



Alice Springs to Darwin via Stuart Hwy

Total Distance 1493 Kilometres



The RAA maintains some 300 strip maps covering all major routes of Australia. They are available from RAA Offices and are free to members.

Strip maps are designed to assist drivers by showing distances, roadside features and town facilities on a simple flip-over style map, which can also be used in reverse. These maps are not drawn to scale.

Strip Map Features:

Cumulative Distances

These are provided for both directions of travel and can be matched to the car's odometers for a ready reference.

Intermediate Distances

These distances provide for some localised perspective of scale.

Town Facilities

Hotels, motels, post offices, caravan parks, fuel (in remote areas).

Narrative

Caution notes, road surface, a description of the country traversed, town narratives and populations.

Legend

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------|--|
| | Route Markers | P | |
| PO | Post Office | R | |
| H | Hotel | | |
| M | Motel | | |
| CP | Caravan Park | | |

via Stuart Hwy 1493 Kilometres

Alice Springs
283 Barrow Creek
531 248 Threeways
904 621 373 Daly Waters
1177 894 646 273 Katherine
1380 1097 849 476 203 Adelaide River
1493 1210 962 589 316 113 Darwin

INTRODUCTION

This itinerary has been prepared to assist you on your trip. Please check your speedometer against stated distances during the first few kilometres of the tour. Few speedometers register exactly the same over any appreciable distance, and any discrepancy should be allowed for.

The RAA trusts that your journey will be rewarding, safe and pleasant. Please drive carefully and ensure rest stops are frequently utilised.

EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE

If possible telephone for assistance however if no telephone is available, complete the slip below and ask a passing motorist to hand it in to the nearest Auto Club Service Depot.

Please note that replacement parts may not be easily obtained when they are needed. Avoid delays - always carry spare fan belts and spare radiator hoses.

N.B : Free Emergency Road Service is available to trailers and caravans up to 2 tonnes gross weight, towed by members, on production of your membership card, both in South Australia and interstate.

Your membership number should be quoted when calling for service and card presented upon arrival of the service person, otherwise a fee will be charged.

ALWAYS WAIT FOR THE PATROL OR MECHANIC, OR ADVISE THE DEPOT IF YOU ARE ABLE TO PROCEED.

TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE

CALL FOR EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE

Date: _____ Time: _____

I am a member of the RAA. Please send me assistance.

My RAA membership number is _____

My car is a _____ (Make) _____ (Model)

_____ (Colour) Registration No. _____

My location is _____

(State clearly where you are and give details i.e., "Five kilometres from Jamestown on the Caltowie Road.)

Nature of trouble (if known) _____

Tow required _____

INTERSTATE TRAVEL

Driving licence and Certificate of Car Registration MUST be carried by South Australian motorists visiting other States.

NOTE: Full reciprocity exists regarding the use of driving licences between ALL States and Territories of the Commonwealth for driving cars registered in such States and Territories, but the current licence must be carried by the driver at all times. Travellers from South Australia visiting any other State or Territory may circulate freely as it is not necessary to observe any formalities in regard to registration, insurance etc., either at the border or elsewhere. (Note - Where commercial or other vehicles are used for carrying goods for hire or reward, enquiries should be made in advance as they may be subject to payment of fees and other conditions by the Transport Authorities in each State.)

AFFILIATED MOTORING ORGANISATIONS IN OTHER STATES

Membership of the RAA is particularly valuable in connection with interstate touring. The Association is affiliated with automobile organisations throughout Australia, and members are entitled to reciprocal service from these organisations*.

(Such service does not extend to the sale of petrol, oil, spare parts, parking facilities, maintenance repairs or car washing, etc.) Members are advised to carry their membership card with them as proof of their membership status. Failure to do so may result in difficulty in securing service.

The contacts of kindred organisations are as follows:-

MELBOURNE: Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV)
General - 13 1955
Road Service - 13 1111

SYDNEY: National Roads and Motorists' Assoc. (NRMA)
General - 13 1122
Road Service - 13 1111

BRISBANE: Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACO)
General - 13 1905
Road Service - 13 1111

PERTH: Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (RACWA)
General - 13 1704
Road Service - 13 1111

HOBART: Royal Automobile Club of Tasmania (RACT)
General - (03) 6232 6300
Road Service - 13 1111

DARWIN: Automobile Association of Northern Territory (AANT)
General - (08) 8981 3837
Road Service - 13 1111

* Service is provided under the conditions applicable to the affiliated Motoring Organisation's equivalent class/benefit/level of membership.

