

Channel Point Coastal Reserve is a small intact sample of the Territory's isolated coastline, just waiting for you to explore.

It protects 250 ha of coastal habitats opposite the Peron Islands, between the Daly River mouth and Channel Point where there just happens to be some very good fishing spots. Wadjigan and Kiuk people are the Aboriginal Traditional Owners for this area.

Access

You need a Permit and access key to visit the Reserve whether you arrive by car or boat. See page 3 for Permit Information.

The Reserve is about 240 km south west of Darwin. Travel to Litchfield National Park either via the sealed roads from Batchelor, or (dry season only) via the Cox Peninsula Road and the unsealed part of the Litchfield National Park Road.

Once in Litchfield, turn west off the sealed Park Road just north of Wangi Falls, and travel 67 km along the Marindja (Labelle/Twin Hills) unsealed road to the Reserve. *See map back page.*

When to Visit

The Reserve is usually open May to October, or for a longer period if road conditions allow.

What to See and Do

Visitors who will enjoy the Reserve most are self sufficient anglers with a well equipped 4x4 vehicle and boat, who are experienced with Top End coastal winds and waters,


shallow seas and large tidal ranges. From the Reserve anglers can access the waters of Anson Bay, including the Daly River mouth.


Visitors without boats who like isolated coastal views, beach walks, mangroves, monsoon forests and woodlands will also enjoy the Reserve.


Where not to go

Visitors must not enter Aboriginal Land Trust areas, including the Bulgul Community and Peron Islands without a Northern Land Council permit (penalty \$1,000).

Safety Issues

 **No Swimming** - Estuarine (Saltwater) Crocodiles and Box Jellyfish inhabit these waters. Launch and retrieve boats with caution. Carry vinegar in case of Box Jellyfish stings.

 **Biting Insects** - Biting insects are part of the coastal web of life, especially when nearby wetlands are still wet. Wear protective long loose clothing and apply insect repellent. Bring a large mossie-proof tent to retreat into if necessary.

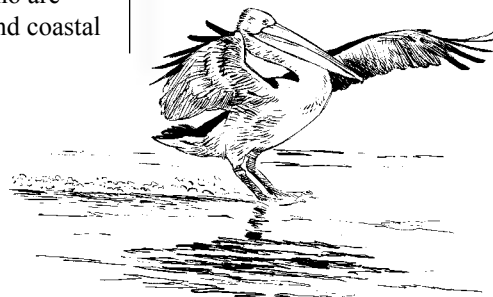
 **Cliffs** - Be aware of the cliff edge close to the campground. Use a torch when walking at night.

Safety and Comfort

- No swimming - crocodile and box jellyfish habitat.
- Ensure your vehicle and boat are well maintained and equipped.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Carry sufficient food and fuel.
- Carry a first aid kit, vinegar and communication equipment.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear, a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Avoid strenuous activity in the heat of the day.
- Observe all park signage.

Please Remember

- Display your permit on the dashboard of your vehicle.
- Camp in designated areas.
- Collect fallen firewood only.
- Only light fires in communal fire places. Keep fires small.
- Generators must be turned off between 10 pm and 6 am.
- Don't litter on land or sea, take your rubbish away to recycle.
- Don't bury fish waste, return it to deep waters or take it away.
- All cultural items, animals and plants are protected.
- Observe fishing regulations.
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted (cast nets, crab pots and hand spears excepted).
- Pets are not permitted.
- Check that your vehicle is not transporting weeds and pests like Cane Toads.
- Motor bikes and quad bikes are not permitted.
- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- Do not enter Channel Point Community residential area.
- Do not enter Aboriginal Land.



Australian Pelican
Pelecanus conspicillatus

Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

Batchelor Office
Ph: (08) 8976 0282

www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au

Regional Office - Goyder Centre
25 Chung Wah Tee PALMERSTON NT
PO Box 496 PALMERSTON NT 0831
Ph: (08) 8999 4795



Visitor Facilities



Boating - there is a hard surface boat ramp. Depending on the size of your boat you will need a tide of greater than 3.5 metres to launch safely. Local tides are 20-30 minutes earlier than Darwin tides, with a tidal range of 8 metres. Check tide charts (www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/tides) and weather forecasts before you leave home to ensure your safety.



Information signage at the boat ramp carpark orientates you to the Reserve and Anson Bay including depths at lowest tides.



Camping - The designated camping area is 500 metres away from the boat ramp on top of the beach cliffs. The ten sites are unpowered and designed for cars pulling boat trailers.



Unisex Composting Toilets and Showers - are located within walking distance from the campground.



Bore Water is available at the boat ramp, please use sparingly and turn tap off after use.

Generators are permitted, but silent packs are preferred. Generators must be turned off between 10 pm and 6 am.



Communal Fireplaces are located in the picnic areas near the campgrounds. Only light fires in the fireplaces provided. Use your own gas stove for cooking at your campsite.

Arrive well equipped

This is an isolated reserve, you'll need to bring: water, food, gas cooking stove, camping gear, tool kit, first aid supplies, footwear, clothing, insect repellent and sunscreen. Make sure your boat and marine equipment meet legal safety requirements outlined at www.transport.nt.gov.au/safety/marine. Fit your boat canopy for shade. Consider taking a book or some cards for evening activities and binoculars and a camera to catch the beauty of the coast.

