

# Canteen Creek

## Central Region

### Community Profile

**Pronunciation:** Can-teen Creek

**Alternate name:** Owairtilla, Orwairtilla, Orwaitillya and Orwaitilla.

**Location:** 604km North East of Alice Springs. 275km South East of Tennant Creek

**NT Region:** Central

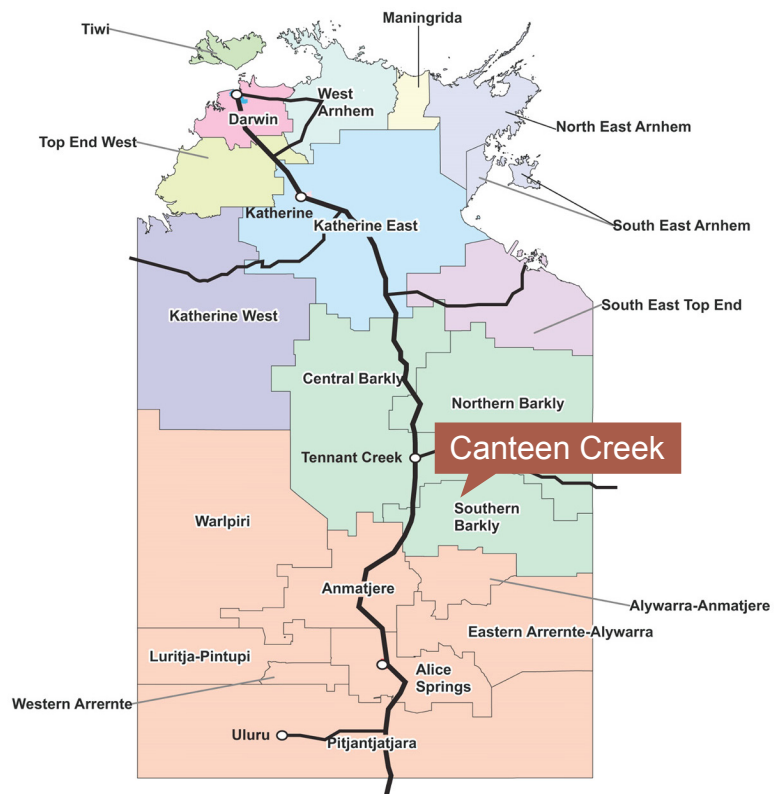
**Population:** Approx. 220 residents

**Access:** By road and air

**Language groups:** Alyawarr

**Phone:** No phone service

**Internet:** Only personal use of internet in the accommodation



*This map of the Northern Territory, divided into regions, has been adapted from the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) Program Management and Implementation Section (2008) Map of the Northern Territory*

### Climate (Central)

Season	Description	Temp. Range
<b>Winter (June to August)</b>	<b>Cooler and dry</b>	<b>-7°C to 32°C</b>
The temperature can drop below 0°C overnight in winter. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes. Humidity Range 20% – 50%	Fine weather with minimal rain is the norm with the possibility of getting quite cold by Territory standards between the June to July period. Spring (Sept-Nov) and Autumn (Mar-May) in Central Australia see warm days and cool evenings.	
<b>Summer (December to February)</b>	<b>Hot and dry</b>	<b>16°C to 45°C</b>
The temperature can rise above 40°C in summer. Please ensure you are equipped for these extremes. Humidity Range 30% – 95%	Central Australia has a semi-arid climate. In the summer months, the days are generally hot, sometimes very hot. If rain is to fall, it is more likely in the summer months, which may lead to road closures.	

## Infrastructure, facilities and services

<b>Community</b>	<p><b>Church:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Community halls or sheds:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Workforce skills or training facilities:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>School:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Library:</b> No</p> <p><b>Council Office:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Women's Centre:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Childcare Centre:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Aged Care Centre:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Community Safety:</b> No</p> <p><b>Banking:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recreational/other facilities:</b> Canteen Creek Sports Centre caters for a variety of ball sports like Football, Softball, basketball, netball, badminton. Bush walking and camping in the nearby Davenport-Murchinson National Park.</p>
------------------	---

<b>Community store</b>	<b>Canteen Creek Store</b>	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8964 1900
	<p>Basic groceries, frozen food and household goods are usually available. Fresh fruit and vegetables arrive weekly on Tuesday. It is advisable to bring any speciality products/items required.</p>	
	<b>Opening hours</b>	<p>Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm</p> <p>Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm</p> <p>Sunday Closed</p>

<b>Other food outlets</b>	No
---------------------------	----

<b>Food orders</b>	Food orders may be placed online through Woolworths in Alice Springs. Please check with clinic staff regarding collection/delivery.
--------------------	---

<b>Commercial accommodation</b>	<b>Epenarra Station</b>	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8964 1511
	Approximately 60km from the community.	

