Lajamanu Business Directory
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1 About Lajamanu

Lajamanu is located south west of Katherine on the northern edge of the Tanami Desert and the eastern side of Hooker Creek as part of the Hooker Creek Aboriginal Land Trust. Lajamanu boarders the southern boundary of Wave Hill Station.

Lajamanu was traditionally Gurindji country. However, Lajamanu was established as a welfare settlement in 1949 and ceased in the 1970s when Lajamanu Council came in as the first Community Government Council in the Northern Territory. During this time, many Walpiri people from Yuendumu were relocated to Lajamanu.

Lajamanu is a very strong traditional community where English is a second language. The predominant residents are now the Warlpiri people who actively maintain their language and culture.

Warlpiri is the main language in Lajamanu, spoken by about 77 per cent of people. English is also spoken as a second language.


1.1 Population

At the 2016 Census, Lajamanu had a population of 606, mainly Warlpiri people with a median age of 22. For detailed information  http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/SSC70152

1.2 Power and water

Electricity is supplied by a diesel generator. Chlorinated and fluoridated town water is supplied by bore, and waste water is treated in sewerage ponds on the outskirts of town.

1.3 ICT information

- Full telephone and internet services.
- Broadband Satellite Internet Services – Telstra
- The community is serviced by Telstra 4G only. Other mobile carriers are unavailable.
- Television – Digital

1.4 Access

1.4.1 Air

The community has its own aircraft available for charter. It is operated by Chartair. Refer to 14.1
1.4.2 Road

By road the community can be accessed from Katherine as well as from Alice Springs. From Katherine, access is via the sealed Buntine Highway and then via 110 km of unsealed road. The travel time is around 6 hours’ drive. Access can also be made from Alice Springs via the Tanami Road to the Lajamanu road, both of which are mostly unsealed and often in poor repair. The distance from Alice Springs is approx. 870 km.

1.4.3 Bodhi Bus

Founded in 2009, Bodhi Bus specializes in providing remote area passenger bus services, currently accommodating and connecting over 60 remote Australian communities throughout the Top End of the Northern Territory and beyond.

They provide regular services to communities and locations such as Numbulwar, Ngukurr, Minyerri, Borroloola, Lajamanu, Kalkaringi, Timber Creek, Kununurra, Wyndham, Elliott, Tennant Creek, Bulman, Gapuwiyak and Darwin as well as remote outstations at passengers requests.

Bodhi Bus provides transport to individual travelers, territory health patients and corporate clients to and from Katherine with most connecting services the following day. For Charter enquiries contact the operations team.

Bodhi Bus operates services to communities bi-weekly and to Darwin four times a week for your convenience.

Please phone or see the website as dates and pricing is subject to change.

Address: Shop 6/27 Katherine Terrace
Postal Address: PO Box 125, Katherine NT 0851
Phone: (08) 8971 0774
Fax: (08) 8971 0776
Email: info@thebodhibus.com.au
Key Contact: Operations Team

1.5 Local government

As part of the Local Government reforms in the Northern Territory, the Central Desert Regional Council came into existence on 1st July 2014. The Central Desert Regional Council provides local government services in Lajamanu. Its headquarters is located in Alice Springs, with a Service Delivery Centre located in Lajamanu.

The Guidelines concerning how Local Authorities function are set by the Northern Territory Government via the Local Government Act.

At the time of writing:

Council Services Manager: Tim Parslow
Email: tim.parslow@centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Phone: 08 8975 0886

Make sure you contact the relevant department regional office and advise them of your visit.

If your visit is related to local authority meetings please contact the department’s Local Authority Coordinator at local.authorities@nt.gov.au
1.6 Land tenure

Lajamanu is located within the Hooker Creek Aboriginal Land Trust and is Aboriginal Land under the NT Land Rights Act (NT) 1976

1.7 Central Land Council

The CLC is a corporate Commonwealth entity established under the ALRA and also has functions under the Native Title Act 1993 and the Pastoral Land Act 1992 covering over 750,000 square kilometers in the southern half of the Northern Territory. The CLC represents Aboriginal people in Central Australia and supports them to manage their land, make the most of the opportunities it offers and promote their rights.