Emergency Contacts



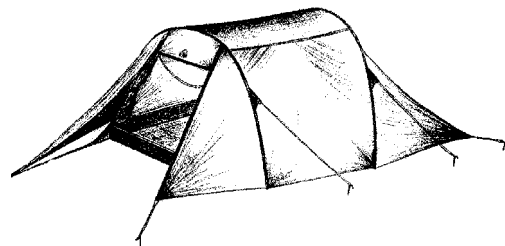
The nearest Health Centre is at Batchelor (145 km), phone 8976 0011.

Contact Emergency Services using either:



- your mobile (variable reception) or marine communications system (VHF CH16)
- or the Rangers via the Emergency Call Device (ECD) located in the boatramp carpark.

There is no permanent ranger presence although rangers patrol the area regularly.



Be prepared for mossies!



Tamarind trees have been part of Top End coastal life since the 1700s when Macassan fishermen planted them at their trepang fishing camps. The trees marked their camps and provided shade. They also provided fruits that flavoured their cooking and added Vitamin C to their diet preventing scurvy.

Tamarind Fish

Ingredients

Cayenne Pepper	<i>small pinch</i>
Tamarind Paste	<i>1 tsp</i>
Coriander Seeds	<i>1/2 tsp</i>
White Cumin Seeds	<i>1/2 tsp</i>
Fresh Coriander	<i>1 tbsp</i>
Garlic Clove	<i>1 crushed</i>
Sea Salt	<i>to taste</i>

Method

1. Blend the tamarind paste and fresh coriander with two tbsp hot water. Put to one side.
2. In a small, heavy frypan dry roast the coriander and cumin seed until aromatic then grind to a powder. Mix all the ingredients together to make the marinade.
3. Pour the marinade over the fish (salmon works well) and leave at least 30 minutes.
4. Grill for 5 minutes or until the flesh flakes. Serve with lemon slices and salad.

Reference: www.seasonedpioneers.co.uk

Permit, Access Key and Gate

Why a Permit System?

Access to the Reserve is restricted by an agreement between the Northern Territory Government and Aboriginal Traditional Owners of the area. A maximum of 10 vehicles or 50 people (which ever comes first) can visit the Reserve at any one time.

Visitor Permits regulate access to this small, isolated, yet potentially very popular Coastal Reserve. They help to maintain the quality of your experience and reduce visitor impacts. Permit holders travel through Aboriginal Land to reach the Reserve however must not enter other Aboriginal land and/or waters over Aboriginal land.

How Much does it Cost?

Camping Fee per night:

- *Adults* \$ 6.60
- *Child (5-15 years)* \$ 3.30
- *Family*
(2 adults, 4 children) \$ 15.40

Key Deposit:

(refundable) \$250.00

* **GST Inclusive in all fees**

How far ahead can I book?

Three months ahead of the month you wish to visit, but you must return from one visit before you can book another, to allow fair access.

How long can I stay?

One to five nights. No day visits without a camping permit.

Which Gates to Lock?

Gates outside the Reserve:

Leave them as you find them.

Gate at entrance to Reserve:

Ensure it's locked behind you.

Times to arrive and leave?

Move into a campsite *after* 12 noon on your arrival date. Move out of the campsite *before* 12 noon on your departure date. Leave no trace of your being in the Reserve.

How do I get a Visitor Permit and Access Key?

You can book in advance but only 3 months ahead of the month you wish to visit. You can only book one visit at a time. Visit www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au/permits/channelpoint to download a Permit Application Form and further information.

NOTE: Dates cannot be reserved without payment of Camping Fees.

- 1 Check what dates are available by contacting the Permits Office (phone: 08 8999 4795 or email: pwpermits@nt.gov.au).
- 2 Complete the Visitor Permit Application Form and submit it to the Permits Office Palmerston *with* payment of Camping Fees (but not the Access Key deposit).
- 3 Permits Office staff will reserve your dates if available or contact you to discuss alternative dates.
- 4 If alternative dates don't suit you, staff will return your payment or not process it.
- 5 If dates suit, Permits Office staff will process your Camping Fees payment and mail your booking confirmation.

One working day ahead:

- 1 Collect an Access Key from Parks and Wildlife Commission offices at Palmerston or Katherine. Bring your Permit with you plus photo identification and \$250 Access Key deposit. The Deposit can be paid by credit card (preferred) or in cash.

How do I get my \$250 Key deposit back?

Return the key to either the Palmerston or Katherine Parks and Wildlife Commission office *by close of business (4 pm) on the key return date specified on your permit.*

What will my permit conditions be?

The Permit Conditions are detailed on the Visitor Permit Application Form. You must read and sign the Form before you will be issued a Permit. The Conditions are also included on the Permit.

How do I get a Permit Application?

Online through:
www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au/permits

or contact:

Permit Office,
Parks and Wildlife Commission NT,
PO Box 496, Ground Floor, Goyder Centre
PALMERSTON, NT 0831
Tel: (08) 8999 4795
Fax: (08) 8999 4524
email: pwpermits@nt.gov.au

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