

**Public information update - East Arnhem - COVID-19 related travel advice**

[16th December, from NT Chief Minister's office]

**VACCINATION STATUS**

All people who are fully vaccinated will be able to enter the Northern Territory from 20 December 2021 from anywhere around Australia. For the purposes of *entry* into the NT, children aged 15 years and under are considered to be vaccinated.

Unvaccinated returning Territorians and those people who have received authority to enter the Northern Territory, will be required to undertake 14 days' [mandatory supervised quarantine](#) at their own cost.

Unvaccinated visitors are not permitted to enter the NT.

**INTERSTATE TRAVEL AND RETURNING TO SERVICE CENTRES AND AREAS NOT DESIGNATED EXCLUSION ZONES**

From 20 December 2021, anyone who is fully vaccinated will be able to enter the Northern Territory without having to quarantine.

Those travellers are required to:

- Complete a [Border Entry Form](#) before arriving in the NT
- Have a negative PCR test within the 72 hours before arriving in the NT and be able to show proof of the result on arrival
- Have a PCR test within 72 hours after arriving in the NT
- Have a PCR Day test on Day 6 after arriving in the NT

Fully vaccinated travellers from interstate may travel anywhere in the Northern Territory, including [service centres](#), but may not travel to an exclusion zone, within 14 days of your arrival to the NT.

In East Arnhem, as at 15 December 2021, Nhulunbuy and Alyangula (which will be listed on the website in the next day or so) are considered to be [service centres](#) for the purposes of travel into the NT.

As at 15 December 2021, the only East Arnhem remote communities which are not considered to be exclusion zones are Umbakumba and Milyakburra which have both achieved over 80% vaccination rate of the population (5 year olds and over). In fact, these rates are some of the highest in the NT (including cities, towns and remote communities. Well done!).

**INTERSTATE TRAVEL FOR RESIDENTS AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS RETURNING TO EXCLUSION ZONES**

Interstate arrivals will not be allowed to enter an exclusion zone within the first 14 days of arrival into the Northern Territory unless they are a returning resident, boarding school student, [essential worker](#) or family member of an essential worker.

[Exclusion zones](#) are areas where 80% or more of the population aged 5 years and over **has not** yet received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. These places are designated exclusion zone because of their current vaccination rates and more vulnerable populations. A full list of exclusion zones can be found [here](#).

As at 15 December 2021, East Arnhem exclusion zones included Angurugu, Galiwin'ku, Gapuwiyak, Gunyangara, Laynhapuy Homelands, Marthakal Homelands, Millingimbi, Ramingining and Yirrkala.

Nearly all of these communities have strong vaccination rates (thanks to the tremendous efforts of the Aboriginal community controlled health services and other partners including the Royal Flying Doctors

Services and NT Health), but have not yet reported reaching the necessary 80% vaccination rate for 5 year olds and over.

The list of exclusion zones will be updated regularly as each community reaches the 80% requirement. To support achievement of this, vaccinations for 5-11 year olds will begin to be available from mid-January 2022.

Interstate arrivals will not be allowed to enter an exclusion zone within the first 14 days of arrival into the Northern Territory unless they are:

- A resident, including a returning boarding school student
- An [essential worker](#) or a family member of an essential worker.

Residents and essential workers and their families to [exclusion zones](#) must:

- Complete a [Border Entry Form](#) before arriving in the NT
- Have a negative PCR test up to 72 hours before arriving in the NT and be able to show proof of the result on arrival
- Have a PCR test within 72 hours after arriving in the NT (but before travelling to the exclusion zone). They do not need to wait for a negative test result before entering an exclusion zone.
- Wear a mask when in an exclusion zone and (when they cannot socially distance), up until the seventh day after their arrival in the NT.
- Essential workers must have a daily Rapid Antigen Test while in an exclusion zone, up until the seventh day after their arrival in the NT.
- If they are not an essential worker (but are a resident, boarding school student or family member of an essential worker) they must have a Rapid Antigen Test on Day 6 after arriving in the NT.

### **GETTING TESTED**

If you are travelling to an exclusion zone, you can collect your Rapid Antigen Tests from NT Government COVID-19 testing sites when you get your PCR test before you travel back to community. A list of testing locations can be found on the [Rapid Antigen Test information page](#) or you can call the COVID-19 Hotline on 1800 490 484.

Alternatively, you may choose to purchase Rapid Antigen Tests approved for supply in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Association (TGA). These can be used in the NT. These are listed on the [tga.gov.au](http://tga.gov.au) website.

In Nhulunbuy, PCR tests can be undertaken at Gove District Hospital and bookings can be made [here](#).

On Groote, [contact](#) the Alyangula, Angurugu or Umbakumba Clinics to arrange testing.

Miwatj Health, Marthakal Health and Laynhapuy Health conduct COVID-19 testing for their clients. Further advice on Rapid Antigen Testing availability at these clinics will be provided as soon as it is available.

### **TRANSIT THROUGH AN EXCLUSION ZONE**

Travellers are able to transit through an exclusion zone, but must practice proper hand hygiene, physical distancing at all times, mask wearing and use of the Territory Check In app.