



WORKING IN THE **Ngaanyatjarra Lands**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Shopping, Facilities and Services

SHOPPING

What grocery and other shops are there?

In the larger communities of Warburton and Warakurna, there are larger stores like small supermarkets, whereas in the smaller communities there are small community stores.

What are the opening hours for the stores?

It is important to note that the stores are only open for limited times, usually for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Often the store times are 9.00am to 11.00am and then from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Is there fresh produce and special diet products available?

If you require vegetarian or kosher meals you will need to bring your own food or get what is called a 'bush order' where you place an order with one of the supermarket chains and have them deliver it by truck. Some gluten free and lactose free products are available at the supermarkets. If there is something specific you need which is not on the shelf you could ask the supermarket if they can stock it for you, or alternatively you could include it on your 'bush order'.

Are the supermarkets well stocked?

The stores are often well stocked with a limited range of foods. Meat and long-life milk are usually well supplied, as is flour and tinned food. In Warburton and Warakurna, there are also roadhouses that have longer opening hours and stock a smaller range of groceries and general goods.

What is the cost of items in the store?

The items in the store can be quite expensive, usually two to four times the cost of supplies in the major capital cities. The trucks bringing the food to the stores on the Lands come once a week, alternating frozen food one week and fresh fruit and vegetables the next. Most staff buy enough for two weeks from each delivery.

Can you take food there?

Yes, you can take food. This is a good option, particularly if you are driving there. Remember, there is a freight weight limit on the charter flights.

Can I get real coffee?

Yes, in some of the stores on the Lands you can get real coffee grinds, but no barista-made coffees.



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How can I get items out there if they are not stocked?

You can place 'bush orders' through the major supermarket chains and get them sent out to the Lands. The order will be sent through the local transport company and delivered to the community. Freight costs can be quite expensive but it is a good way to get products that are not stocked in the stores.

Can you get female hygiene products there?

Yes, you can get female hygiene products in the community stores.

Can I shop online and get it delivered?

Yes, you can shop online and have it delivered by Australia Post. It will often take two to four weeks for the goods to be delivered. It is important to have the items delivered to the community office via the Community Mailbag address rather than the NHS administration office in Alice Springs. If you want to purchase goods that must be signed for, check with the NHS administration office on how to do this.

How can I pay for items (ATM, Paypass, Cash)?

You can pay for items in the store using cash or your credit card. You can also pay for items using your keycard. Most stores and roadhouses have EFTPOS machines that charge a fee for account enquiries and withdrawals.

What is the cost of living?

The cost of living can be quite expensive because of the high cost of items from the store, but accommodation is provided rent free. NHS may charge a small contribution for the cost of providing fully-furnished and fitted accommodation and services such as power and water.

FACILITIES

Are there facilities like a post office, bank, police or schools?

Mail can be sent through the Ngaanyatjarra Council and through NHS. There are no banks but there are ATMS in community stores. Police are present in the bigger communities of Warburton, Warakurna and Blackstone and schools are in most communities, except for the very small communities.

Are there sporting facilities and clubs?

There are football clubs in each of the communities. There are numerous sporting facilities and some communities have a swimming pool. Warburton has a gym, and most communities have walking tracks and places to exercise. It is worth noting that if you get to know the local police and teachers this may open up other opportunities to exercise. For example, some police facilities have gyms and some teachers have organised exercise sessions. There is also the opportunity to play or umpire basketball and football.

SERVICES

Is there medical support services (emergency, Royal Flying Doctor Service)?

There are ambulances in all communities and the Royal Flying Doctor Service flies to communities as necessary. Royal Flying Doctor Service flights can be expensive without ambulance insurance cover.

What local health services are there? What is the make-up of the workforce?

NHS provides services in all of the Lands. There are 1.75 full-time equivalent doctors, 21 to 25 remote area nurses, 35 environmental health workers, 12 mental health workers, one occupational therapist, four aged care workers, six sexual health workers, 12 drivers and six home and community care workers.

What outreach services are there?

There are specialist clinics provided in all communities.

The logo for Rural Health West features the words 'RURAL', 'HEALTH', and 'WEST' stacked vertically. 'RURAL' is in white on an orange background, 'HEALTH' is in white on a red background, and 'WEST' is in white on a purple background. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

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