

Visitor guide

Palya!

Welcome to
Anangu land



ULURU – KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK



Important information

Park passes

3 day pass (per adult)	\$25.00
3 day family pass (2 x adults and 2 x children)	\$65.00
Annual pass (per adult)	\$32.50
NT annual vehicle (NT residents)	\$65.00
Children 5-15 years	\$12.50
Children 0-4 years	free

Park opening hours

Dec, Jan, Feb	5.00 am – 9.00 pm	Aug	6.00 am – 7.30 pm
March	5.30 am – 8.30 pm	Sept	5.30 am – 7.30 pm
April	5.30 am – 8.00 pm	Oct	5.00 am – 8.00 pm
May	6.00 am – 7.30 pm	Nov	5.00 am – 8.30 pm
June, July	6.30 am – 7.30 pm		

Park closes overnight. There is no camping in the park. Camping available at resort.

Cultural Centre hours

Information desk	7.00 am – 6.00 pm
Cultural or environmental presentation	8.00 am – 5.00 pm (Mon-Fri) 10.00 am

Free ranger-guided mala walk

Allow 1.5 - 2 hours. Meet at Mala carpark (Oct-Apr) 8.00 am (May-Sep) 10.00 am

Information

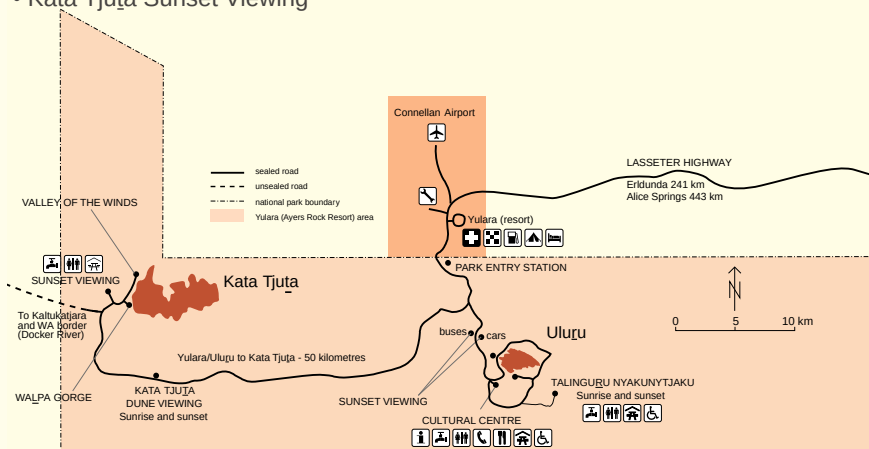
Phone: 08 8956 1128 Email: uluru.info@environment.gov.au
Website: parksaustralia.gov.au/uluru

Police and Ambulance

Emergencies only – phone 000

Plan your days

Toilets provided at: • Cultural Centre • Mala carpark • Talingurū Nyakunyjtaku
• Kata Tjuta Sunset Viewing



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In 1985, after many years of hard work and negotiations, the title deed to Uluru–Kata Tjuta land trust was handed back to us (Anangu) by the then Governor General of Australia Sir Ninian Stephen (see photo, right). In turn we leased the

land back to the Federal Government for 99 years.

Since 1985 we have been managing Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park together with Parks Australia. This process has come to be known as 'joint management'.

Welcome



Palya! Welcome to Anangu land *Pukulpa pitjama Ananguku ngurakutu*

Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park is Aboriginal land. We, the traditional owners of Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park, are Yankunytjatjara and Pitjantjatjara people. We speak our own language and teach it to our children. In our language we call ourselves Anangu (pronounced arn-ang-oo) and we would like you to use that word too.

This land was created by the creation ancestors. In their travels they left marks in the land and made laws for us to keep and live by. We hope that during your visit you will learn about some of our ancestors and culture. Please respect this knowledge and open your minds and hearts so you can really appreciate our enduring culture.

Uluru, Kata Tjuta and the land around them have always been very special places. The park is now recognised by UNESCO as a World Heritage Area for both its cultural and natural values. We think you will be inspired by the natural beauty and power of our land.

Together we welcome you to Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park. We hope you enjoy your visit and return home safely to your families to share the knowledge you have gained.



Pukul ngalya yanama Ananguku ngurakutu.
- Yankunytjatjara welcome

Pukulpa pitjama Ananguku ngurakutu.
- Pitjantjatjara welcome

This is Anangu land and you are welcome. Look around and learn in order to understand Anangu and also understand that our culture is strong and alive.

© Traditional owner

Photo: National Library of Australia



Who are we?



Working together

Tjunguringkula waakaripai

Board of Management

The Uluru–Kata Tjuta Board of Management (the Board) under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999, has a responsibility to:

- prepare the plan of management for the park
- monitor the management of the park
- make management decisions consistent with the plan of management

The majority of Board members must be Indigenous persons nominated by the Anangu traditional owners of the park. The Board is comprised of twelve members as follows:

- four male and four female traditional owner representatives
- the Director of National Parks
- one representative from the Northern Territory Government, the Federal Minister for Tourism and the Federal Minister for the Environment

The park manager is responsible for implementing the management plan, Board decisions and the day to day management of the park. The park manager reports to the Board and the Director of National Parks.





'Working Together' © Kunmanara Taylor Photo: Steve Strike

The Working Together painting

The central circle represents Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park. The twelve seated figures (the small 'u' shapes) are the members of the Board of Management - four male and four female Anangu (brown) and four non-Anangu (white). They have surrounded the park with a yuu, a traditional windbreak. This is the protection that their decisions and policies provide both for the culture and the environment of the park, as well as for park visitors.

Waiting and listening to the Board's decisions are the Anangu and non-Anangu rangers. The Anangu rangers are barefoot, representing their close connection with the land and knowledge derived from many generations of looking after the land. The non-Anangu rangers wear shoes, representing their land management training and knowledge derived from western scientific traditions.

Surrounding all of this are two larger yuu representing Tjukurpa (Anangu traditional law) and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999)*. These provide protection and support, working together to guide the management of the park.

Learning about the park - both ways

Park-aku nintiringanyi

Aṅanguku ngura nyangatja, Aṅangu Tjukurpa Tjuṭatjara.

This is an Aboriginal place with much Aṅangu law.

Nganaṇa panya Tjukurpa nyanga palula tjana-languru kulini.

We hear this law from others who know.

Kamilu, tjamulu tjana panya Tjukurpa kunpu

Our grandmothers and grandfathers

kanyiningi ara kunpu kanyiningi,

held the law strongly, and held our culture strongly,

munuya Aṅangu Tjuṭa kunpu nyinangi.

and they lived strongly and happily.