Alice Springs - Barrow Creek

283 kilometres
Route 87
Stuart Hwy.

CAUTION

Straying animals present a hazard, particularly if travelling at night. For maximum safety, restrict driving to daylight hours.

Alice Springs

(approx. population 21,620)

The 'capital' of Central Australia, Alice Springs is one of the country's most famous outback towns and is a popular destination for visitors from around the world. With the MacDonnell Ranges providing a spectacular backdrop 'the Alice', is surrounded by rugged gorges, cool swimming holes, exciting four wheel drive trails and beautiful desert scenery. The town itself has a host of attractions including the Telegraph Station, the RFDS base, School of the Air, the Desert Park plus many Aboriginal art displays and cultural centres.

Barrow Creek

Situated at the foot of a rocky escarpment which extends to the east and west for some kilometres. On 23rd February, 1874, the Telegraph Station at Barrow Creek was attacked by members of the Katish Tribe, during which two overland telegraph station employees, Franks and Stapleton, were killed.

Central Mt. Stuart

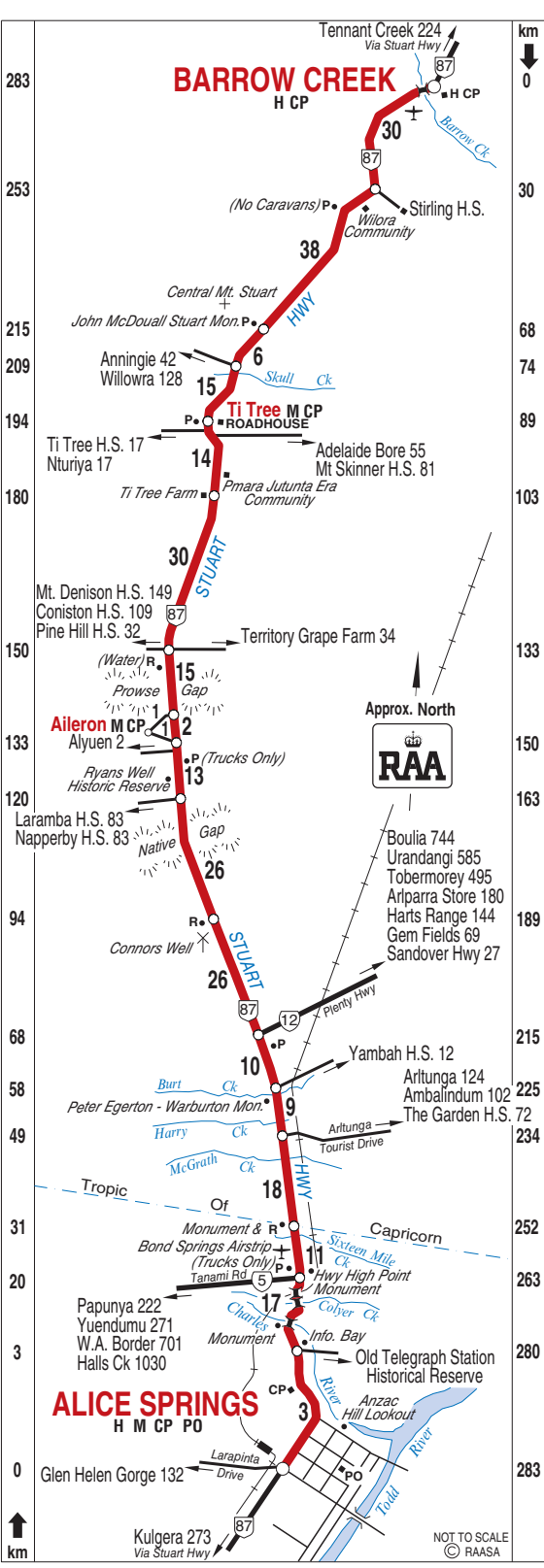
Climbed by explorer John McDouall Stuart in April, 1860, during his first attempt to cross Australia from south to north. At that time, he named the peak Central Mt. Sturt after Captain Sturt, another explorer, but this was later changed.

