

Numbulwar

Arnhem Region

Community Profile

Pronunciation: Noom-bull-wah

Alternate names: Rose River

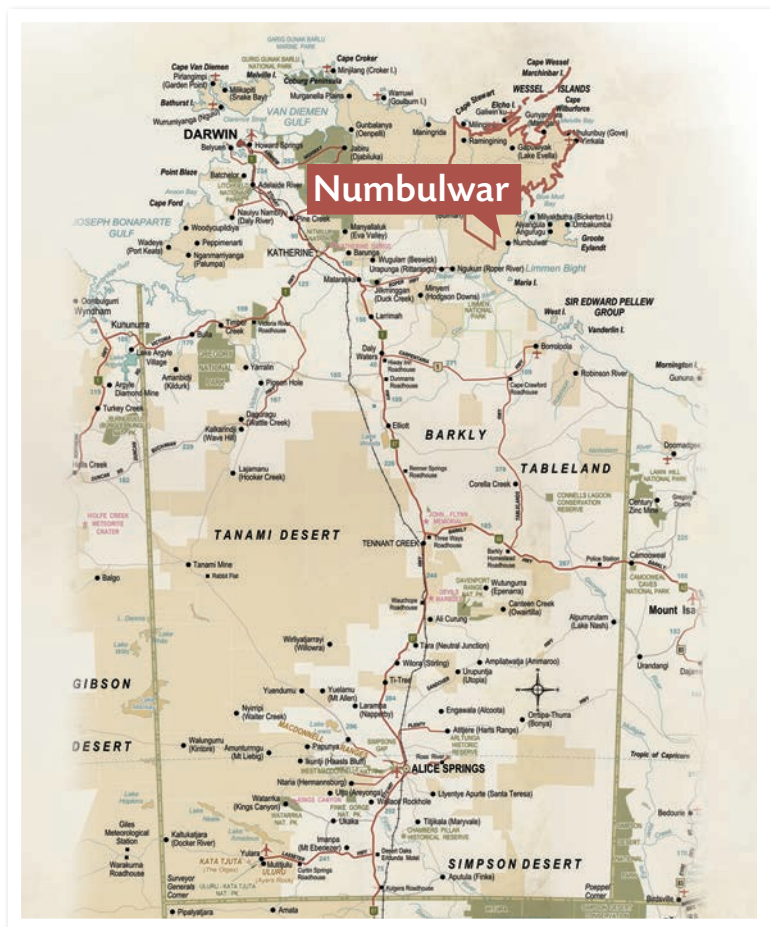
Location: 400km east of Katherine

NT region: South East Arnhem

Population: 800 approx.

Access: By air from Katherine or charter from Groote

Language groups: Wubuy, Anindilyakwa, Mara, Wandarrang, Waagilak / Ritharrngu, Ngalakan, Ngandi, Rembarrnga, and Djambarrpuyngu



Climate (Arnhem)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
Winter dry season (May to September)	Cooler and dry	15°C to 33°C
Humidity Range 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 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.	



History

The Aboriginal people of this region traded with the Maccassans people for thousands of years. Permanent settlement of Numbulwar began in 1952 with the founding of the Rose River Mission by local Aboriginal communities and the Anglican Church Missionary Society.

In 1976 community control was passed to the Numbulwar Numburindi Community Council.

Numbulwar's people are from a range of clans and Traditional Owners including groups from Ngukurr up to Blue Mud Bay (South of Nhulunbuy) and over to Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island.

Community Life

Description of community:

Numbulwar is situated between the coast and the mouth of the Rose River. The area is thriving with wildlife including buffaloes and is a hot spot for fishing.

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

How is it affected by seasons: Heavy rain in the wet season can cause road closures up to 2-3 days.

Major landmarks or cultural factors: Men's ceremonial area nearby so it is important to check where you can walk.

Local industry/mine: None.

Tourism: None.

Arts/crafts: Art Centre is located at the school.

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

Governance

Local Government Roper Gulf Shire **Telephone** (08) 8972 9000
Web www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au/index.php/numbulwar.html

Community or other governance structures Northern Land Council **Telephone** (08) 8920 5100
Web www.nlc.org.au
Numbulwar Homelands Council Assoc Incorporated **Telephone** (08) 8975 4005

Outstations There are nine Outstations with residents - Wuyagiba, Andanangki (Walker River), Yillila, Dharrari, Alharrgan, Yimidarri (Wandu), Wumajbarr, Markalawa and Waldharr (Harris Creek). There are several other Outstations, which do not have residents living permanently, and movement to these is not anticipated in the future.

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 Numbulwar is through Northern Land Council (NLC).
Web www.nlc.org.au

Infrastructure, facilities and services

Community
Church: Church of the Holy Spirit.
Community Halls and Sheds: Yes
Workforce Skills or Training Facilities: Training Centre.
Post Office: None. Mail plane comes weekly. Please supply your own stamps.
School: Pre-school, Primary and Secondary to Year 12.
Library: None
Council Office: Centrelink Agent.
Women's Centre: None
Childcare Centre: Playgroup at the Numbulwar preschool.
Aged Care Centre: Numbulwar Aged Care & Respite Centre **Telephone** (08) 8975 4541
Banking: ATM and Eftpos in store and at the take-away. Traditional Credit Union.

