

Many springs feed the Flora River before it merges with the Katherine River into the Daly River. These springs flow up through limestone, the source of minerals that give the Flora River its emerald colour and create its scenic tufa dams.

Fishing and boating are the main activities enjoyed in the 78 km² Giwining / Flora River Nature Park, which includes 25 km of the Flora River.

The traditional custodians of the area are the Wardaman people who jointly manage the Park with the Parks & Wildlife Commission.

The Wardaman people have a rich cultural history. Stories, ceremonies, and songs linking the ten clans are performed along a singing trail which traverses the Park. Senior custodians conduct ceremonies in and around the Park's sacred sites

Access (see map overleaf)
The Park is located 122 km south-west of Katherine. It is accessed by turning north off the Victoria Highway 86 km west of Katherine onto a 46 km unsealed access road, which is suitable for 2WD vehicles during the dry season (May to October) but impassable between November to April.

When to visit
The most comfortable time of year to visit the Park is during the drier and slightly cooler months from May to October.

The Park becomes inaccessible after heavy rain, usually between November and April.

What to See and Do
  Boating and fishing are popular. The presence of Estuarine (Saltwater) Crocodiles make it unsuitable for swimming and canoeing.

 **Camping - Lorrngurl Campground** has toilets, showers, drinking water and wood barbecues. Camping fees apply (honesty box system).

 **Picnicking** - there is a picnic area with tables and barbecues near Lorrngurl Campground.

Boating
There is a small boat launching facility 4.3 km from Lorrngurl Campground.

 Boats may not exceed 15 hp and are restricted to a 5 km section of the river (see map overleaf).

 **Fishing** - regulations apply and the use of nets, traps and spears is prohibited.

Walks - two short walks start near the Lorrngurl Campground.

Djarrung Falls
 **Distance:** 440 m return
Time: 30 minutes
Grade: 2 - easy.

Stroll through a paperbark and pandanus forest to view the tufa dams.

Kathleen Falls
 **Distance:** 980 m return
Time: 50 minutes
Grade: 2 - easy.

Experience the changes from open woodland to riverine forest on your way to the wide Kathleen Falls tufa dams.

Geology and Tufa
The Tindall and Ooloo limestone formations dominate the geology of the Park. You can watch new limestone formations, tufa, grow as the river cascades over barriers. Tufa forms where calcium carbonate has precipitated from solution in the water onto rock bars and plant and animal debris. Oxygenation of the water as it

Safety and Comfort

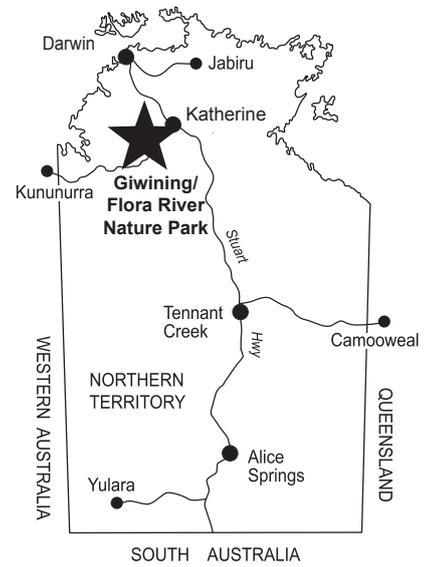
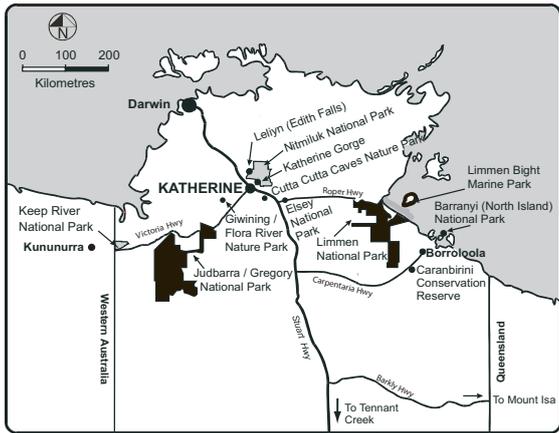
- Observe park safety signs
- Swimming is *not* possible, observe warning signs
- Carry and drink plenty of water
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear
- Carry a first aid kit
- Avoid strenuous activity in the heat of the day.

Please Remember

- Take rubbish away with you as no bins are provided
- Keep to designated roads and tracks
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected
- Pets are not permitted in the Park
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted
- Take care with fire, light fires only in fireplaces provided
- Camp only in designated camping areas
- Collect firewood before you arrive at your picnic or campsite
- Generators are not permitted in this Park
- Observe all fishing regulations
- Check that your vehicle is not transporting pests like weeds and cane toads.

tumbles over the rocks causes the calcium carbonate to precipitate, covering and fossilising debris. There are many 'new' fossils in the tufa, including snail and mollusc remains.

Giwining / Flora River Nature Park



Flora and Fauna

The river and associated riverine vegetation contrast strongly to the surrounding savanna woodland.

Extensive stands of *Livistona mariae rigida*, a palm limited to the Flora and Roper rivers, occur in the riverine vegetation alongside species typical of Top End rivers, including *Pandanus*, *Melaleuca* and *Barringtonia*.

The Pig-nosed Turtle *Carettochelys insculpta*, once thought to be restricted to Papua New Guinea inhabits the Flora along with Freshwater Crocodiles *Crocodylus johnstoni* and Estuarine (Saltwater) Crocodiles *C. porosus*.

Fish in the Flora River include Barramundi, various grunters, catfish and bream.

