

Bulman

Katherine Region

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Bull-men

Alternate names: Gulin Gulin, Mardruk and Yulngu

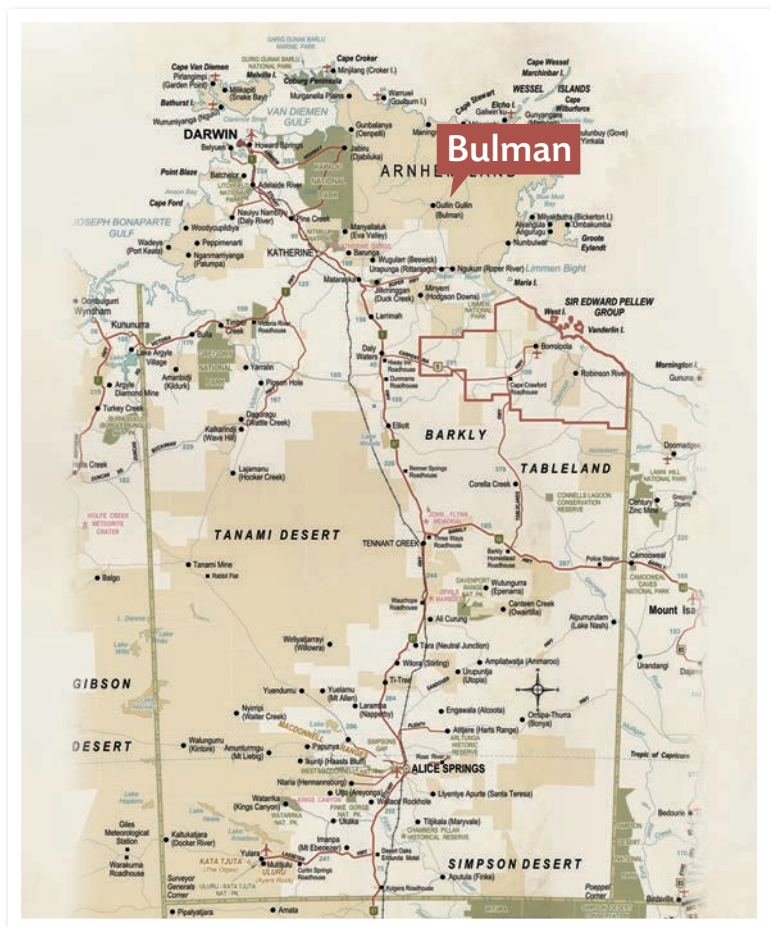
Location: 312km north-east of Katherine on the Central Arnhem Highway

NT region: Katherine East

Population: Varies from 150 to 300

Access: Road and air access from Katherine

Language groups: Rembarnga and Kriol



Climate (Top End)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
Winter dry season (May to September)	Cooler and dry	15°C to 33°C
The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes. Humidity 20% - 50%.	Fine weather with no rain and much lower humidity than Wet Season and a possibility of becoming cold by Territory standards during June / July.	
Summer wet season (October to April)	Hot and humid	22°C to 35°C
Humidity can rise to 95%. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes. Humidity 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.	



History

A cattle station town servicing surrounding cattle stations, Bulman (original name: Gulin Gulin) had been settled by Europeans in the nineteenth century. The Aboriginal people worked on the stations in the area and also further north, as homesteads and small communities were established on the fringes of Arnhem Land.

In many areas, there was competition for land between Aboriginal people and pastoralists.

... where illegal activities such as The Dulabon and Rembarrnga people now make up the community of Bulman as well as the nearby homeland centres/outstations of Weemol, Baghetti, Barapunta and Mt Catt.

Community Life

Description of community: Bulman lies in undulating country among surrounding hills. It is known for its natural beauty and indigenous culture. There are spectacular rock formations and rock art in the area. Fishing is popular especially in the nearby Wilton River - fish caught include Barramundi, Black Bream and Freshwater Prawns.

Changes in population: Population figures are estimates, as several factors impact on movement. These include seasonal changes, ceremonial activity and movement between outstations.

How is it affected by seasons: The community is usually cut-off during the wet season at the Mainoru River and Flying Fox Creek. However with careful driving the road is usable.

Major landmarks or cultural factors: Walamun Cultural Festival is held annually in Bulman. This festival is a celebration of culture, history and people in the Bulman and Weemol area.

Local industry/mine: Pastoral industry (cattle).

Tourism: As a stopover on Central Arnhem Highway on route to Nhulunbuy.

Arts/crafts: None.

Websites: www.katherinegroupschool.nt.edu.au/bulman/index.htm

****Please check with the Health Centre on arrival for sacred sites to avoid and health or social issues to be aware of.**

Governance

Local Government Roper Gulf Shire **Telephone** (08) 8975 4926
Web www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au/index.php/bulman.html

Community or other governance structures Gulin Gulin and Weemol Community Council **Telephone** (08) 8975 4887

Outstations Baghetti, Mt Jean, Momob, Gopulyu, Morak, Barapunta and Mt Catt

Permit System¹ All visitors must obtain a permit from the appropriate authority for the duration of their stay. Permits may be required for any person visiting the community including activities such as fishing, camping and visiting certain beaches.

Permit application for Bulman is through Northern Land Council (NLC).