Ka kuwari nyanga nganaṇa tjungu nyinanyi piranpa Tjuṭa munu maṛu Tjuṭa.

Now we are living together, white people and black people.

Nganaṇa tjungu waakaripai, piranpa munu maṛu palu purunypa.

We are working together, white and black, equal.

Uwankara Ulurula munu Kata Tjuṭala tjukaruru ngaranyi.

Everything at Uluru and Kata Tjuṭa still runs according to our law.

Ranger Tjuṭa patjitjara national parkaku kanyini, patji panya pulitjara. Tjukaruru nyangatja. Nganaṇa national park tjukaṛurungku aṭunymankupai.

All the rangers wear a badge on their sleeve, a badge carrying the image of our sacred place. This is as it should be. We are protecting this national park according to our law.

© Traditional owner



World Heritage

Ngura atunymankuny tjaku

Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park is internationally recognised as a World Heritage Area. It is one of the few properties in the world to be dual-listed by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) for outstanding natural values and outstanding cultural values.

The park was first inscribed on the World Heritage list in 1987, when the international community recognised its spectacular geological formations, rare plants and animals and exceptional natural beauty.

In 1994, the park became only the second in the world to be acclaimed for its cultural landscape as well. This listing honours the traditional belief systems as a part of one of the oldest human societies on earth.

Parks Australia has a responsibility for protecting the park's World Heritage values. Traditional knowledge is combined with western science in caring for country.

**...spectacular geological formations, rare plants
and animals and exceptional natural beauty**

Photo: Tourism NT



Tjukurpa

Tjukurpa (pronounced 'chook-orr-pa') is the foundation of our culture. Just as a house needs to stand on strong foundations, so our way of life stands on Tjukurpa.

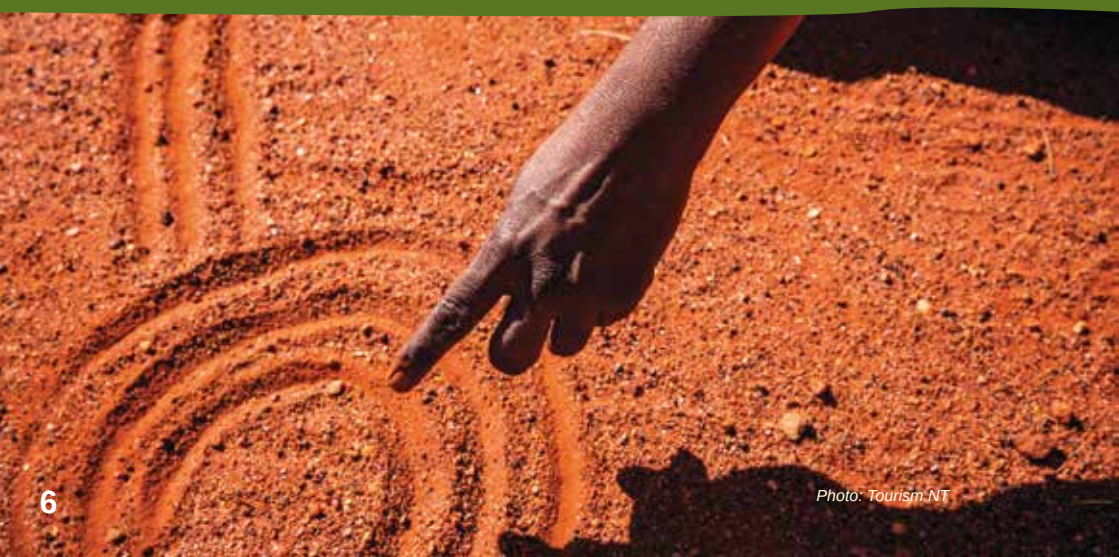
Tjukurpa has many deep, complex meanings. Tjukurpa refers to the creation period when ancestral beings created the world. From this came our religious heritage, explaining our existence and guiding our daily life. Like religions anywhere in the world, Tjukurpa provides answers to important questions, the rules for behaviour and for living together. It is the law for caring for one another and for the land that supports us. Tjukurpa tells of the relationships between people, plants, animals and the physical features of the land. It refers to the time when ancestral beings created the world as we know it. Knowledge of how these relationships came to be, what they mean and how they must be carried on is explained in Tjukurpa.

Tjukurpa refers to the past, the present and the future at the same time. This knowledge never changes, it always stays the same.

Nintiringula kamila tjamula tjanalanguru. Wirurala nintiringu munula watarkurintjawiya. Nintiringula tjilpi munu pampa nguraritja Tjutanguru, munula rawangku Tjukurpa kututungka munu katangka kanyilku. Ngura nyangakula ninti – nganapa ninti.

We learnt from our grandmothers and grandfathers and their generation. We learnt well and we have not forgotten. We've learnt from the old people of this place, and we'll always keep the Tjukurpa in our hearts and minds. We know this place – we are ninti, knowledgeable.

© Traditional owner



Tjukuritja

None of the places we know existed until our ancestors, in the form of people, plants and animals, travelled widely across the land. As they travelled they formed the world as we know it, creating trees, rocks, caves, boulders, cracks, waterholes. These features are the physical evidence that these events really did take place, they are the Tjukuritja.

This land is still inhabited by the ancestors and their spirits. Their journeys across the land from place to place are called iwara. They are also referred to as songlines. You can follow the stories and songs of certain ancestors along iwara, sometimes for many hundreds of kilometres. Our children and grandchildren now are learning all this from us so they can look after it too.

This land is still inhabited by the ancestors and their spirits



Teaching Tjukurpa

The details of the activities and travels of the ancestral beings have been taught to us in stories, songs, dances and ceremonies. When we travel across the land, we can see the Tjukuritja, the physical evidence of the activities of the ancestral beings and that they still exist in our land.

Our deep knowledge of the land and the behaviour and distribution of plants and animals is based on our knowledge of Tjukurpa. This knowledge is carefully passed on to young people. Some areas of Tjukurpa are only passed on to people who have inherited the right to that knowledge. With knowledge comes responsibility. We would like to share some of this knowledge with you. In return, we ask that you take some responsibility for looking after this place during your stay. To learn more, please visit the Cultural Centre.



History of the climb

Uluru has been sacred to Anangu for tens of thousands of years, and climbing Uluru was not generally permitted under Tjukurpa (Anangu law and culture).

Visitors began climbing Uluru in the late 1930s, and to keep people safe, the first section of the climb chain was installed in 1964.

