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SAVE THE DATE!
Complimentary Sunset Welcome Function
on Wednesday evening, 23rd June 2021

DARWIN
2021 Living Our Dream
24 - 28 June Together in the Top End



Fantastic AUSSIE TOURS 

62nd Australian National Square Dance Convention **Marrara Stadium, Darwin**



Issue No.4

The Dream Team Newsletter

September 2019

History of Darwin - Looking Back - The War Years

At the beginning of WWII Darwin only had a population of 2000 people and was extremely isolated with a small airport. Darwin's roads were unsealed to the rest of Australia and had little infrastructure.

The bombing of Darwin by Japanese forces had a lasting effect on Darwin, both in the destruction caused and the massive build up of the area by allied forces.



In the 1940s 10,000 allied troops were moved to the city of Darwin on Australia's northern coastline. It didn't prevent the two major air raids by the Japanese on 19 February, 1942. 243 people died in the Darwin bombings. Darwin had to live through 63 more raids, the only Australian capital city to come under major attacks during WWII.

More than 260 enemy planes, including land-based bombers and planes flying off aircraft carriers in the Timor Sea, attacked US and Australian shipping, the town's harbour, military and civil aerodromes and the local hospital.

The attacks, which came in two waves, were part of Japan's efforts to damage Australia's morale, hinder Darwin's use as a military base, and ultimately secure neighbouring Timor. At least 243 people were killed in the attack, and up to 400 people were injured.

Twenty military aircraft were destroyed and eight ships in the harbour were sunk. Air attacks continued over a space of almost two years, with about half of Darwin's population ultimately fleeing south.

WHY VISIT DARWIN IN 2021?

Have you ever thought of visiting the Northern Territory, but something gets in the way? Maybe you tell yourself that it's too hot, or it's too far, or it's too expensive. Well, we're here to tell you that Darwin and its surrounds really does have something for everyone.

Australia is just about as hot as it gets, so a trip to the NT must be a mercury-busting experience, right? Wrong! Whether you're in the Top End, the Red Centre or anywhere in-between, the NT and Darwin is in fact one of the *coolest* places you've never been!

Darwin is famed for its [waterholes and swimming lagoons](#) - many of which are in and around the city itself. [Darwin's waterfront Wave Lagoon](#) generates artificial swell year-round, while the [Leanyer Swimming Pool](#) has waterslides and aquatic fun for the whole family.

There are beautiful waterholes where you can cool down all over the NT. In the Top End you can visit [Gunlom Plunge Pool](#) or [Jim Jim Falls](#) at Kakadu National Park, and both the Litchfield National Park (1.5 hours from Darwin) and [Berry Springs](#) (45 minutes from Darwin) will let you cool down in natural surroundings. If you're going swimming in the Top End, always check the signs and Be Crocwise.

Even in the Red Centre you'll find natural waterholes all year round which are perfect for a swim. [The Tjoritja/West McDonnell](#) region is home to [Ellery Creek](#), [Ormiston Gorge](#), [Glen Helen](#) and many more refreshing places to cool off.

And for residents from Australia's east or south coasts, the NT's temperate winter - which coincides with the Northern Territory's dry season - provides an excellent escape in the cooler months. Just imagine sitting back with a cocktail in June while all your friends are shivering away down south!



Darwin's Waterfront



Florence Falls



Gunlom Plunge Pool

Source: Tourism NT

Click on the blue text to access further information

SEPTEMBER PROMOTIONAL VIDEO



This month's Darwin2021 September promotional video provides an animated summary of Darwin 2021. It highlights some of the attractions of Darwin and of course the wonderful dancing we can expect during our convention commencing on Thursday, 24 and finishing on Monday 28 June. Click on the adjacent image and you'll be able to play the video.

OUR PLATINUM SPONSOR

Fantastic AUSSIE TOURS



PRE AND POST CONVENTION TOURS

Why not see more of Australia on the way to Darwin or post the Convention in 2021

Fantastic Aussie Tours who are also major sponsors of the Blue Mountains Convention in 2020 are planning two special tours for Darwin2021 delegates. The first, the Banjo Patterson tour, travelling from Sydney or Brisbane through Central Queensland into the Northern territory and onto Darwin. The second tour will be post the Darwin2021 Convention to discover the highlights of the Kimberley travelling from Darwin to Broome. All tours will be travelling in luxury long distance touring coaches, quality accommodation, most meals and entry fees to attractions. Fantastic Aussie Tours has been operating extended tours around Australia for over 40 years and offer a wide range of guided holidays within Australia and overseas.

Register your interest for either tour or even both at info@fantastic-asussie-tours.com.au full itineraries will be published at a later date. Phone: 02 4780 0700



61st AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION

Don't forget to support the 61st Australian National Square Dance Convention. Details are available on the adjacent panel. You can access further details by clicking on the panel or visiting their website at <https://www.2020sdconvention.com/>

COME AND JOIN THE DREAM

Thank you to the 170 dancers who have already completed an **Expression of Interest** for Darwin2021. You can register an **Expression of Interest** for Darwin2021 by visiting our website at <https://www.darwin2021.com/registration> and completing the online form. We'll place you on our email list and forward all details, including newsletters, as they become available. Don't forget to like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DarwinANSDC2021>

We look forward to sharing our next newsletter in October.

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