Country Traversed

Mainly level grazing country with outcrops of rock around Barrow Creek and north of Aileron.

Road Surface

Bitumen.



BARROW CREEK - THREEWAYS

248 kilometres
Route 87
Stuart Highway

CAUTION

1. Beware of flying stones when vehicles, particularly road trains, are approaching.
2. Straying animals present a hazard, particularly when travelling at night. For maximum safety restrict driving to daylight hours.

BARROW CREEK

Situated at the foot of a rocky escarpment which extends to the east and west for some kilometres. On 23rd February, 1874, the Telegraph Station at Barrow Creek was attacked by members of the Katish Tribe, during which two overland telegraph station employees, Franks and Stapleton, were killed.

DEVILS MARBLES

Strewn across a spinifex covered valley, these piles of granite boulders are the result of millions of years of erosion.

TENNANT CREEK

(approx. population 2,920)

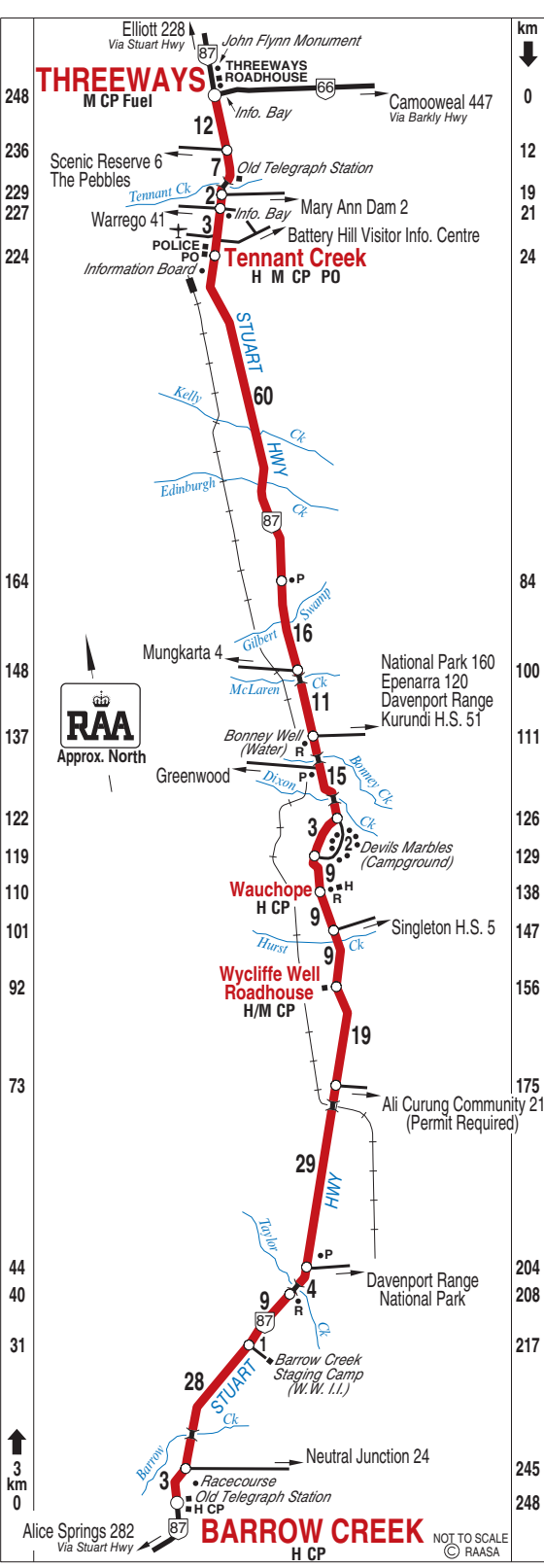
Established in conjunction with the Overland Telegraph, the town subsequently became an important mining settlement and was the site of Australia's last major gold rush, in 1933. While gold and copper mining activities continue, Tennant Creek is also considered to be the commercial hub of the Barkly region.

COUNTRY TRAVERSED

Flat to undulating with some timbered and rocky sections, and grassy plains.

ROAD SURFACE

Bitumen.



BARROW CREEK

NOT TO SCALE
© RAASA

THREWAYS - DALY WATERS

373 kilometres
Route 87
Stuart Highway

CAUTION

1. Beware of flying stones when vehicles, particularly road trains, are approaching.
2. Straying animals present a hazard, particularly when travelling at night. For maximum safety restrict driving to daylight hours.