In 1985 Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park was handed back to the traditional owners, Anangu, in an event known as Handback. The question of closing the climb was raised, and Anangu spokesman Kunmanara Lester said that while Anangu didn't like people climbing Uluru it would be allowed for now.

In the 1990s signs were put up at the base of the climb which asked visitors on behalf of Anangu, Please Don't Climb. As visitors learned more about Anangu culture and their wishes, the number of visitors climbing Uluru began to drop.

In 2010, the release of the Park's Management Plan signalled the intention to work towards closing the climb. In November 2017, the Board of Management agreed that the criteria which included the number of visitors climbing falling below 20%, voted unanimously to close the climb from 26 October 2019, the 34th anniversary of Handback. This significant decision demonstrates Tjukurpa and Australian law working together in joint management. Our vision is that the park is a place where Anangu law and culture is kept strong for future generations.

Visitors are advised that climbing Uluru is a breach of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity (EPBC) Act, and penalties will be issued to visitors attempting to do so.

"The land has law and culture. We welcome tourists here. Closing the climb is not something to feel upset about but a cause for celebration. Let's come together; let's close it together." - Former Chairman of the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Board of Management Sammy Wilson.

Photo: Tourism Australia



Visit the Cultural Centre first

Cultural Centre-kutu warara pitjama

A great introduction to Anangu culture

The Cultural Centre will introduce you to Anangu culture in a very special cultural and natural environment. It is an opportunity to add depth to your experience here. In particular, you will learn about Tjukurpa, the traditional law guiding Anangu and the foundation of our culture.

The Cultural Centre is located 13 kilometres into the park near the base of Uluru. Stop here first for a unique cultural journey.

The building

The Cultural Centre is a free-form structure built from locally-made mud bricks. It represents two ancestral snakes, Kuniya the woma python woman and *Liru* the poisonous snake man. Find out how the adventures and battles of these two ancestors helped create Uluru.

Facilities include all access toilets, picnic areas, gas barbecues and retail outlets for local artwork, souvenirs, snacks and refreshments.

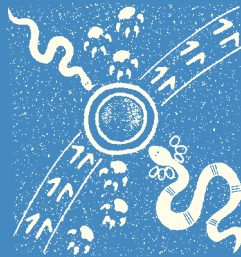
Entry to the Cultural Centre is FREE.

Daily hours

Cultural Centre	7.00 am - 6.00 pm
Information desk	8.00 am - 5.00 pm

This building is for all of us. Our beautiful Cultural Centre has Kuniya, the woma python woman, built within its shape. Her body is made of mud and the roof is her spine.

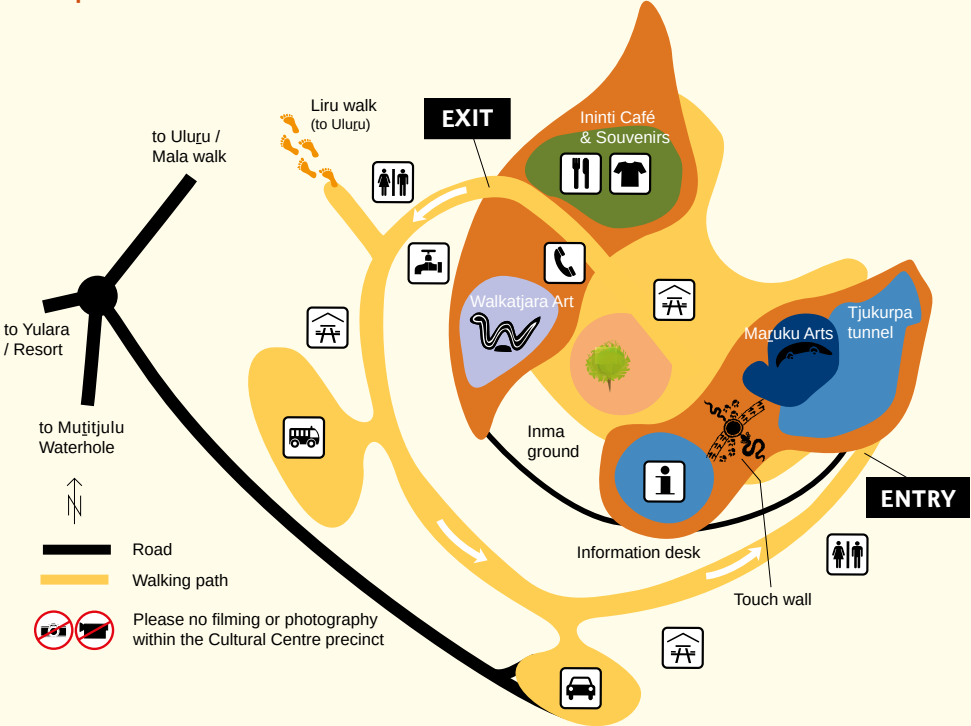
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And this is truly our centre for Anangu and for all people.

© Traditional owner

Map of the Cultural Centre



Things to do



Map of Uluru walks

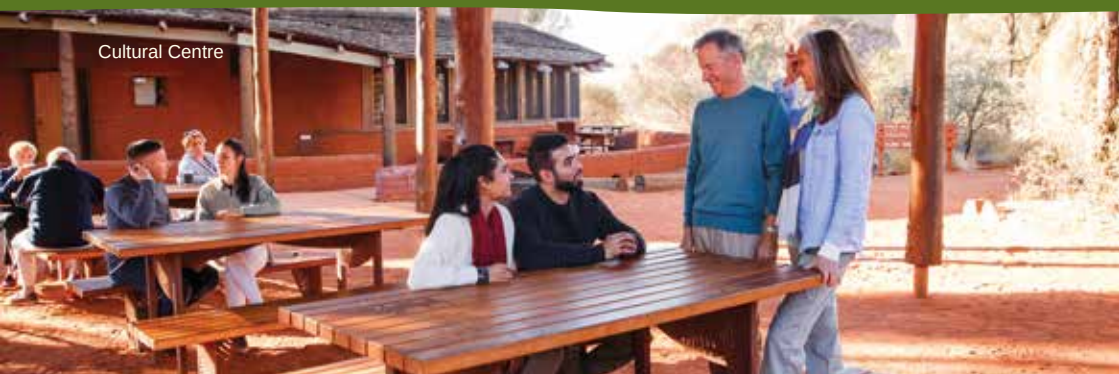


Uluru walks

Walking reveals the natural beauty and rich culture of Uluru. You will be following the footsteps of the ancestral beings that shaped the landscape. Take the time to soak up the natural beauty and rich culture of this unique geological formation.

