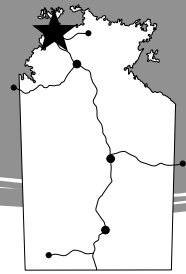


# Casuarina Coastal Reserve



## Fact Sheet

The picturesque Casuarina Coastal Reserve protects about 1500 ha of coastal habitats between the estuaries of Rapid Creek and Buffalo Creek. It features eight km of sandy beaches, dramatic cliffs and shady casuarina trees.

Behind the dunes lie typical Top End coastal plant communities including patches of woodlands, monsoon forests, mangroves and paperbarks.

The Larrakia people speak for this area and maintain links with the land. Its sacred and significant sites include *Darriba Nungalinya* (Old Man Rock), visible at low tide from Dripstone Cliffs lookout. Although fishing is permitted, disturbing the rock in any way or the removal of shellfish at this site is prohibited.

The heritage-listed ruins of World War II are reminders of the beach fortifications that were part of the military infrastructure that supported Darwin in 1940s when it was Australia's northern defence and staging post for allied troops fighting in the Pacific against Japan.

### Access (see map)

Enter the Reserve through Darwin's northern suburbs at Casuarina Drive, Trower Road (Brinkin), Lee Point or Buffalo Creek Roads.

### When to Visit

Accessible all year.

### What to See and Do



**Picnicking** - There are designated picnic areas at Rapid Creek, Dripstone Cliffs, Dripstone Park, Lee Point and Buffalo Creek with free barbecues.



**Alcohol** can only be consumed in designated picnic areas between 4 pm - 10.30 pm Mon - Fri, and 12 noon - 10.30 pm weekends and public holidays.



**Walking** - Take a beach walk by the calm turquoise sea and enjoy a stunning sunset. There's usually plenty of beach except during very high tides. Walking tracks will also take you through sections of monsoon vine thicket behind the dunes.



**Cycling** - There are shared walking and cycle paths from Rapid Creek to Buffalo Creek. There are also cycle paths beside main roads.



**Mountain Bike Trails** are accessible from the Lee Point end of the Park.



**Box Jellyfish** are common between October and May, but have been recorded throughout the year. Their stings can be deadly.



**Saltwater Crocodiles** - are removed from the Darwin Harbour through an ongoing crocodile management program, however they may enter the area undetected - **Be Crocwise**.

**Nudist Area** - There is a nudist zone on the beach north of Daribah Road. Nudity outside the markers is an offence.

**Wildlife** - The beach areas, especially near Buffalo Creek, are important resting and feeding areas for wading birds including migratory birds. Marine turtles, mainly Flatbacks, nest on the beach. Turtle release events occur during the year. Ring (8999 4555) for details.

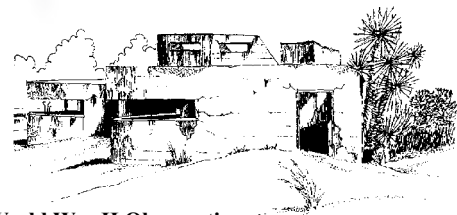
### Safety and Comfort

- Observe park regulatory and safety signs.
- Carry vinegar in case of stings.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Beware of theft, lock vehicles and secure valuables.

### Please Remember

- Dogs and horses are permitted only in some areas - see signs for details. By-laws apply.
- Alcohol may only be consumed in designated picnic areas at specific times - see signs on site for details.
- Put your rubbish in the bin or take it away with you.
- Fires are not permitted.
- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Nets, traps and firearms are not permitted.
- Camping is not permitted.
- Observe all fishing regulations.
- Check that your vehicle is not transporting pests like weeds and Cane Toads.

You can also see tropical marine life in the Lee Point rockpools at low tide.



**Ruins of World War II Observation Post** can be seen on the walk between Trower Road and Lee Point.

### Parks & Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory

Darwin Urban Parks Office  
Ph: (08) 8946 5126

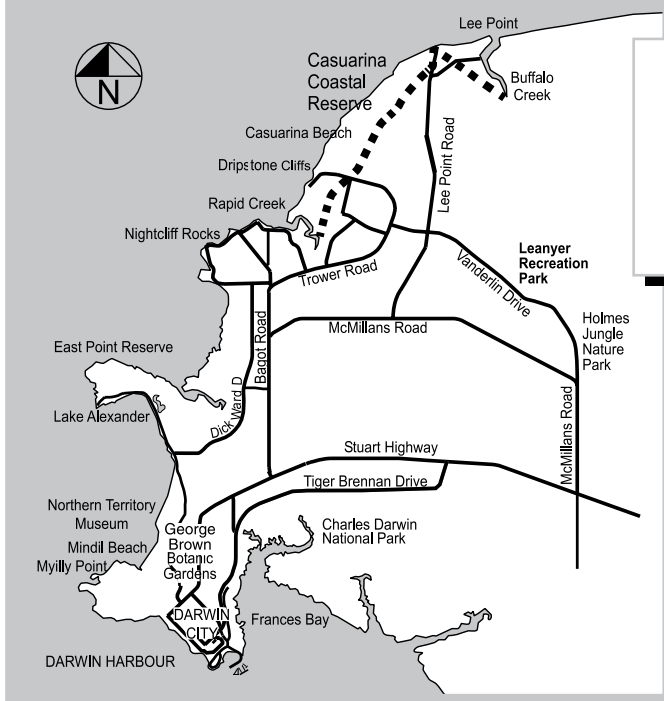
Head Office - Level 1, JHV2  
Jape Homemaker Village,  
356 Bagot Road, Millner, NT, 0810  
GPO Box 1448 DARWIN NT 0801