THREWAYS

At the junction of the Stuart and Barkly Highways (known as "Threeways") is a monument to the Rev. John Flynn, pioneer explorer and founder of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The surrounding countryside is semi-arid, lightly vegetated with stunted mulga and saltbush.

ELLIOTT

(approx. population 350)

Established during WW11, Elliott was a staging camp for troops heading north.

DALY WATERS

Situated approximately 4 kms west of the Stuart Highway, the historic Daly Waters Pub holds the longest continuous liquor license in the Northern Territory, dating back to 1893. The present building was constructed in the late 1920's

POINTS OF INTEREST

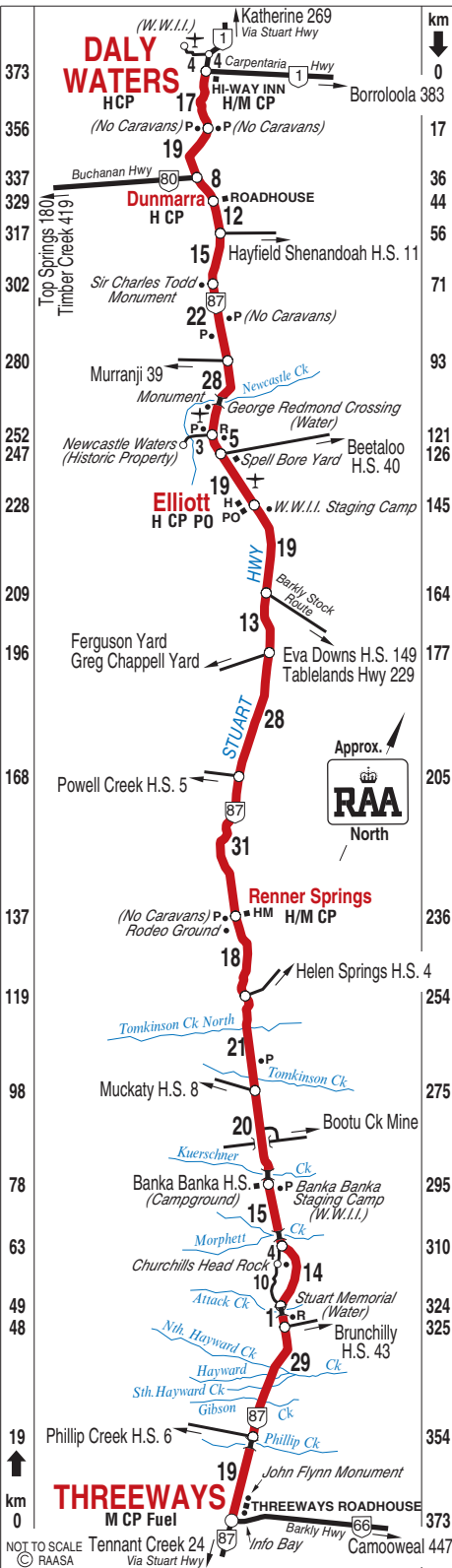
Close to Attack Creek is a monument to JOHN McDOWALL STUART. It was here that hostile Aborigines and illness forced Stuart to turn back on 25th June, 1860, from his attempt to traverse the continent.

COUNTRY TRAVERSED

Flat to undulating, moderately timbered with rocky outcrops.

ROAD SURFACE

Bitumen.



DALY WATERS - KATHERINE

273 kilometres
Route 1
Stuart Highway

CAUTION

Straying animals present a hazard, particularly if travelling at night. For maximum safety, restrict driving to daylight hours.

DALY WATERS

Situated approximately 4 kms west of the Stuart Highway, the historic Daly Waters Pub holds the longest continuous liquor license in the Northern Territory, dating back to 1893. The present building was constructed in the late 1920's

MATARANKA

(approx. population 250)

Located 8 kilometres to the east of the township and set in lush rainforest, is the famous Mataranka thermal pool. With a constant temperature of 34° C the crystal clear pool has delighted bathers for many years. About 21 kms south of Mataranka is the WE OF THE NEVER NEVER CEMETERY which is the burial place of several of the characters mentioned in Jeannie Gunn's popular book.