You can take the entire Uluru Base walk, or just concentrate on one or more of its sections, depending on how much time you have, your level of fitness and if the weather allows.

Drink water, stay cool and walk safely. In hot weather walk only in the cooler morning hours finishing before 11.00 am. See back page for full safety information.



Visit the Cultural Centre first to learn more about the ancestral beings and significance of the walks. You can then begin your walks with a deeper understanding.

Toilets are located at the Cultural Centre and near the Mala carpark.



Mala walk
to Kañtju Gorge

Grade 1 - All access
2 km return, 1.5 hr



Kuniya walk
to Muṯitjulu
Waterhole

Grade 1 - All access
1 km return,
30-45 min



Lungkaṯa walk

Grade 2 - Easy
4 km return, 1.5 hr



Liru walk

Grade 2 - Easy
4 km return, 1.5 hr



Dune walk
from bus sunset

Grade 2 - Easy (sandy)
600 m return, 30-45 min



**Uluru Base
walk**

Grade 3 - Moderate
10.6 km full circuit, 3.5 hr

All times are estimated for a moderate pace with some time to look, learn and enjoy.

Uluru walks

Uluru Base walk

Grade 3 - Moderate. 10.6 km full circuit, 3.5 hr



In the morning it is recommended to start and finish at the Mala carpark. It would be even better if you begin by first joining the ranger-guided Mala walk and continuing on afterwards. In the afternoon start from the Kuniya carpark.

Escape the crowds and take a meandering journey through acacia woodlands and grassed claypans. Discover the diverse plants, animals and geological features of the park. From Kuniya Pitji follow the snake-like grooves along the base of the rock where Kuniya journeyed to Mutitjulu Waterhole. Encounter bloodwoods, native grasses and waterways.

The Base walk is the best way to fully appreciate the natural and cultural beauty of Uluru.



Mala walk to Kantju Gorge

Grade 1 - All access. 2 km return, 1.5 hr



This is where the Mala (rufous hare-wallaby) people camped when they arrived at Uluru in the beginning. There are examples of Anangu rock art along this walk and you can experience the sheer vertical walls and profound peacefulness of Kantju Gorge. A great sunset location in winter.

Here you can learn how Kuniya and Liru helped create Uluru

Free Ranger-Guided Mala walk Meet at Mala carpark, check seasonal starting times.

A Mala walk is conducted daily by park rangers. Meet at the Mala walk sign. A ranger will take you along the base of the rock, stopping to tell the story of the Mala people. Joint management of the park, rock art, and traditional Anangu culture will also be discussed.



Kuniya walk to Muṭitjulu Waterhole

Grade 1 - All access. 1 km return, 30-45 min



From the Kuniya carpark visitors can walk the short track to Muṭitjulu Waterhole, home of Wanampi, an ancestral watersnake. In the special times of rain, experience the magical waterfalls. In the warmer months watch for noisy finches and nankeen kestrels rocketing soaring on the thermals. For the keen bird watcher, you may spot nesting black-breasted buzzards or tawny frogmouths.

Here you can learn how Kuniya and Liru (the woma python woman and poisonous snake man) helped create Uluru. This is a living cultural landscape. Kuniya is still here. Her spirit is here. The art caves are still used by Aṅangu today. This is a special place.

Lungkaṭa walk

Grade 2 - Easy, 4 km return from Mala or Kuniya car parks, 1.5 hr.
Dry-weather wheelchair access



Starting at Kuniya walk learn about Lungkaṭa (the blue-tongued lizard man) and why you should not take what is not yours. Learn how one of Uluru's first visitors discovered the dangers of climbing Uluru. During the summer months this is a great close-to-the-rock sunset location.

Liru walk

Grade 2 - Easy, 4 km return, 1.5 hr. Dry-weather wheelchair access



This walk will take you between the Cultural Centre and the base of Uluru. The track winds through stands of wanari (mulga) and often displays colourful flowers after rain.



Segway Uluru tour

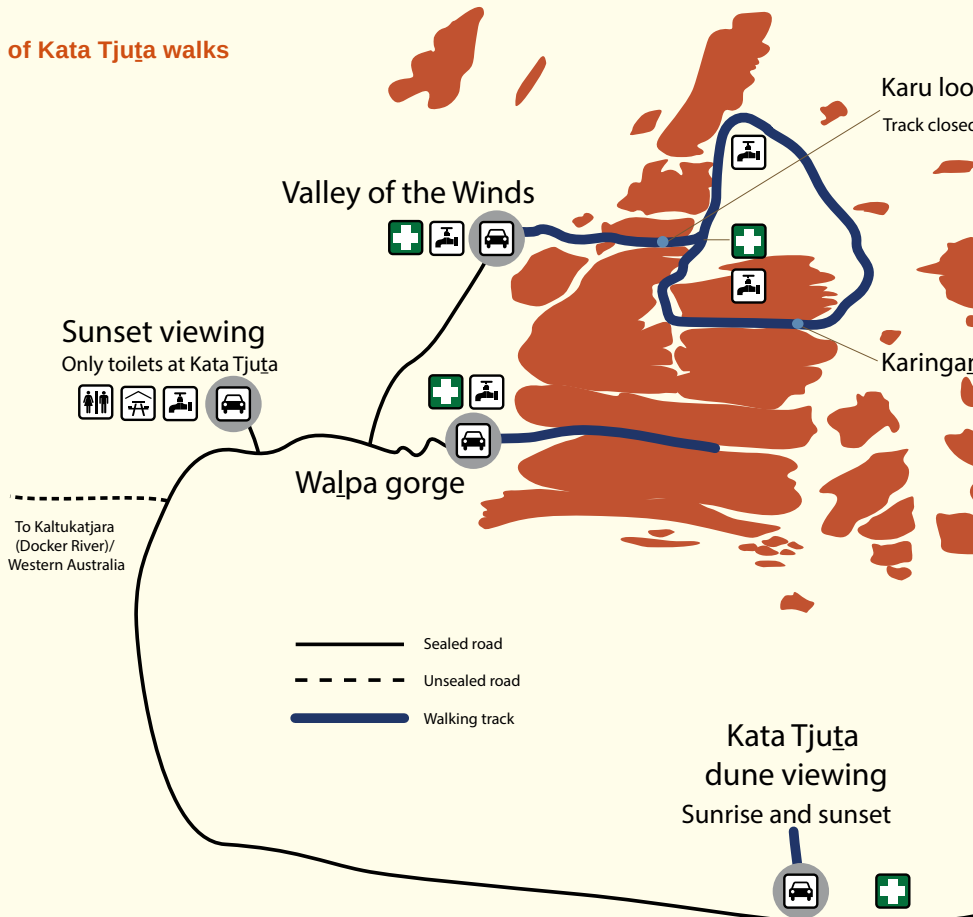
Kata Tjuṯa walks

Kata Tjuṯa is Pitjantjatjara meaning 'many heads'. This spectacular landform is 50 kilometres from Uluru and Yulara.

