

Lajamanu *Top End*

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Lar-jar-marnoo

Alternate name: Hooker Creek

Location: 560km Southwest of Katherine.

NT Region: Top End

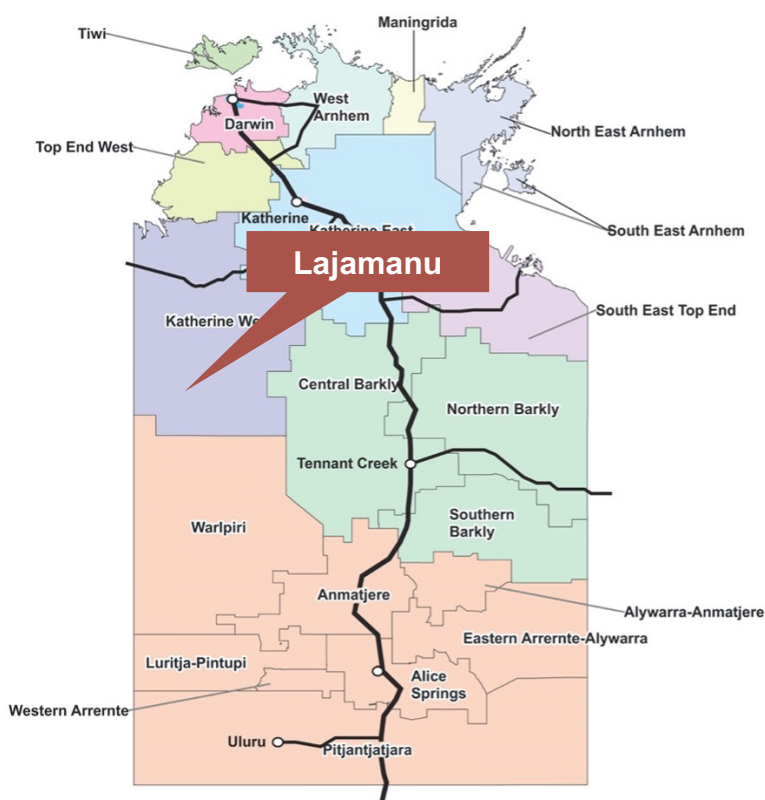
Population: Approx. 700 residents

Access: Road

Language groups: Warlpiri and Gurundji

Phone: 3G Telstra

Internet: Limited use of internet in the clinic



Climate (Top End)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
Winter (June to August)	Cooler and dry	6°C to 19°C
The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes. Humidity Range 20% – 50%. Fine weather with minimal rain and the possibility of getting quite cold by Territory standards during June/July.		
Summer (December to February)	Hot and humid	25°C to 38°C
The temperature can rise above 40°C during the day in summer. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes. Humidity Range 30% – 95%. 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.		

Infrastructure, facilities and services

Community

School: Yes

Library: Yes

Banking: Commonwealth Bank. There are two ATMs located at the Lajamanu store. There are full Eftpos and credit card facilities at the service station.

Recreational facilities: There is a football oval, basketball courts, camping, fishing and swimming.

Community store

Lajamanu Store

Telephone (08) 8975 0986

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.

Opening hours

Monday - Friday

9:00am - 12:00pm &
1:30pm - 5:00pm

Saturday

9:30am - 12:30pm

Sunday

Closed

Other food outlets

There is a takeaway store.

Food orders

Bush orders can be arranged from Katherine Woolworths – (08) 8934 8100

Commercial accommodation

Longhouse – Central Desert Regional Council

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.

Fuel

Opal and Diesel fuel are available from the Store. Please check opening hours.

Police station

Two-post police station

Telephone (08) 8975 0622

Other police contract

Police assistance line

Telephone 131 444

Telephone/internet/mail

Mobile phone¹/phone

3G Telstra

Internet

Limited use of the internet is available in the clinic.

Mail

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.

Access

Road

880km sealed and dirt road from Darwin via Katherine, it is approx. a 9 hour drive.

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.

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/>

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 ²	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 ³	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 ⁴	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.		

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

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.

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 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.