[www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au](http://www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au)

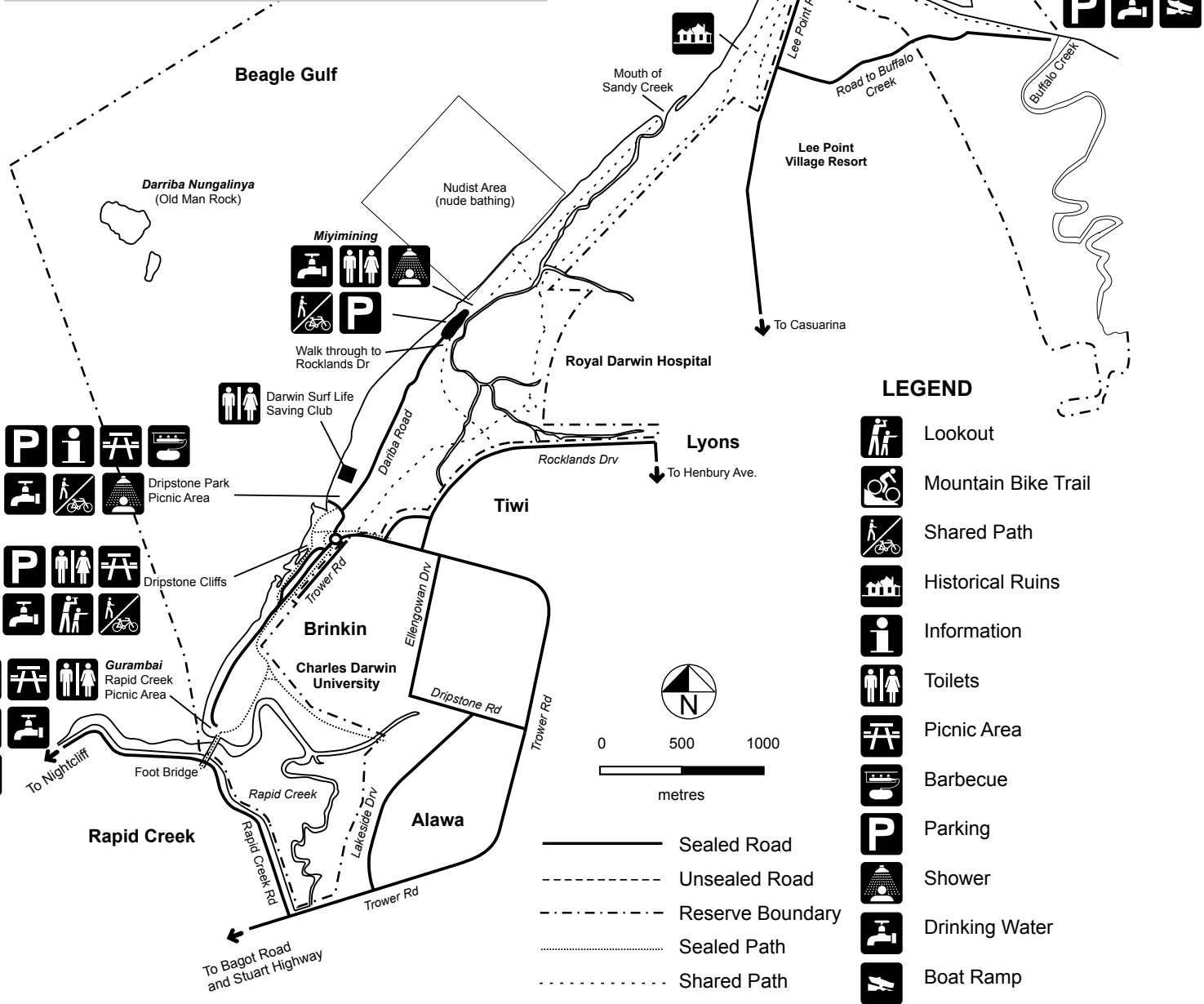
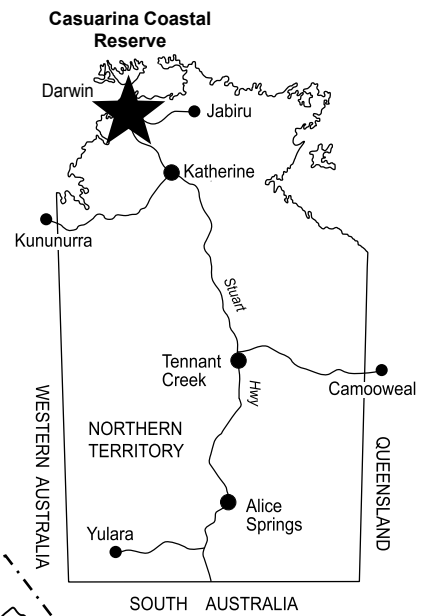
Ph: (08) 8999 4555















# Casuarina Coastal Reserve



 Dogs are permitted in some areas, see signs for details.  
 By-laws apply.



## LEGEND

-  Lookout
-  Mountain Bike Trail
-  Shared Path
-  Historical Ruins
-  Information
-  Toilets
-  Picnic Area
-  Barbecue
-  Parking
-  Shower
-  Drinking Water
-  Boat Ramp