Community store **Arnhem Land Progress Association (ALPA)** **Telephone** (08) 8975 4083
Basic food goods, hardware, Fresh fruit/veg/milk/meat is available, however is limited.
Fresh produce can be ordered online and delivered via barge from Darwin.

- **Opening hours** Monday and Tuesday 9am – 12pm and 1pm - 5pm
Wednesday to Friday 9am – 12pm and 1pm - 7pm
Saturday and Sunday 9am – 12pm

Other food outlets Take-away shop is located in Newtown. Open from 9am – 9pm, 7 days a week.

Food orders Food orders can be delivered via Toll's barge service.
Toll: **Telephone** 1800 220 436
Web www.tollgroup.com/tollmarinelogistics
Woolworths Online: **Web** www.woolworthsonline.com
Coles Online: **Web** www.shop.coles.com.au

Recreational facilities Youth, sport and recreation program.

Commercial accommodation	Shire has some commercial accommodation.	
Fuel	Diesel and Opal fuel available. Takes keycard and credit card.	
Mechanic	Yes	
Police station	2 Police Officers	Telephone (08) 8975 4183
Alt. police contact	Emergency Only	Telephone 000
Other	Community Night Patrol - 4 staff	Telephone check with Police station
Telephone/internet/mail		
Mobile phone²	Telstra 3G coverage available. Please check with your mobile provider before heading out bush.	
Internet	Personal usage at clinic is minimal. Please check with HCM.	
Mail	Mail plane delivers on Mondays.	
Other	Landlines are provided with health centre accommodation.	
Alcohol		
Alcohol – not allowed²	Numbulwar is a dry community. This applies to everyone, including visitors.	
Access		
Road	<p>Darwin (10-12hrs) / Nhulunbuy (5-6hrs):</p> <p>During the dry season the community can be accessed by road. Travel time from Darwin via Katherine along the Roper Highway is approximately 10-12 hours via the Roper River and Ngukurr communities. Travel time from Nhulunbuy via Walker River and Harris Creek is approximately 4-6 hours. In both cases a 4wd is essential.</p> <p>Road access is possible from May to December by 4WD vehicle to Katherine via Ngukurr and the Roper Highway.</p> <p>Bush / Other services: There is a fortnightly freight barge service from Darwin to Numbulwar provided by Toll.</p> <p>The Bodhi Bus runs between Katherine and Numbulwar during the dry season (May to September). Web www.thebodhibus.com.au Phone (08) 8971 0774</p>	
Air	<p>Facilities: Numbulwar is also accessible by air and has an all-weather, sealed airstrip linked to the community via a 5km dirt road which can become impassable at times during the wet season.</p> <p>Alyangula, Groote Eylandt (30mins) / Nhulunbuy (1hr): Charter flights.</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

Health Centre

Health service

Department of Health (DoH)

Telephone (08) 8975 4670
Web www.health.nt.gov.au
Email numbulwar.clinicmgr@nt.gov.au

Staff

- Manager 1
- Remote Area Nurses 3
- Medical Practitioners Visiting
- Aboriginal Health Workers 3
- Aboriginal Community Workers 0
- Administration Officers 1
- Drivers/Gardeners/Cleaners 1
- Others. 0

Facilities

Seven consult rooms, one emergency room and one dental room.

Operating hours

Monday to Friday 9-11.45am and 3-4.30pm (closed on Thursday afternoons).

On call

RN's are on a rotating roster of 1st and 2nd on call.

Services

- Child Health Programme
- Immunisation Program
- Women's Health
- Men's Health
- Chronic Disease Management
- Healthy School Aged Kids Programme
- Response to Infectious and Communicable Disease
- including prevention and education.

Medical Records System⁴

PCIS

Vehicles

The health centre maintains a Hilux utility, and two Toyota Troop Carriers including one that has been converted for use as an ambulance.

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

GP

GP's visit from Groote Eylandt three days a week.

Visiting services

- Dental Program
- Audiology Screening
- Cardiologist / Cardiology
- Paediatrics
- Physician
- Mental Health
- Optometrist
- Nutritionist
- Podiatrist
- Diabetes and Cardiac Educators.

Acute care

Care Flight evacuate to Gove or Darwin depending on the condition of the client.

Other

Pregnant women birth in Gove or Darwin depending on the condition of the client.

⁴ Training should be arranged before your arrival in the community

Accommodation

Accommodation Either a free standing house or bedsitter.
****Note: Sharing of facilities may be required.**

Facilities Usual domestic amenities including microwave, fridge, oven/stove, washing machine, TV and air-conditioning.

Linen Provided.

Vehicles

Vehicle No vehicle is provided for personal use.

Policy NT DoH has a strict policy on vehicle use. Any non-clinical use is not acceptable.

What to pack for placement

Clothes Possibility of cool nights in middle of year, so light warm clothing is useful. In wet season (October – March), 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. Updated January 2015.

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Darwin Office

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