Address: Corner of Kiwinyi St and Lajamanu Road, Lajamanu
Postal Address: PMB Lajamanu, Via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8951 6211 or 1800 003 640
CLC Main Office: 27 Stuart Hwy Alice Springs, NT 0870
PO Box 3321, Alice Springs NT 0871
Email: For permits: permits@clc.org.au
Other: media@clc.org.au
Website: http://www.clc.org.au/

1.8 Planning a community visit

The Northern Territory’s remote communities are so diverse that it’s crucial to learn about them and get prepared before you visit. They range in size from large towns to very small outstations. Road conditions vary from sealed highways to rough bush tracks. Resources for visitors are limited so make sure you are organised and take what you need with you.

There are regional differences in language, culture, social structures, politics, authority of land owners and clan elders. Understanding and respect for these different ways is critical to successful work in these contexts. The NTG have put together a number of resources to help you plan a successful visit.


2 Acronyms

ATM - Automatic Teller Machine
CDRC – Central Desert Regional Council
CLC – Central Land Council
CMB – Community Mail Bag
EFTPOS - electronic funds transfer at point of sale
ICT - Information and Communication Technology
KWHB - Katherine West Health Board
LPAC – Lajamanu Progress Aboriginal Corporation
LPO - Local Post Office
NT - Northern Territory
3 Accommodation

3.1 Central Desert Regional Council – Long House

The Longhouse has six rooms, with two shared bathrooms, lounge and kitchen. Bookings can be made through the CDRC office in Lajamanu. All forms of payment are accepted.

Address: Longhouse Lajamanu Community, Lajamanu NT 0852
Postal Address: CMB Lajamanu, Via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 5505
Email: lajamanu@centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Website: http://www.centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Key Contact: Accommodation Manager

4 Arts and culture

4.1 Warnayaka Art and Cultural Aboriginal Corporation

The art centre specialise in Indigenous Aboriginal art and dot paintings. The most important thing expressed by members is the need to preserve and pass on the cultural significance of Warlpiri, the culture of the people of Lajamanu, which encompasses not only art, but includes language, social structure, law and country. In doing so, preservation of pride in being Warlpiri will result.

Address: Cnr Rarri & N Burrpurlu St, Lajamanu NT 0852
Postal Address: CMB Lajamanu, Via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0808
Mobile: 0447 821 652
Fax: 08 8975 0808
Email: info@warnayaka.com
Website: http://www.warnayaka.com
Key Contact: Art Centre Manager/Mentor

5 Banking

5.1 Eftpos and ATM Machines

Eftpos and ATM machines are located at the Lajamanu Store. One is operated by Traditional Credit Union and the other by Firstpoint. There are full EFTPOS and credit card facilities in the store and service station.

Address: Wampana Road, Lajamanu, NT 0852
Postal Address: PMB 93 Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0896
Email: lajamanu@alpa.asn.au
Key Contact: Store Manager
6 Community services

6.1 Central Desert Regional Council

The Council is responsible for coordinating and delivery of a variety of services, including animal welfare, maintenance and upgrade of parks, reserves and open spaces, maintenance and upgrade of buildings, facilities and fixed assets, upgrading, construction and maintenance of local roads.

Address: Lot 238 Wampana Road
Postal Address: Lajamanu Community via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 5505
Email: lajamanu@centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Website: http://www.centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Key Contact: Regional Services Manager

6.1.1 Community Night Patrol / Remote School Attendance Strategy

Address: Operates out of Council Services Centre & Lajamanu School
Postal Address: PMB Lajamanu, Via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 5503
Email: lajamanu@centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Website: http://www.centraldesert.nt.gov.au
Key Contact: School Attendance & Community Safety Coordinator

6.1.2 Community Aged and Disability Services

Council’s Aged and Disability Services continue to develop to meet the needs of elders and people with a disability. Services are focused on providing site-specific and culturally sensitive activities and care tailored to remote clients’ needs. There is also a particular focus on taking opportunities to get clients out to enjoy country whenever possible. The aged care services have a range of services including meals, laundry, personal care, social support and social activities among others.

6.1.2 Sport and Recreation Services

Council’s Youth Sport and Recreation Program aims to work with communities to deliver youth, sport and recreation activities that create healthy minds, bodies and communities. A combination of after school, vacation care, sport, recreation, art and cultural activities are delivered by the team in Lajamanu. Council’s partnership with Walpiiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC) has ensured that the delivery of Youth, Sport and Recreation programs continues to grow across the whole Central Desert Region.

