



# kakadu™

NATIONAL PARK

ART  
SITE

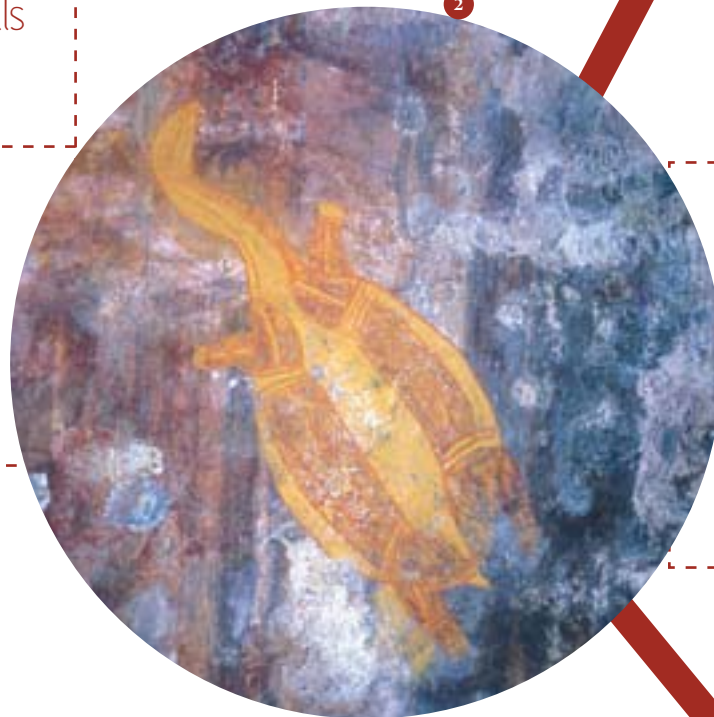
WALKS



## Ubirr

Welcome to Ubirr where the rock art depicts traditional foods and tells stories about law and creation.

At Ubirr (pronounced oo-bir, with a short 'oo') you can see a range of different art styles and how new paintings are often superimposed over older ones. Stories about behaviour and law are told at the Mabuyu, Namarrgarn Sisters and Rainbow Serpent paintings.



1

View from *Nadab* lookout

2

Almangiyi (long-neck turtle)

3

Mabuyu hunting figure

Known at Ubirr by her Gagudju name, Garranga'rreli, the Rainbow Serpent travelled through this area in human form and painted her image on a rock here to remind people of her presence. She also left traces of her passing in the nearby Manngarre rainforest.

Traditionally groups of people camped under Ubirr's cool rock shelters and exploited the rich resources of the nearby East Alligator River and Nadab floodplain. Ubirr is now looked after by neighbouring clans, the Bunitj, Manilagarr and Mandjurlgunj people.



3



Australian Government



## PARK NOTE

## MAIN GALLERY

Most of the x-ray paintings in this gallery are from the freshwater period, within the last 1500 years. They show the abundant food available in the area surrounding Ubirr including fish, waterfowl, mussels, wallabies, goannas, echidnas and yams.

The main gallery also has interesting examples of contact art. A 'white fella' shown wearing a shirt, boots and with his hands in his trouser pockets, was probably an early buffalo hunter painted in the 1880s.

Close to the main gallery is a painting of a thylacine (Tasmanian tiger), believed to have become extinct on the Australian mainland 2000 to 3000 years ago.

## MORE INFORMATION

See the Gunbim Park Note for more information about rock art.









From June to September rangers give talks at Ubirr, Nourlangie and other areas.

## OPENING HOURS

From 1 April to 30 November Ubirr is open from 8:30 am to sunset.

From 1 December to 31 March Ubirr is open from 2:00 pm to sunset. However, the road to Ubirr may be closed due to flooding at this time so check access first.

## Legend

	Toilets		Emergency Call Device
	Carpark		Unsealed Road
	Lookout		Disabled
	Aboriginal Rock Art		Disabled access track

Allow at least 45 minutes for the 1 km circuit walk to view the art, and an extra 30 minutes to enjoy the lookout. The main loop is wheelchair accessible, but the lookout and smaller tracks are not.

## CONSERVATION

Rock art is extremely important to the Aboriginal owners of Kakadu. It is also an important historic and scientific record of human occupation of the region.