This is an Anangu men's site and is sacred under Tjukurpa (traditional law). Everyone is welcome and encouraged to visit but as with all areas of the park, please stay on marked tracks.

Visitors will need to exit the park by closing time (page 2). Please allow 45 minutes drive from Kata Tjuṯa. The only toilet facilities at Kata Tjuṯa are at Sunset viewing.

Map of Kata Tjuṯa walks





Kata Tjuta dune viewing

Grade 2 - Easy
600 m return,
30-45 min



Walpa Gorge walk

Grade 3 - Moderate
2.6 km return,
1 hr



Sunset viewing

Grade 1 - All access



Valley of the Winds

Karu lookout

Grade 3 - Moderate
2.2 km return, 1 hr



Karingana
lookout

Grade 4 - Difficult
5.4 km return, 2.5 hr



Full circuit
walk

Grade 4 - Difficult
7.4 km full circuit, 4 hr

All times are estimated for a moderate pace with some time to look, learn and enjoy.



Photo: Tourism NT

lookout

at here at 36°C



na lookout



Drinking water



Picnic area



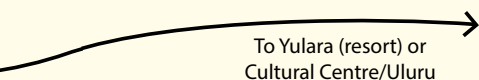
Toilets



Wheelchair access



Emergency radio alarm



To Yulara (resort) or
Cultural Centre/Uluru

Valley of the Winds warning

Please be aware that the walk is steep, rocky and difficult in places. For safety reasons this walk is closed under the following circumstances:

HEAT: the track beyond Karu lookout is closed at 11.00 am when the forecast or actual temperature reaches 36°C or above.

RESCUE: some rescue operations may require sections of the track to be closed. Follow safety directions.

Wear sturdy footwear, sun protection and drink one litre of water per person per hour. In hot weather we strongly recommend walking only in the cooler morning hours finishing your walks by 11.00 am.

Consider park closing time

You will need to leave the Kata Tjuta area 45 minutes before the park closes. Please see page 2 for closing times.

Kata Tjuta walks

Kata Tjuta dune viewing

Grade 2 - Easy. 600 m return, 30 min.
Assisted wheelchair access (inclined boardwalk)



Located 26 kilometres along the road to Kata Tjuta, this short easy walk offers a magnificent panoramic view. It is a relaxing place to sit and absorb this ever-changing landscape. At sunrise and sunset it is awe-inspiring.

Walpa Gorge walk

Grade 3 - Moderate. 2.6 km return, 1 hr



Walpa (windy) Gorge is a desert refuge for plants and animals. The rocky track gently rises to an ephemeral stream, passing rare plants and reaching a grove of spearwood. walk within the sheer walls, experience the vast landscape. (See photo below, far right.)



**Walpa (windy) Gorge is a desert
refuge for plants and animals**

Sunset at Kata Tjuta



Kata Tjuṭa – Valley of the Winds walks

Karu lookout

Grade 3 - Moderate. 1.1 km from the carpark.



This track has some loose rocks to negotiate. Please mind your step and wear sturdy footwear. The view is breathtakingly surreal and worth the effort. Closure point at 36 degrees Celsius.

Karingaṇa lookout

Grade 4 - Difficult. 2.7 km from carpark



This track takes you down into the valleys and creek beds. It is challenging with many steps and very steep in places but very worthwhile.

Full circuit

Grade 4 - Difficult. 7.4 km full circuit, 4 hr.



The remainder of the Valley of the Winds walk takes you far away from everyone and everything. **No commercial photography.**

Sunset viewing

Grade 1 - All access. Only toilets at Kata Tjuṭa



A perfect place for a picnic any time of the day. Watch the last rays of the day illuminate the very photogenic western face of Kata Tjuṭa.



Talinguru Nyakunytyaku walks

Place to look from the sand dune

Aṅangu traditional owners welcome you to Talinguru Nyakunytyaku - place to look from the sand dune.

This destination offers stunning views of Uluru and Kata Tjuta from an angle never seen before.

Interpretive signs provide an opportunity to increase understanding and appreciation of Aṅangu culture and survival skills and to experience the park as a living cultural landscape.

Walk along the tracks and find your own spot to watch the sunrise. Have a picnic under the shelters, watch the sunset without the crowds. Experience the far horizons, space and colours of this breathtaking desert landscape.

All areas at this destination are Grade 1 (easy), all access.

All the plants, animals, rocks and waterholes contain important information about life and living here, now and for all time.

Aṅangu will always gain our knowledge from this landscape. We live in it and look after it the proper way. This is Tjukurpa.

© Traditional owner

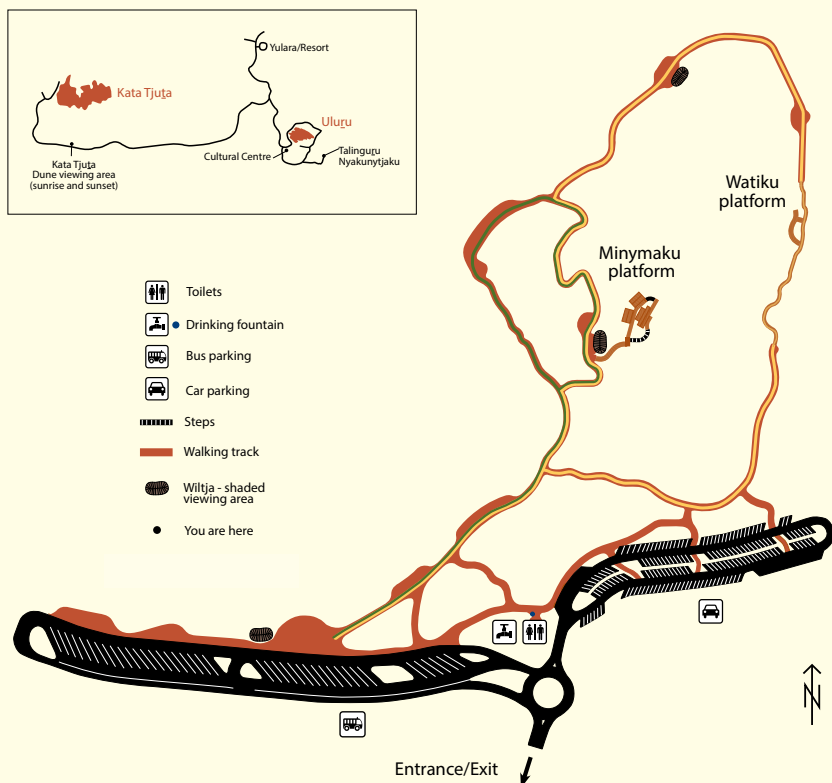


Winter sunset view from Minymaku Platform (** see page 22)

**Experience the far horizons,
space and colours of this
breathtaking desert landscape**



Map of Talinguru Nyakuny tjaku walks



Minymaku walk - Women's walk

Grade 1 - All access. 1 km return, 30-45 min



Everyone is welcome on this track to learn about women's business, such as how women collect and process bush foods and some of the games young children play.

