



\$5,000
GRANT AVAILABLE*

NT Learning Adventures: 85th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin

Australian school groups are invited to submit an application for increased funding through the Save and Learn program to support their NT school tour during the 85th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin.

Suggested itinerary

DAY ONE

WEDNESDAY | 17 FEBRUARY 2027 DARWIN

Arrive in Darwin, settle into your accommodation and spend the remainder of the day exploring the city. Get your bearings, at your own pace, by downloading a specially designed World War II – Walking Tour App. 'Echoes of Wartime Darwin.'

DAY TWO

THURSDAY | 18 FEBRUARY 2027 DARWIN

Visiting the Darwin Aviation Museum is a must on the 'Things To Do List' in Darwin. Interesting stories about Darwin's aviation history and wartime experience with 19 aircraft (including a B52 bomber!), 21 engines and rare amateur footage of the first air-raid in Darwin on display.

Immerse yourself in Larrakia culture at the Larrakia Cultural Centre. Enjoy art exhibits, try your hand at authentic Larrakia arts and crafts such as spear making, weaving or painting, or learn some Larrakia language.

Spend the remainder of the afternoon enjoying the wave pool, Aquapark or shopping at the Darwin Waterfront.



Dababon Aboriginal Cultural Experience



Katherine Outback Experience



Katherine Gorge, Nitmiluk National Park

DAY THREE

FRIDAY | 19 FEBRUARY 2027

DARWIN

The 85th Anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin takes place on Friday, 19 February 2027. This date marks the historic 1942 event when Japanese forces launched the first and largest foreign attacks on Australian soil. On this day 235 people, both armed forces personnel and civilians, lost their lives. Two separate raids saw 242 Japanese aircraft attack the town and harbour dropping more bombs than were used on Pearl Harbour.

Attend the Bombing of Darwin Day Commemorative Service at the Darwin Cenotaph War Memorial.

In the afternoon jump on the Hop On Hop Off Bus and tour the sights of beautiful Darwin. As part of this experience, you will visit the Darwin Military Museum where Darwin's war-time history is presented. Discover the artefacts that chronicle Australia's involvement in many international conflicts from the Great War to the present day.

Also included on today's itinerary is the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) Tourist Facility, featuring the history of RFDS and the WWII Bombing of Darwin. The facility features state-of-the-art virtual reality and holographic technology.

DAY FOUR

SATURDAY | 20 FEBRUARY 2027

NITMILUK NATIONAL PARK AND KATHERINE

Head south today toward the magnificent Nitmiluk National Park.

On the way, stop at the iconic Adelaide River and visit the Adelaide River War Cemetery. During the Second World War, Adelaide River was the headquarters of a large base, and the war cemetery was created especially for the burial of servicemen who died in service. It contains 435 Commonwealth burials from WWII.

Continue to Katherine and the Nitmiluk National Park. Enjoy a river gorge tour. Winding along 12km of sheer rock, over 70 metres high, this maze of waterways is a must visit for all visitors to the Northern Territory.

Tonight experience the Katherine Outback Experience Stock Camp – the 2026 Hall of Fame Winner. Situated on a fully operational, working cattle property, Katherine Outback Experience caters for school excursions, study tours and camps. Overnight programs are delivered in a fun and interactive manner, tailored to individual group needs.

DAY FIVE

SUNDAY | 21 FEBRUARY 2027

KATHERINE

Today we are headed for a Gorge View Bush Retreat experience offering students an insight into what life was like for Aboriginal people before white settlement by introducing Manuel Pamkal from the Dalabon tribe.

Manuel welcomes students by singing and playing a welcome song on the didgeridoo. He showcases the rich culture of Aboriginal people from the region by teaching students about the traditional way of living in the bush.

Return to Darwin and enjoy a swim and free waterslides at Leanyer Water Park.

DAY SIX

MONDAY | 22 FEBRUARY 2027

DARWIN

Spend the next day immersed in the fascinating culture and history of Darwin that has influenced modern-day Australia. A range of museums and educational attractions present significant historical events.

Gain a different perspective on the Bombing of Darwin, Aboriginal culture, marine science and eco-systems while cruising or sailing on the stunning waters of Darwin Harbour. A range of quality tourism businesses also deliver specialised educational content during these nautical experiences.

Continue environmental studies at Crocosaurus Cove or tailor a program to address specific learning areas at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Terms and conditions

NT Learning Adventures Save and Learn program

Any Australian school group, from outside the Northern Territory (NT), is invited to submit an application for funding to support their NT school tour. The 85th anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin will be commemorated on 19 February 2027. It marks the historic day in 1942 when Japanese forces launched the largest single attack ever mounted by a foreign power on Australian soil. The planned excursion simply needs to meet the following requirements:

- minimum of 10 students in the group
- staying at least five nights in the NT
- the itinerary must include at least three military-focused NT Learning Adventures (NTLA) operators (excluding accommodation and other services). Alternatively, itineraries delivered by an NTLA operator that include extended cultural immersion elements in remote communities may also be eligible (at the discretion of Tourism and Events NT). A list of current NTLA partners can be found at ntlearningadventures.com.

School tours that are attending the 85th Commemoration of the Bombing of Darwin on the 19 February 2027 are eligible for \$5,000 (GST inclusive) funding, per school group for the first five groups that confirm travel over this date.

Application

All applications must be received at least four weeks prior to travel. Late applications may not be accepted.

The application is to be provided by email to education.tourismeventsnt@nt.gov.au and must include:

- completed and signed 'NTLA Save and Learn program' application form
- a detailed itinerary, highlighting the main activities, day by day.

Approval

All successful applications will receive an approval notice via email, a reference number and instructions on how to claim.

Payment

The pre-approved funding is claimed after the group has completed their excursion. The funding is paid directly to the school by sending the final itinerary, evidence of payments made to at least three NTLA operators and an invoice to Tourism and Events NT, as per the instructions provided in the approval email. All invoices must be received by Tourism and Events NT no later than 10 days after the group has returned. Late invoices may not be paid.

The school must notify Tourism and Events NT if the planned excursion is amended or cancelled. Prior to making payment, Tourism and Events NT will seek confirmation that travel was completed as per the itinerary provided during application.

Tourism and Events NT reserves the right to change the terms and conditions or terminate the program as required.



Further information

For more information on NTLA and the Save and Learn program please, visit ntlearningadventures.com email education.tourismeventsnt@nt.gov.au | call 08 8999 3981