6.2 Department of Human Services

Agent Services provide a free face-to-face service to the community, information products and forms, access to a telephone, internet-enabled computer and printer for government business and Medicare claiming facilities.
6.3 Police Fire and Emergency Services

The Lajamanu Police, Fire and Emergency Services undertake law enforcement and counter disaster control, motor vehicle accidents and traffic related matters. Motor vehicle registration, licencing and inspections, and firearms permit services.

- For emergencies please call 000 or 112 from a mobile phone
- Police Assistance for non-emergencies 131 444
- Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000
- Fire assistance line for non-emergencies 08 8999 3473
- For emergency help in floods, storms and cyclones 132 500

6.4 Australia Post Office

The Australia Post Office is based at the Council office building and provides a range of basic, standard postal services as well as a small range of retail products. The outlet is open from Monday – Friday.

6.5 Aboriginal Interpreter Services

Aboriginal Interpreter Services provides government and non-government agencies a 24 hour, seven day a week interpreting service in most Indigenous languages and dialects spoken in the Northern Territory. The Service employs more than 60 interpreters who are accredited at the professional level. To book follow these steps:

Step 2 Send the form to ais@nt.gov.au or fax it to (08) 8923 7621.

7 Construction and trade

7.1 Wulaign Homelands Council Aboriginal Corporation

The Wulaign Homelands Council Aboriginal Corporation is a not-for-profit community run earthmoving and civil road Construction Company. Wulaign also currently receive community deliveries.
7.2 Power Projects NT

Power Projects NT are contracted by Power & Water to provide an Essential Services Officer as well as Housing Maintenance Services through the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Power Projects also provide electrical, refrigeration, plumbing and building services to Government, Non-Government, business and residents of both communities. They have permanent staff located in Lajamanu.

Address: Unit 5&6/14 Pearce St, Katherine
Postal Address: PO Box 519, Katherine NT 0821
Phone: 08 8972 2211 OR After Hours/Emergencies: 08 89711 175
Email: info@ppnt.com.au
Key Contact: Business Manager

8 Education and training

8.1 Lajamanu School – NTG Schools

Lajamanu School provides education to students from preschool through to the senior years. The school focuses on the priorities of attendance, student achievement in numeracy, literacy and pathways to employment as well as community engagement and participation.

Address: Desert Track, Lajamanu NT 0852
Postal Address: PMB 63, Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0946
Email: Principal.lajamanu@ntschools.net
Website: https://directory.ntschools.net
Key Contact: Principal

8.2 Lajamanu Learning Centre

The Lajamanu Learning Centre is funded by WETT (Warlpiri Education & Training Trust) and Batchelor Institute to provide informal and formal training and support Warlpiri language and culture. The Centre has two large training rooms, one of which can be hired by external or local organisations. The Centre’s operations are overseen by a local reference group who are responsible for setting priorities and guiding activities.
8.3 Lajamanu Childcare Centre – Life without Barriers

The Childcare Centre is currently managed by Life without Barriers and provides early learning outcomes and activities for young children and their families.

Address: Lot 458 Wampana Road, Lajamanu
Postal Address: PMB Lajamanu, Via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0886 – 08 8972 7500 (LWB Katherine Office)
Email: maria.gumban@lwb.org.au
Key Contact: Program Manager

9 Food and dining

9.1 Lajamanu Store and Take Away Shop

The Lajamanu Progress Aboriginal Corporation owns a modern supermarket which has a full range of fresh, frozen chilled and dry goods available, as well as hardware, clothing and takeaway food. The store is managed by The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA). ALPA was established in 1972 as a co-operative of community stores in Arnhem Land. Today ALPA operates in over 25 remote locations across the NT and Queensland. ALPA is a benevolent corporation, funds are returned to the community in accordance with ALPA’s constitution to benefit its member communities.

Address: Wampana Road, Lajamanu, NT 0852
Postal Address: PMB 93 Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0896 or 08 8975 0644
Email: lajamanu@alpa.asn.au
Key Contact: Store Manager

10 Healthcare

10.1 Katherine West Health Board Aboriginal Corporation Community Clinic

The health clinic includes emergency rooms and treatment rooms. The health centre employs a permanent General Practitioner, up to four registered nurses and between two and six Aboriginal health workers. Specialists visit the health centre regularly, and the following programs are available at the centre: Meals on Wheels, school screening and old people screening, well women checks, well men checks, and under 5’s screening.