Watiku walk - Men's walk

Grade 1 - All access. 1.5 km return, 1 hr



Everyone is welcome on this track to learn how men make tools and use fire to hunt and look after the land.

Sunset and sunrise viewing areas

What experience will you choose?

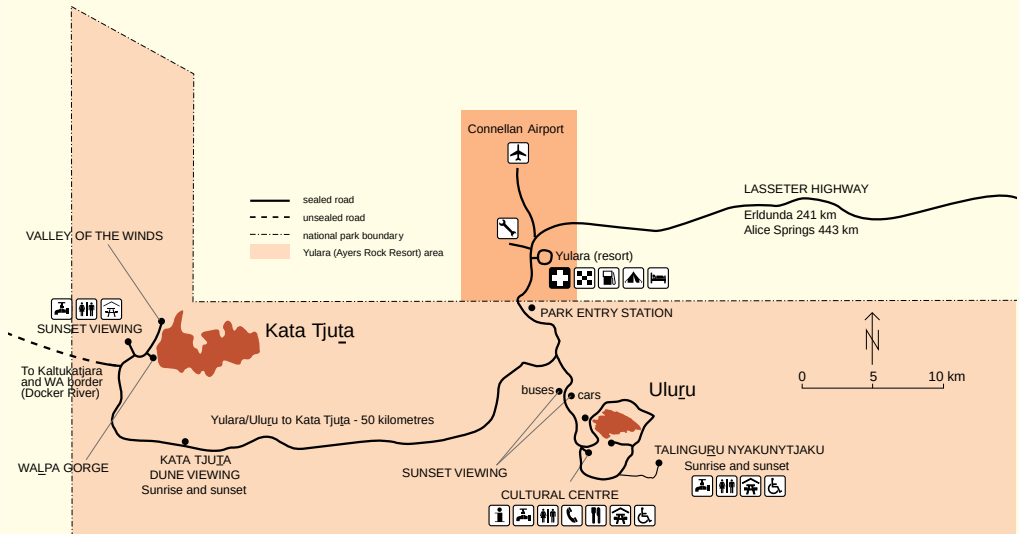
There are five viewing areas built specifically for experiencing and photographing this beautiful landscape. What experience are you looking for?

* Popular

Look for the single * asterisk for views you will recognise. These sunrise and sunset locations are popular for a reason - they are the best places to watch the colour changes on the red rocks.

** Dare to be different

To escape the crowds and capture a shot with a difference, look for the double ** asterisks. Or try the popular locations at the opposite time of day. The rocks will be silhouettes - especially stunning if there are some clouds to add colour and drama. When it rains head to the base of Uluru and watch the waterfalls.



© Director of National Parks

There are five viewing areas built specifically for experiencing and photographing this beautiful landscape. What experience are you looking for?

Viewing areas

1 Car Sunset viewing - views of Uluru

* The only location to watch the colour changes on Uluru at sunset.

** Visit this area at sunrise (photo page 22) for a silhouette shot.

This area is for cars only - buses please use Bus Sunset.

2 Bus Sunset and Dune walk viewing - 360 degree view of Uluru and Kata Tjuta

** A great alternate sunrise spot. Stay in the carpark to view Uluru as a silhouette or take the short, sandy walk to the top of the dune to see Uluru, Kata Tjuta and all the way to the horizon. The dune walk is unsuitable for wheelchairs.

PLEASE NOTE: The bus parking area is accessible to all vehicles until 4.00 pm daily. It is then reserved for buses and coaches for sunset viewing.

3 Talinguru Nyakuntjaku - 360 degree view of Uluru and Kata Tjuta

* This is the main sunrise viewing area for Uluru. You have the choice of three wiljtas (shelters), two viewing platforms and a few kilometres of walking track to find the perfect spot. Capture Uluru and Kata Tjuta in the same shot, marvel at the stunning 360 degree view of the surrounding landscape.

** A great alternate sunset location (photo page 24).

4 Kata Tjuta Dune viewing - 360 degree view of Kata Tjuta

** A spectacular panoramic view of Kata Tjuta with Uluru on the horizon. Sun on the rocks at sunrise, silhouette at sunset (photo page 23). Brilliant, quiet, serene.

5 Kata Tjuta Sunset viewing - views of Kata Tjuta

* At sunset watch the stunning colour change into the deepest red (photo page 22).

Remember that you will need to be outside the park boundary at closing time (page 2).



Things to learn



Looking after the land *Ngura atunymankunytjaku*

Nganana national park tjukaruru atunymankupai.

We are protecting this national park according to our law.

Aṅangu land management kept the country healthy for many generations. A lot of damage has been done since piṛanpa (non-Aboriginal) people arrived.

Today, we work together with park rangers and scientists to look after the land, plants and animals according to traditional law. We train the piṛanpa rangers in traditional land management. Piṛanpa rangers bring scientific knowledge to the park. Young Aṅangu are training to be rangers. They are studying science as well as learning from the old men and women.

We all have a responsibility to look after the land on which we live.

Today, we work together with park rangers and scientists to look after the land, plants and animals according to traditional law





Culturally sensitive sites

Showing respect

There are some important sensitive areas around the base of Uluru. At these sites, the rock details and features are equivalent to a sacred scripture - they describe culturally important information and must be viewed in their original location. It is inappropriate for images of these sites to be viewed elsewhere.

Particular senior traditional owners are responsible for the stories and ceremonies associated with these sites. These are handed down from grandparent to grandchild as family inheritance.

Under Tjukurpa, cultural knowledge is earned and with it comes great cultural responsibility. This has been the custom since the beginning of creation.



