



WORKING IN THE **Ngaanyatjarra Lands**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Getting There, Getting Around and Accommodation

How do I get there?

Generally, you would fly into Alice Springs and take a charter flight with Chartair out to the community. In some circumstances, you might drive out to the community from Alice Springs with someone from Ngaanyatjarra Health Service (NHS). Chartair departs Alice Springs on a Tuesday and returns on a Friday. There are also flights from Kalgoorlie to the Lands. NHS will have the up-to-date Chartair flight schedules and will organise your booking. You will usually organise your own flights when taking leave.

What type of planes are there? How many passengers do they take?

The planes vary from a six seat to a twelve seat aircraft.

Is luggage weighed and screened on arrival to the airport?

Luggage is weighed but not screened. Sniffer dogs are occasionally used before flights depart Alice Springs.

Are there any flight restrictions?

Normal flight restrictions apply including no firearms, explosives, weapons, etc. There are also weight restrictions on the flights.

What are the weight restrictions on the flights?

The maximum weight allowable is two kilograms for carry-on luggage and 10 kilograms for checked luggage. These limits are strictly applied if the plane is full. If you have more luggage, you may be able to leave it at the NHS office and when someone is driving to the community they may be able to deliver it for you.

Can family visit? Is there accommodation?

Family can visit and, depending on where you are staying, there is likely to be a spare room available. It is important to discuss this with the NHS administration office and let the Community Development Administrator know as well. Family members will require permits to visit the Lands and the NHS administration office can assist by advising where to get them.



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Do you need a permit to travel there. If so, how do I get one?

You will need a permit to travel to the Lands. The NHS administration office will organise these for you.

Is a house and car provided?

Accommodation is provided, usually a house or apartment. A car might be provided depending on the position you hold.

What is the accommodation like?

The accommodation varies depending on the community. It is often quite basic but comfortable.

Is there a dishwasher, air-conditioner, washing machine?

Air-conditioning and a washing machine are provided, however, dishwashers are not. A television and video player are also provided.

What kind of power is available? Is it reliable?

The power is the standard 240 volt used throughout Australia. Sometimes the power will drop out for short periods but this is not common.

Is the water supply reliable?

The water supply is reliable but some people prefer to buy their own drinking water. The water can be quite hard and contains nitrates. Drinking water costs about \$11 for four litres at the local stores.

What are the toilet facilities like?

Toilet facilities are good in houses and NHS facilities, but there are not many public toilets.

Are you accompanied for first time travel between communities?

Yes, you are usually accompanied for first time travel between communities, but it may not always be possible and in this case safety precautions will be taken.

How do you get between communities?

The usual method of getting between communities is by car, though it is also possible to travel by plane on certain days.

What are the distances between communities?

The distances between communities are shown on page 4.

What are the road conditions like?

The roads are all unsealed and can be quite rough, particularly after bad weather.

Where are the fuel stops and what fuel is available?

Most communities have fuel supplies, with Warburton and Warakurna having roadhouses. Diesel fuel and Opal fuel is provided in the Lands.

How much does fuel cost?

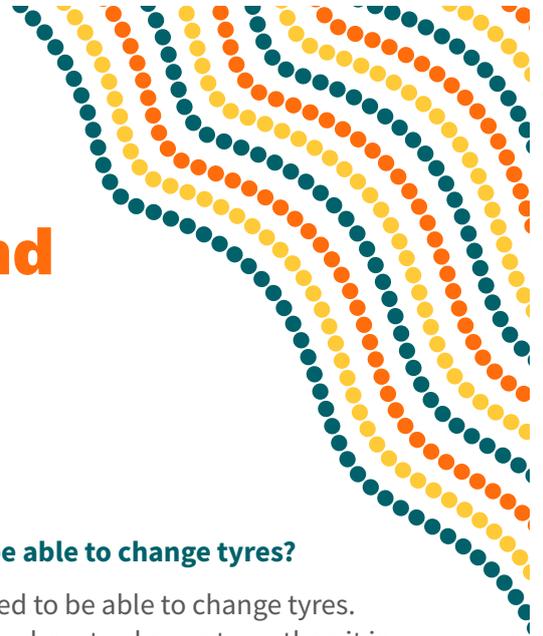
Fuel is expensive on the Lands, at times double (and more) what you would pay in the major towns.