Web www.nlc.org.au

Infrastructure, facilities and services

Community

Church: Services available run by Australian Inland Mission

Community Halls and Sheds: Community Hall

Government Offices: Centrelink Agency

Workforce Skills or Training Facilities: None

Post Office: None

School: Pre-school, Primary and Secondary classes

Council Office: Gulin Gulin and Weemol Council

Women's Centre: Yes

Childcare Centre: None, but 'Little Programme' is run at the school

Aged Care Centre: None

Banking: ATM and Eftpos located in the store

Community store **Gulin Gulin Community Store:** **Telephone** (08) 8975 4711

Gulin Gulin Store is run by Outback Stores and has a good range of fresh food, bakery goods, meat and dairy

A new store has been built and is much larger than the old building providing more room to stock grocery items

It is advisable to bring in any specialty products/items required

- **Opening hours** Monday to Friday 9am – 12pm and 1pm – 5pm
Saturday 9am– 12pm

There is currently a new store being built with the opening estimated for Dec 2014

Other food outlets Small store open on weekends

Food orders Possibly from Katherine Woolworths

Woolworths Katherine: **Telephone** (08) 8934 8100

Recreational facilities Sport and Recreation Hall, with full-sized basketball court. Games are held on weekends and there is a Friday night disco. Netball, softball and AFL football are popular (Football oval prominent!). Program run by Department of Youth Sport and Recreation

¹ RAHC HPs are not required to obtain permits for their placement as they are exempt under legislation related to the Emergency Response

Commercial accommodation	None	
Fuel	Opal and diesel are available	
Mechanic	Yes	
Police station	Fully compounded Police Station and accommodation located near the GBM complex	Telephone (08) 8975 4077
Alt. police contact	Katherine	Telephone (08) 8973 8000
Other	Community Night Patrol - 5 staff	Telephone Clinic has number
Telephone/internet/mail		
Mobile phone²	No mobile phone service in the region	
Internet	Internet access is available at the Health Centre for reasonable personal use	
Mail	Incoming mail to: PO Box 1696 Katherine NT 0850. Mail delivered on Tuesdays	
Other	GP's house and Health Centre have landlines, Television and Radio coverage - TV: 7 Central, Imparja, ABC and SBS. Radio: ABC	
Alcohol		
Alcohol – Not allowed³	Bulman and surrounding communities are dry. Alcohol restrictions apply to ALL residents and visitors	
Access		
Road	<p>Katherine (3 to 4 hours⁴): Severe flooding during the wet season may make the road impassable, but generally it is drivable with care all year round. The road is sealed for 110kms from Katherine to Beswick and unsealed for the remaining 200kms. 240Kms from Katherine the Mainoru River crossing is often flooded during the wet season, as is Flying Fox Creek</p> <p>Other services: The Bodhi Bus runs between Katherine and Bulman on Wednesdays,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Telephone (08) 8971 0774</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Web http://thebodhibus.com.au/route-service/</p>	
Air	<p>Facilities: All-weather strip so air access is possible through the year. No lighting. There is a weekly mail plane service every Tuesday from Katherine, run by Chartair</p> <p>Katherine (1 hour): Charters or Doctors plane</p>	
Regular passenger transport	None	

² 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/>

³ It is an offence to consume or bring alcohol into a dry community in the Northern Territory

⁴ Approximate travel time one-way

Health Centre

Health service Sunrise Health Service

Telephone (08) 8975 8757
Web www.sunrise.org.au
Email stuart.hart@sunrise.org.au

Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manager 1• Remote Area Nurses 3• Medical Practitioners 1 (Visiting GP)• Aboriginal Health Workers 1 (and 2 trainees)• Aboriginal Community Worker 2• Administration Officers 1• Drivers/Gardeners/Cleaners 3• Other. -
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Facilities Two treatment rooms and an emergency room

Operating hours Monday to Friday 8am – 4.30pm

On call After hours, weekends and emergencies

Services Health care, health checks, GP in twice a week

Medical Records System⁵ Communicare

Vehicles The health centre maintains three 4WD vehicles. No personal usage allowed
****Note: All Troop Carriers are 4WD, manual and take diesel fuel**

GP Employed by Sunrise, visits 2 days per week

Visiting services

- Ultrasound
- Midwife
- Oral Health.

Acute care A Remote Medical Practitioner is on call 24 hours for telephone consultations and evacuations. Emergency evacuations are looked after by Careflight and taken to Katherine. No night landing strip

Other Pregnant women birth in Katherine

Accommodation

Accommodation 1 Doctor's house and granny flat, 1 x 3 bedroom house, 1 x 2 bedroom house.
****Note: Sharing of facilities may be required**

Facilities Houses fully equipped

Linen Provided

Vehicles

Vehicle None available

⁵ Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community

What to pack for placement

Clothes

Possibility of cool nights in middle of year, so light warm clothing is useful. In wet season (October – April), clothing for very hot, humid days – loose cotton clothing

Please refer to this website for information on appropriate clothing to wear whilst out in a community

http://ntgpe.org/wp_site/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Appropriate-Clothing-2.pdf

Supplies

Bring any specialty foods and a small quantity of fresh food

****Note: Please be mindful of weight restrictions on plane travel**

Personal effects

Bring a hat, sturdy shoes, insect repellent, sunscreen and toiletries

Other tips or relevant information

Other tips/relevant information

Be prepared for variable standard of accommodation in communities. A sleeping bag sheet insert is a good idea for protection against biting insects

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 and up to date information or photos you can provide to improve our Community Profiles.

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Darwin Office

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