Lajamanu Clinic is open Monday to Friday from 8:30AM to 4:00PM. It is closed Saturday and Sunday. As Lajamanu is a remote location with no pharmacy, please bring all your medications with you.
10.2 Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation – Western Desert Dialysis

Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation, also known as Western Desert Dialysis provide permanent services to Lajamanu. Their mission is to improve the lives of people with renal failure, reunite families and reduce the impact of kidney disease in our communities. The services are run by Aboriginal people for Aboriginal people and work to provide culturally appropriate dialysis services in remote communities.

Address: Lajamanu Community
Postal Address: PO Box 5060, Alice Springs, NT 0871
Phone: 08 8953 6444
Email: enquiries@wdnwpt.com.au
Website: https://www.westerndesertdialysis.com/
Key Contact: Team Leader

11 Labour hire / Activity Centre

11.1 Community Development Programme (CDP) – IS Australia

In 2015 Victoria Daly Regional Council partnered with Industries Services Training Pty Ltd (IS Australia) to provide CDP services in Lajamanu. Basic Services include integrated case management and support for job seekers to find and keep a job and to meet their mutual obligation requirements. Remote Employment Services include work like activities where job seekers participate in five days a week. Activities reflect local employment opportunities and/or are relevant to community aspirations and meet community needs. Current activities include maintaining a clean community, construction of outdoor furniture and bed frames out of recycled materials, bike servicing and repairs and gardening.

Address: Lot 261 Lajamanu
Postal Address: PO Box 19, Via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0349
Website: http://www.vicdaly.nt.gov.au
Key Contact: Team Leader
IS Australia Address: 7 Casey Street, Hudson Creek NT 0828
Postal Address: PO Box 36345, Winnellie NT 0821
Phone: 08 8942 9300
Email: enrolments@isaustralia.com.au
Website: http://www.isaustralia.com.au
12 Retail – fuel

12.1 Lajamanu Service Station and Store

The service station provides full workshop facilities and mechanical repair. A qualified mechanic is available. Fuel is available 24 hours.

Address: Wampana Road, Lajamanu, NT 0852
Postal Address: PMB 93 Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0896, 08 8975 0644 or 0427 750 613
Email: lajamanu@alpa.asn.au
Key Contact: Store Manager

13 Retail – shops

13.1 Lajamanu Service Station, Store and Take-Away

The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA) manage the store. It is a modern supermarket which has a full range of fresh, frozen chilled and dry goods available, as well as hardware, clothing and takeaway food.

Address: Wampana Road, Lajamanu, NT 0852
Postal Address: PMB 93, via Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0896
Email: lajamanu@alpa.asn.au
Key Contact: Store Manager

14 Transport and automotive

14.1 Lajamanu Air

The community has its own aircraft available for charter. It is operated by Chartair.

Address: Hooker Creek Airport, Lajamanu Community 0852
Postal Address: PMB 93 Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 1300 790 800
Email: info@chartair.com.au
Key Contact: Store Manager

14.2 Lajamanu Air Refuellers

Avgas and Jet A1 available – phone prior to departure to confirm availability.

Address: Lajamanu Airport, Lajamanu NT 0852
Postal Address: PMB 93 Katherine NT 0852
Phone: 08 8975 0329
Email: lajamanu@alpa.asn.au
Key Contact: Store Manager
14.3 Katherine Aviation

Katherine Aviation is locally owned and experienced charter flight operator providing reliable and flexible flight services throughout Australia’s vast outback region. The company’s Charter service is regularly called on by Government Agencies and private companies who entrust Katherine Aviation’s professional staff and well-maintained aircraft to provide extensive patient travel, medivac flights, Power and Water service & maintenance and indigenous community clinics and transport.

Address: Main office is located at Katherine Domestic Airport.
Postal Address: PO Box 2109
Phone: 08 8971 1277
Mobile: 0427 120 893
Email: operations@katherineaviation.com.au
Website: http://www.katherineaviation.com.au

15 Acknowledgements

The Department of Trade, Business and Innovation would like to thank the Lajamanu businesses for their participation in this directory.

16 Change of details

If you would like to update your listing in this business directory please contact the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation on 1800 256 923 or email businessinfo@nt.gov.au to request a change of details form.

The Directories will be updated biannually in February and September.

17 Disclaimer

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