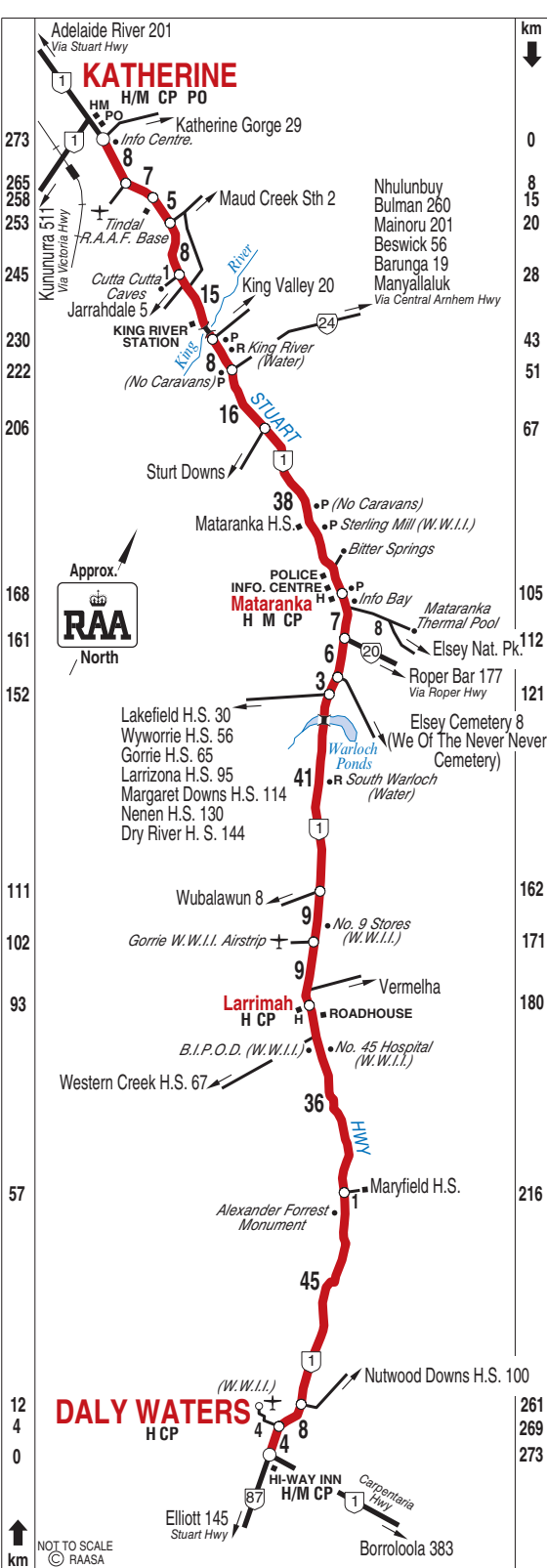
KATHERINE

(approx. population 5,850)

Noted for beef production, mining and horticulture, the town also supports the nearby RAAF Base. The picturesque Katherine River runs through the town and 29 km upstream passes through the noted tourist attraction, Katherine Gorge. Boat trips may be taken through the gorge with the near vertical cliffs towering above.

ROAD SURFACE

Bitumen.



KATHERINE - ADELAIDE RIVER

203 kilometres
Route 1
Stuart Highway

CAUTION

1. Beware of flying stones when vehicles, particularly road trains, are approaching.
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KATHERINE

(approx. population 5,850)

The third largest town in the Northern Territory, Katherine is the administrative centre for the surrounding beef cattle, mining and horticultural industries. It also supports the nearby Tindall RAAF Base. The Katherine River passes through town and 30 kilometres upstream is the famous Katherine Gorge, the centrepiece of Nitmiluk National Park. Visitors can enjoy a boat tour or paddle a canoe along the river as it meanders its way among towering sandstone cliffs.

PINE CREEK

(approx. population 260)

The town was the centre of an important uranium mining district. At the El Sharana Mine was found what is believed to be the largest single piece of pitchblende in the world, weighing 976 kg. Gold also played an important role in the development of the township, and in recent times new mining projects have been initiated in the region.