Rock art can be damaged by many natural processes and Rangers do what they can to remove or redirect damaging processes.

Boardwalks and handrails prevent both people and animals from touching and rubbing the paintings. Boardwalks also prevent dust from being stirred up and coating the paintings.

Pruning, clearing and controlled burning help reduce risks from wildfire and plants rubbing against the rocks.

Rangers regularly remove nests and tunnels made by wasps and other insects. They put silicon drip lines around paintings to redirect water flow away from paintings. This also reduces lichen and mould growth over the paintings and chemical rock weathering processes.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

The thousands of people who visit Ubirr each year pose the greatest, although unintentional, threat to the rock art. To help protect the paintings please:

Do not touch the paintings or interfere with the silicon drip lines

Keep to the walking tracks and behind the fences and barriers

Do not enter prohibited areas

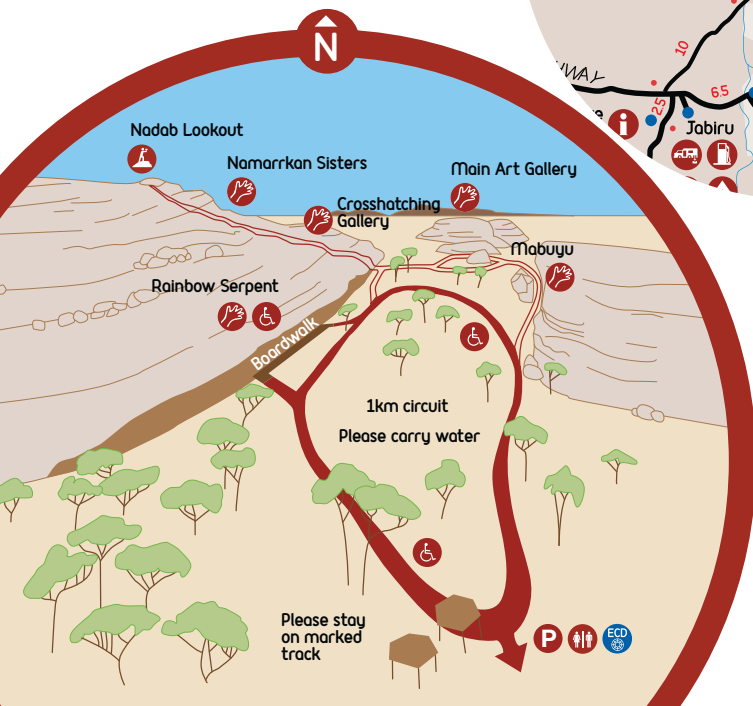
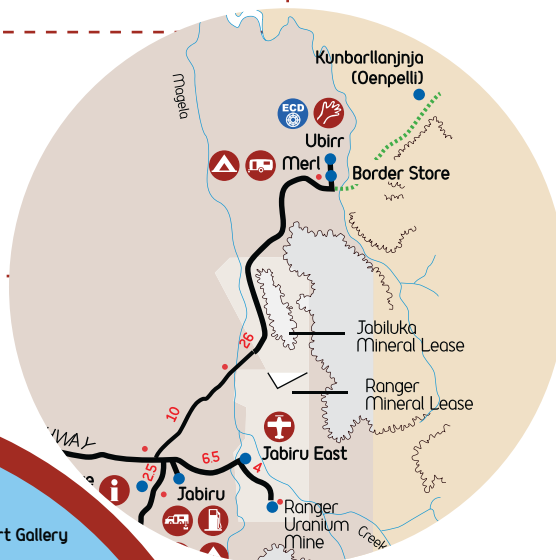
Penalties apply to anyone defacing or damaging an archaeological site or artefact

Alcohol is not permitted at Ubirr

"You go to lookout, see floodplain, bird, sunset. Don't take any alcohol up there with you. Too dangerous on top of rock, might fall over. Water and camera better."

No matter you or Aborigine... Same thing, same law. No drinking at Ubirr."

Bill Neidjie Bunitj clan



For more information contact:  
Bowali Visitor Centre,  
Kakadu National Park  
PO Box 71, Jabiru NT 0886  
Tel: (08) 8938 1120 Fax: (08) 8938 1123  
info@kakadu.com.au  
www.kakadu.com.au

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