Ltd. Katherine Aviation also flies from Katherine to Lajamanu.

## Health centre

**Health service<sup>2</sup>** **Katherine West Health Board** **Telephone** (08) 8975 0870  
**Email** lajamanuadmin@kwhb.com.au  
**Web** www.kwhb.com.au

**Opening hours** Monday - Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm

### Facilities

Nine consulting rooms, six treatment rooms and one emergency room.

**On-call services** RN 1st and 2nd on-call roster managed by HCM

**Medical Records System<sup>3</sup>** 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, a permanent GP is based in the clinic

**Visiting services** Visiting services include dentist, dental therapist, physician, paediatrics, ear nose and throat, ophthalmology, optometrist, physiotherapy, dietitian, occupational therapist, audiologist, mental health, AIDS/STD screening, adult assessment and coordination team, family youth and community services, environment Health Officers.

**Acute care** Care Flight

**Other** Birthing women birth in Katherine or Darwin

## Alcohol

**Alcohol<sup>4</sup>** This community is a dry community, no alcohol is permitted. This applies to everyone, including visitors.

## Governance

**Local Government** The local council is the Central Desert Regional Council.

**Outstations** Mirrinyungu, Jiwaranpa, Lul-tju Mungurrupa, Parnta, Parrulyu, Tjabalajabala, Pinja Jangalpangalpa, Ngarnka, Yartalu Yartalu and Green Swamp Hills.

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

## 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.

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### **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 NT Remote Locum Program to confirm any key issues or concerns you may have ahead of your NT Remote Locum Program placement. NT Remote Locum Program also values any input you can provide to improve our Community Profiles.*