ADELAIDE RIVER

(approx. population 190)

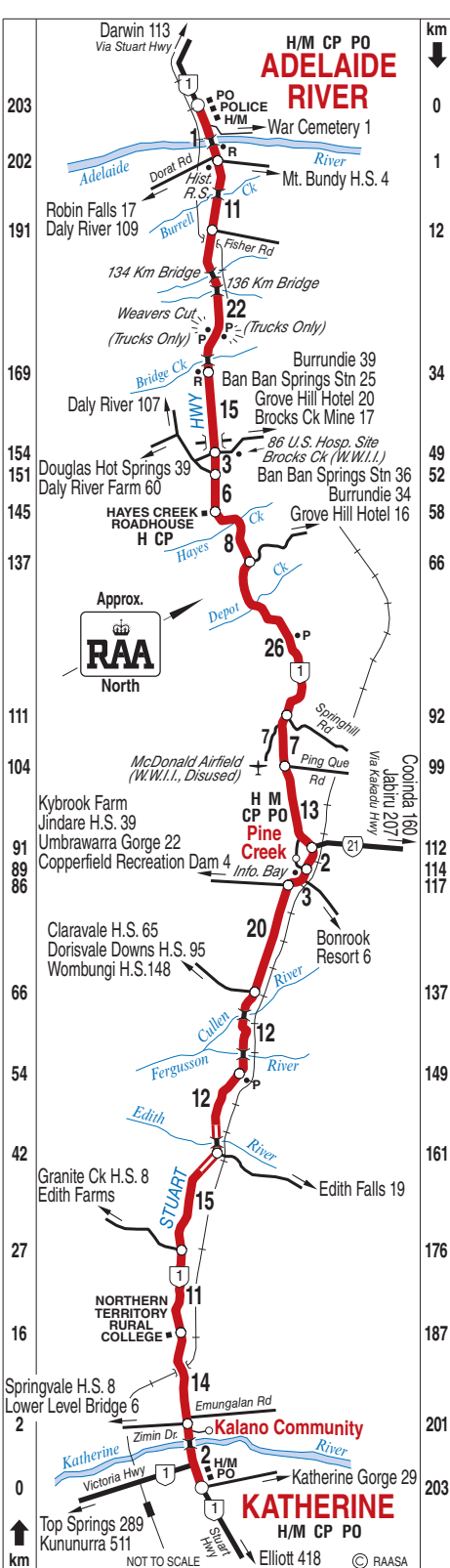
The river on which the settlement is located was discovered in 1839 by two crew members of the HMS Beagle, and named in honour of Queen Adelaide. The nearby Adelaide River War Cemetery contains the graves of those who lost their lives during the bombing raids on Darwin in World War II.

COUNTRY TRAVERSED

Undulating to hilly and for the most part timbered.

ROAD SURFACE

Bitumen.



ADELAIDE RIVER - DARWIN

113 kilometres
Route 1
Stuart Highway

ADELAIDE RIVER (approx. population 190)

The river on which the settlement is located was discovered in 1839 by two crew members of the HMS Beagle, and named in honour of Queen Adelaide. The nearby Adelaide River War Cemetery contains the graves of those who lost their lives during the bombing raids on Darwin in World War II.

DARWIN (approx. population 66,290)

Discovered in 1839 by John Stokes, the captain of the HMS Beagle, and named Port Darwin after the scientist Charles Darwin. The South Australian Government sent Woodroffe Goyder to survey a town site and the name Palmerston was adopted for the proposed settlement. This new name however, was rarely used and Darwin eventually became the official name. Having survived the devastating bombing by the Japanese in World War II and the destruction caused by Cyclone Tracy in 1974, Darwin is now one of the best laid out and fastest growing cities in Australia.

POINTS OF INTEREST

BATCHELOR AND RUM JUNGLE. Situated 13 km west of the Stuart Highway, Batchelor became an important town in 1953, providing accommodation for miners at the nearby Rum Jungle uranium and copper mine. Mining and ore treatment continued until the operation was terminated in 1971, and most of the workers left Batchelor. The few remaining residents ensured the town's survival and in 1977, Batchelor was officially named.

LITCHFIELD PARK. Situated about 24 km west of Batchelor, Litchfield is one of the most popular parks in the Northern Territory. Many of the attractions, including Wangi Falls, Tolmer Falls and Florence Falls, are accessible by conventional vehicle all year round.

COUNTRY TRAVERSED

Undulating and timbered.

ROAD SURFACE

Bitumen.

