

STONE COUNTRY

With imposing sandstone walls up to 330 metres high, the Arnhem Plateau dominates the landscape for 500 kilometres. In the wet season, the plateau comes alive with cascading waterfalls as heavy rain tumbles through extensive networks of chasms and gorges. During the dry season, the plateau guards pockets of water in its crevices and cracks, keeping many plants and animals alive until the rains come again.

TIDAL FLATS AND COAST

The rain sweeps nutrient-rich soils down river to the expansive tidal mudflats and mangrove forests. Monitor lizards prey on flying foxes fallen from the trees, egrets and cormorants nest in the mangroves and gentle dugong (sea cows) feed on sea grass beds.

SOUTHERN HILLS AND RIDGES

The retreating Arnhem escarpment descends to hills and ridges in the south, exposing ancient volcanic rocks and a large variety of habitats. Here, the striking salmon gum sheds its white bark to reveal to glow a beautiful pink each year. Freshwater crocodiles live in the creeks and pools while the monsoon forests which line the cool, moist gorges are home to the brightly coloured hooded parrot, red goshawk, the endangered Gouldian finch, Calaby's mouse and the Kakadu dunnart.

SAVANNAH WOODLANDS AND LOWLANDS

The lowlands and woodlands with their eucalypts and tall grasses contain a greater variety of plants and animals than any other habitat in Australia's Timeless North. Dusk and dawn see the woodlands burst into a chorus of bird-song from red-collared lorikeets, red-winged parrots and sulphur-crested cockatoos. The evening brings the distinctive call of the barking owl, and small nocturnal mammals such as flying foxes, phascogales and bandicoots emerge to feed.



For more information on this Landscape or to learn about other naturally beautiful places which offer a different but uniquely Australian experience, visit www.australia.com/nl

CONNECTING COUNTRY

Australia's Timeless North landscape is part of a broad conservation effort in the Top End, connecting the Wardeken and Djelk Indigenous Protected Areas in the north through to the Arafura Sea. Nitmiluk National Park lies to the south of Kakadu National Park and the Jawoyn Indigenous Protected Area to the south-east. To the east, the Wongalara Sanctuary managed by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy supports populations of endangered species such as the Gouldian finch and the masked owl.



BE INVOLVED IN CONSERVING ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST UNIQUE ENVIRONMENTS

Biodiversity is life – conserving our natural world means clean water, clean air and fertile soil for us all.

You make your own contribution to conserving our natural world when you visit Australia's Timeless North National Landscape. Low-impact activities such as bushwalking, cycling and camping all provide fantastic opportunities to get off the beaten track and discover new worlds that are like nothing else on earth

Managing visitor impacts is one of the most important conservation activities in Australia's Timeless North. When visiting always take your rubbish with you, don't feed the native animals and leave flowers, plants, rocks and sticks where they are as they provide important wildlife habitat.

Take the time to experience and be inspired by the beauty and spirituality of Australia's Timeless North:

- Help monitor the life cycle of sea turtles to find out how we can best protect them or take part in the Arnhem Land marine debris project to rescue animals trapped by the debris and help keep our waters clean.

www.conservationvolunteers.com.au

- Support populations of the Gouldian finch by donating to the Australian Wildlife Conservancy:

www.australianwildlife.org