Visitors are encouraged to learn about this place and by NOT photographing or filming these areas you will be showing respect.



Uluṛu arkose sandstone



Kata Tjuṯa conglomerate

About the geology – A western science perspective

What type of rock is Uluṛu made from?

Uluṛu is made from a sedimentary rock called arkose sandstone, a coarse-grained sandstone rich in the mineral feldspar.

What type of rock is Kata Tjuṯa made from?

Kata Tjuṯa is made from a sedimentary rock called conglomerate - a mix of gravel, pebbles and boulders cemented together by sand and mud. It contains many minerals and other rock types, including basalt and granite.

Why do Uluṛu and Kata Tjuṯa stand above the surrounding landscape?

The theory is that Uluṛu and Kata Tjuṯa must have been harder than the rock surrounding them. The rock layers that eroded around them may have had more faults and fractures allowing increased weathering and erosion to occur.

What gives Uluṛu a red colour?

Weathering of Uluṛu gives the rock its red colour. The iron minerals in the rock are weathered by water and oxygen in a similar effect to iron rusting. The feldspar minerals within the arkose sandstone are also weathered and form clays which contributes to the colouring. The unweathered rock is a grey colour and can be seen inside the caves around Uluṛu.

How do caves and patterns form in the rock?

The major valleys of Kata Tjuṯa may reflect fractures that formed around 300 million years ago. Chemical weathering by groundwater widened the fissures, and rainwater runoff gradually formed the canyons we see today.

There are no major joints or fractures visible in Uluṛu. Rainwater runoff formed the steep valleys with potholes and plunge pools. There is still debate about how the caves at Uluṛu formed. The high caves may have begun with the flaking erosion of the rock surface, honeycombed out by wind and water over time.

Learn some new words

Tjukurpa *kutjupaku nintiringama*

Pitjantjatjara/ Yankunytjatjara	Approximate pronunciation	English meaning
Anangu	arn-ung-oo	Aboriginal people of the Western Desert
Pitjantjatjara	pigeon-jarrah	Aboriginal language group
Yankunytjatjara	young-kun-jarrah	Aboriginal language group
Tjukurpa/Wapar	chook-orr-pa/ wop-arr	complex meaning – creation time, law, way of life, story
palya	pul (like cull)-ya	hello/goodbye/thank you/finish
uwa	oo-ah	yes
wiya	wee-ya	no, don't
inma	in-ma	dance/ceremony
Kata Tjuta	catta-jew-tah	many heads, name of rock outcrop
kungka	koong-ka	young woman
kuniya	koon-i-ya	woma python
liru	leer-oo	poisonous snake
lungkata	loong-car-ta	blue-tongued lizard
mai	may	fruit and vegetable food
mala	marl-a	rufous hare-wallaby
maruku	mar-oo-ku	for black people – literally, maru = black, ku = for
minyma	min-ma	woman
Mutitjulu	moot (like foot)-it-joo-loo	name of waterhole at Uluru / name of local Aboriginal community
Tjukuritja	chook-orr-icha	physical evidence of Tjukurpa
Uluru	ool-or-roo	name of monolith
walpa	wharl-pa	wind
wati	wottie	man

Pronunciation

The letter a sounds like the a in above - not the a in apple. There is no b - although the p is very soft and almost a b. There is no c but there is a k and tj like 'ch'. There is no d but the t is close. There is no e, f, h, j, o, q, s, v, x or z. U sounds like the English 'oo' as in put.

The letter g is silent and often part of a sound similar to 'ng' in English such as sing, bring.

The letters r, n, l and t sound similar to their English equivalents. However, these letters occur with or without an underline.

The r with the underline sounds like the English

'r'. Without the underline it sounds more like the rolled Scottish 'rr'.

When the letters n, l, and t are underlined they sound close to 'rn', 'rl' and 'rt'.

Almost without exception, the emphasis is placed on the first syllable of words. With English words it is on the second.

General information

Ara kutjupa kutjupa kulintjaku

Location

450 km southwest of Alice Springs by road

Park size

1325 km²

Uluru height

348 m above the plain 863 m above sea level

Circumference

9.4 km

Kata Tjuta height

546 m above the plain 1066 m above sea level

Fauna species

21 mammals, 73 reptiles,
170 birds, 4 frogs

Flora species

greater than 400

Average rainfall

307.7 mm per year

Temperature

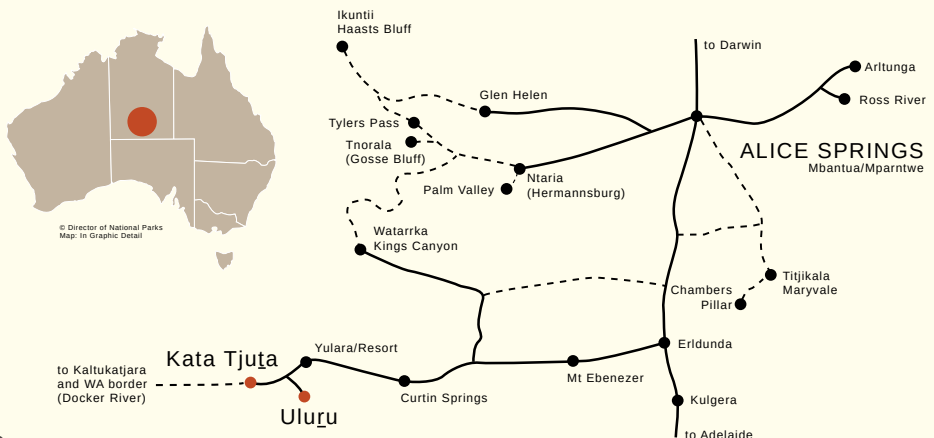
up to 47°C in summer extremes down
to -7°C on winter nights

UV readings

extreme most days



Photo: Corinne Le Gall



Anangu enterprises in the Cultural Centre

Cultural Centre – Open 7.00 am – 6.00 pm daily

Nintirinkupai Room (park information desk)

Open 8.00 am – 5.00 pm

08 8956 1128

uluru.info@environment.gov.au

parksaustralia.gov.au/uluru

We can answer your questions and provide extensive information about the park. Presentations are conducted most weekdays between 10.00 am – 12.00. Check at the cultural centre for current time and other seasonal activities. Activities subject to change without notice.

Ininti Café & Souvenirs

Open 7.00 am – 5.00 pm (closed Christmas, New Years Day and June 30)

08 8956 2214

Enjoy light refreshments or a main meal with a magnificent view of Uluru. Ininti offers a selection of souvenir gifts, books, videos and clothing. It is recommended groups book in advance to avoid delays.