<b>Fuel</b>	Fuel is available from the Canteen Creek Store
-------------	--

<b>Police station</b>	Ali Curung Police Station	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8964 1959
-----------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------------

<b>Community Safety</b>	No
-------------------------	----

<b>Other police contacts</b>	Police assistance line	<b>Telephone</b> 131 444
------------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

### Telephone/internet/mail

<b>Mobile phone<sup>1</sup>/phone</b>	Only a pay phone.
---------------------------------------	-------------------

<b>Internet</b>	Yes, personal use is available.
-----------------	---------------------------------

<b>Mail</b>	<b>Canteen Creek CPA</b>	
	Mail arrives via air once a week to the community.	
	<b>Opening hours</b>	Monday – Friday 8.00am – 4.30pm

<sup>1</sup> Telstra 3G/Next G is typically the only mobile services that work in more remote parts of the Northern Territory. See link – <http://telstra.com.au/mobile-phones/coverage-networks/our-coverage/>

## Access

<b>Road</b>	The community is located approximately 275km South East of Tennant Creek. Travel 85km South on the Stuart Highway then turn left onto Kurundi Road, travel 190km East along an unsealed road past Wutunugurra (Epenarra) community. It is approximately 3.5 hours from Tennant Creek. The drive from Alice Springs is approximately 604km and takes 6.5 hours.
<b>Air</b>	The Aerodrome is 500m from community. It is used by the RFDS and the mail plane regularly. The airstrip is sealed and equipped with lights for night use.
<b>Regular passenger transport</b>	No regular passenger service to Canteen Creek.

## Health centre

<b>Health service<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Department of Health (DoH)</b>	<b>Telephone</b> (08) 8964 1510 <b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:canteencreek.clinicmgr@nt.gov.au">canteencreek.clinicmgr@nt.gov.au</a> <b>Web</b> <a href="http://www.health.nt.gov.au">www.health.nt.gov.au</a> <b>Address</b> Canteen Creek Health Centre Lot 117, Canteen Creek Road, Canteen Creek, NT, 0872
	<b>Opening hours</b>	Monday – Friday 8.00am – 5.00pm
	<b>Facilities</b>	5 consulting rooms, 1 emergency room and 1 hearing room.
<b>On-call 24/7 service</b>	Yes, 24/7 on call service	
<b>Medical Records System<sup>3</sup></b>	PCIS	
<b>Vehicles</b>	The clinic has one ambulance and one Landcruiser Prado, 4WD manual to be used for patient transport to Tennant Creek.	
<b>GPs</b>	Yes, visiting services only.	
<b>Visiting services</b>	Includes Ophthalmology, Dietetics, Midwifery, Podiatry, Audiology and Dental.	
<b>Acute care</b>	Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) and MRaCC.	
<b>Other</b>	Birthing women birth in Alice Springs.	

## Alcohol

<b>Alcohol<sup>4</sup></b>	This community is a dry community, no alcohol is permitted. This applies to everyone, including visitors.
----------------------------	---

## Governance

<b>Local Government</b>	The local council is the Barkly Shire Council. The land council is the Central Land Council (CLC).
<b>Outstations</b>	None

<sup>2</sup> For a more detailed description of the health centre and their services, please contact the Health Service directly.

<sup>3</sup> Training should be arranged before you arrive in the community.

<sup>4</sup> It is an offence to consume or bring alcohol into a dry community in the Northern Territory.

## Other tips and relevant information

### Other tips/relevant information

Be prepared for the variable standard of accommodation in communities. A sleeping bag sheet insert is a good idea for protection against biting insects.

Whenever possible, avoid being on the road from dusk till dawn. Apart from the unfenced cattle station, the region has a population of feral horses, donkeys, dogs and the occasional camel along with a native population of Kangaroos and Dingoes. All of which are a significant road hazard.

On arrival, please check with the Health Centre to understand any health or social issues within the community. They can also let you know of any sacred sites to avoid.

#### Disclaimer

*This information is prepared in good faith and to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing. However, Aboriginal communities, like any community, can change as the population shifts and people move on. Please contact the RAHC Regional Coordinator or the Health Centre Manager to confirm any key issues or concerns you may have ahead of your RAHC placement. RAHC also values any input you can provide to improve our Community Profiles.*

#### Canberra Office

Unit 34, 2 King St, Deakin ACT 2600  
T 02 6203 9588 F 02 6203 9598

#### Darwin Office

Level 4, Darwin Central Offices, 21 Knuckey Street, Darwin NT 0800  
T 08 8942 1650 F 08 8942 1676

#### Alice Springs Office

Centre for Remote Health, Cnr Simpson & Skinner St, Alice Springs 0870  
T 08 7904 4003 F 08 8942 1676