Can you buy bulk water for travel and can you get containers there?

Yes, you can buy water and containers for travel from the community store.

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Does a GPS and Google Maps work there?

Yes, GPS and **Google Maps** work on the Lands.

What safety precautions should I take when travelling?

Before travelling you should ensure the car is well prepared with spare tyres, 20 litres of water, first aid kit, and satellite phone (check the battery in the phone is charged). There is a checklist in the car that you should go through before departing. You should also organise a scheduled call with a NHS contact to let them know what time you will be arriving and what to do if you do not arrive within the agreed time. You should always drive to the speed limit, drive to the conditions and stay alert at all times – do not drive fatigued.

What do you do if you breakdown?

It is most important that you stay with your vehicle if you break down. For work-related travel you will be supplied with a satellite phone so you should use this to inform NHS that you have broken down. It is important that you have an organised scheduled time of arrival with the location and a plan in place if you do not arrive. In the rare case that a satellite phone does not work and you do not arrive by your agreed scheduled arrival time, your contact will come looking for you – this is why it is important you stay with your vehicle.

What do you do if you see someone broken down?

If you see someone who has broken down you should assist them, and if you have surplus water provide them with your surplus. If you are unable to help them you should contact the community to let them know that someone has broken down.

Are the cars auto or manual?

Both automatic and manual cars are available.

Will I need to be able to change tyres?

Yes, you will need to be able to change tyres. If you don't know how to change tyres then it is important to get instructions on how to do so before you drive a vehicle on the Lands.

Will I need to stay overnight in other communities?

On occasions you may be required to stay overnight in other communities.

Are there mechanics there or nearby?

There are not always mechanics there or nearby.

What do I do if I find an injured animal?

If you find an injured animal you should report it to the nearest community.

What do I do if I am driving and hit an animal?

If a collision is unavoidable, remain in your lane. Swerving to avoid an animal can often cause a more serious crash or result in drivers losing control of vehicles. Apply the brakes firmly and release them just before impact. This will help prevent the vehicle's nose from 'scooping' the animal up and over the hood. Be extra cautious at dawn and dusk. Most animals tend to be more active early in the morning and at dusk. If you hit an animal, see if there is anything you can do. You will need to report the accident to NHS.

What is the nearest major town?

The chart overleaf shows the distance between communities and to your nearest town in the Lands. The major towns are Yulara, Alice Springs and Laverton.

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DISTANCES BETWEEN COMMUNITIES IN THE NGAANYATJARRA LANDS (IN KILOMETRES)

	ASP	TJU	WRK	WAN	WNG	BSR	JAM	PAT	WBR	TJI	KAN	COS
ASP	0	767	781	863	881	841	914	1190	1020	1157	1186	1486
TJU	767	0	178	260	306	296	313	587	439	576	605	905
WRK	781	178	0	82	168	154	133	409	245	370	411	711
WAN	863	260	82	0	250	184	102	327	163	300	329	629
WNG	881	306	168	250	0	74	146	577	275	408	441	737
BSR	841	296	154	184	74	0	72	406	200	334	367	663
JAM	914	311	133	102	146	72	0	334	125	262	291	591
PAT	1190	587	409	327	577	406	334	0	224	361	390	923
WBR	1020	439	245	163	275	200	125	224	0	137	166	466
TJI	1157	576	370	300	408	334	262	361	137	0	121	523
KAN	1186	605	411	329	441	367	291	390	166	121	0	352
COS	1486	905	711	629	737	663	591	923	466	523	352	0

PLEASE NOTE

Most roads travelled within the Ngaanyatjarra Lands are dirt roads therefore significantly increase travel times. For travel times visit www.googlemaps.com.au.

ASP	Alice Springs	JAM	Jameson
TJU	Tjukurla	PAT	Patjarr
WRK	Warakurna	WBR	Warburton
WAN	Wanarn	TJI	Tjirrkarli
WNG	Wingellina	KAN	Kanpa
BSR	Blackstone	COS	Cosmo

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