Maruku

Open 7.30 am – 5.30 pm

08 8956 2558

punu@maruku.com.au; maruku.com.au

Displaying traditionally crafted punu (wooden) tools and artifacts, paintings, jewellery, pottery and other crafts from Anangu artists in the Central Western Desert region.

Walkatjara Art Uluru

Open 7.00 am – 5:30 pm

08 8956 2537

art@walkatjara.com; desart.com.au

Walkatjara is owned and managed by local Anangu people from the community closest to the rock - Muṯitjulu. We stock quality artworks made by local Muṯitjulu artists.

Visitor sustainability



Help us look after this special place

Ngura pulkanya aṯunmananyi

You are one of a large number of visitors the park receives every year. Minimising your impact will help protect this special place for the future.

Enjoy your visit sustainably

Stay on track - Each footprint in the sand may last many weeks and desert plants are fragile when disturbed. walking or driving off track can spread weed seeds and collapse underground burrows. Please stay on roads and tracks.

Only take photographs - the rocks and sand belong here at this place. For a truly unique and beautiful souvenir, visit the art galleries at the Cultural Centre. You will be helping support local Aboriginal communities.

Protect plants - please do not use tree branches as fly swats! Ininti Cafe at the Cultural Centre sells fly nets and a natural fly cream. These products work against the flies and make an interesting souvenir.

Keep wildlife wild - please do not feed any wild animals. Your food can make them sick and they can lose their wild instincts.

Leave firewood outside - please do not bring firewood collected elsewhere inside the park. The wood may harbour unwanted pests and weed seeds.

Plan your day - toilets are only provided at the Cultural Centre, Talinguru Nyakunyṯjaku, Mala carpark and Kata Tjuṯa sunset viewing area.

Yellow lines - protect roadside vegetation by not stopping where yellow lines are painted on the side of the road.

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act)* protects the parks natural and cultural World Heritage values. For a full list of regulations: environment.gov.au/epbc/

For further information on regulations please talk to park staff and visit the park's Cultural Centre. uluru.info@environment.gov.au 08 8956 1128

Commercial activity permits

Commercial activity of any type within the park requires a permit. This includes includes media, tours, filming, photography, artwork and sound recording. Please contact the permits officer. uluru.permits@environment.gov.au

Visitor safety



Hot weather danger

Each year park rangers respond to many incidents of heat exhaustion and dehydration. These conditions are life-threatening and can happen quickly if you do not take care.

The graph below shows the average temperature range over a 24 hour period in the summer months of December, January and February.

Please note - hot weather also occurs outside summer months.

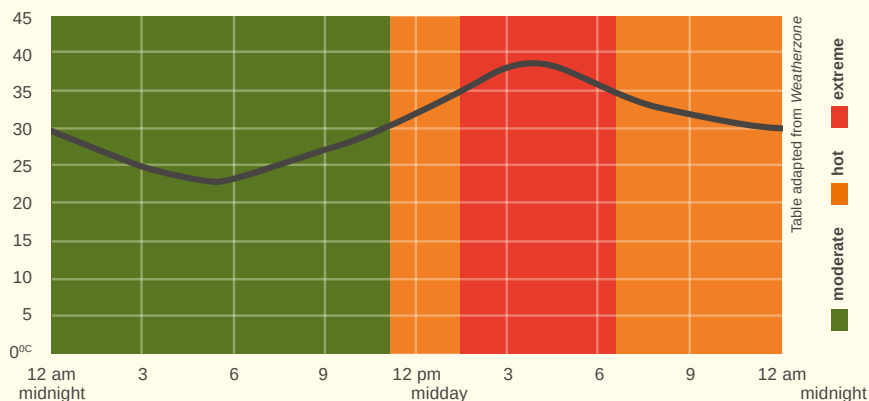
Summer facts

- 11.00 am to 11.00 pm temperatures average above 30°C.
- 4.00 pm is the hottest time of the day.
- as the temperature rises, humidity falls and dehydration risk increases exponentially
- temperatures in the sun can be up to 15°C above official levels.

Be prepared

- check the forecast at your hotel or at the park's Cultural Centre
- take all warnings seriously
- don't risk your life!

Typical summer daily temperatures at Uluru



Hot weather danger limits

11.00 am - in hot weather, finish walks by 11.00 am. Heat-related incidents increase significantly after this time. 36°C - heat-related incidents increase significantly at and above this extreme temperature. Careful consideration of all activities is strongly recommended.

Drink water, stay cool, walk safely

Safety is your responsibility: don't risk your life

Tjukurpa *atunmanamangku* – *ngurakutu wanka ankuntjaku*

Uluru–Kata Tjuṯa National Park is a beautiful but harsh environment. Heat exhaustion and dehydration are life-threatening and a real danger here. In addition, our walks are isolated and can be rugged.

Extreme heat

Temperatures in the park regularly reach 30°C or more and can exceed 40°C during summer.

Heat exhaustion, dehydration and hyponatremia (low sodium levels in the blood) are very real dangers here.

To avoid heat-related issues while exploring the walking tracks in the park:

- Walk only in the cooler parts of the day, avoiding the hottest period between 2.30 pm and 6.30 pm. In summer we strongly recommend not walking after 11.00 am.
- Wear a broad-brimmed hat, sunscreen and sturdy walking shoes.
- Carry and drink at least one litre of water per person per hour.
- Don't consume sports drinks, diet cordials or caffeinated drinks – these can all contribute to dehydration.
- Consider using an electrolyte product (such as Hydralyte or Gastrolyte) to replace lost fluids.
- Familiarise yourself with the symptoms of heatstroke and heat-related illness.
- Eat regular meals, take frequent breaks and eat plenty of healthy snacks, even if you don't feel hungry.
- Walk with another person at all times.
- Obey all safety directions, notices and warning signs, including any directions from park rangers.
- Stay on marked tracks at all times.
- Do not walk on any tracks that are closed due to the heat.
- If you have any concerns about your health or fitness, avoid physical activity (including walking) in extreme heat.

If you feel ill or have been injured

Stay where you are and tell someone to contact a park ranger. Rangers can be contacted within park opening times by using an **emergency radio alarm** – see maps for locations.

Uluru

- Mala walk carpark
- Base walk (northeast track)
- Kuniya Piṯi water tank
- Kuniya walk carpark

Kata Tjuṯa

- Kata Tjuṯa dune viewing
- Walpa Gorge carpark
- Valley of the Winds carpark
- Valley of the Winds walk - T intersection