

### 1 FINNISS RIVER LODGE, RAKULA

A battle for control of the “world’s biggest cattle station” is at the heart of Territory. The storyline centres on the beleaguered Lawson family, fifth-generation pastoralists and owners of fictional Marianne Station. Many scenes were filmed at Tipperary Station, a working cattle station so large that it has its own store and school. While Tipperary Station offers tours, there’s no option to stay overnight. Instead, check into Finnis River Lodge, a third-generation family-owned cattle station. Set on 20,000ha, it’s 90 minutes by road from Darwin. The all-inclusive retreat features six suites with floor-to-ceiling glass to maximise views. Inspect the towering termite mounds, view wildlife and indulge in the signature Cows and Canapes experience. Stays start at \$1450 a person a night, two-night minimum.

[finnisriverlodge.com.au](http://finnisriverlodge.com.au)



### 3 CRAB CLAW ISLAND RESORT, BYNOE HARBOUR

Territory’s third episode features a clandestine meeting on an idyllic palm-fringed beach overlooking sparkling waters, where two central characters sip beers and talk business. These scenes of rustic glamour were filmed at Crab Claw Island Resort. It’s an easy 90-minute drive from Darwin Airport, so long as you work around high tide times, but cashed-up Territorians and tourists are just as likely to fly in, says Wendy Retter-Coombs, the resort’s reservations manager. Territory deviates from reality only in terms of where choppers can land. The sliver of sand is too narrow, so pilots touch down at the resort’s airstrip 200m away. Travellers can stay at Crab Claw Island Resort or just visit for the day. And just like in Territory, the ice-cold beers come in silver buckets.

[crabclaw.com.au](http://crabclaw.com.au)



# NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Explore the Top End backdrops and inspiration for new Netflix series Territory

DENISE CULLEN



### 2 CROCODYLUS PARK, KNUCKEY LAGOON

In Territory’s opening sequence, Emily Lawson (Anna Torv) says: “Everything up here is trying to kill you – the climate, the land, the animals.” The Top End contains an estimated 100,000 wild crocodiles, so it’s no surprise that these prehistoric beasts appear as extras. Crocodylus Park has a blink-and-you’ll-miss-it moment in Territory’s second episode when tearaway grandson Marshall Lawson (Sam Corlett) and his love interest turn up selling stolen crocodile eggs. (In the NT, you need a permit to harvest wild crocodile eggs.) The park was founded in 1994 by Professor Grahame Webb, who is recognised as one of the world’s leading authorities on crocodylian research and management. It offers crocodile handling, a cruise that features jumping crocodiles and dingo “play dates”, ticking off another of Territory’s plot-relevant predators.

Crocodylus \$44 a person.  
[crocodyluspark.com.au](http://crocodyluspark.com.au)



### 4 KAKADU NATIONAL PARK, JABIRU

The savage beauty of UNESCO World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park becomes a character in its own right. Nestled within its 20,000sq km is Cannon Hill, 40km north of Jabiru, where many pivotal discoveries and dramatic sequences in the series unfold. “Sorry place, that one ... many years ago, bad business happened there,” says Indigenous elder Uncle Bryce (Hamilton Morris), as he and the traditional owners educate a troubled young man from their community. Coinda Lodge provides a comfortable base from which to explore Kakadu’s rainforests, rocky escarpments, swimming holes, and ancient rock art. The property’s five Yellow Water Villas opened in May 2024. These airconditioned safari tents, which are elevated on stilts and have outdoor bathtubs, are positioned alongside Yellow Water (Ngurrungurrudjba). Yellow Water Villas start at \$950 a night for two, including breakfast. Yellow Water Cruises from \$105 a person.

[parksaustralia.gov.au](http://parksaustralia.gov.au)  
[kakadutourism.com](http://kakadutourism.com)

### 5 WANGI FALLS, LITCHFIELD NATIONAL PARK

Territory’s fourth episode features a loved-up couple leaping off rocks into a deep natural plunge pool, with a stunning waterfall as their backdrop. This picture-perfect location is Wangi Falls, sometimes described as the “jewel in the crown” of Litchfield National Park, just over an hour by road from Darwin. Other dreamy waterfall scenes in Territory were filmed at Berry Springs Nature Park, which has a series of natural spring-fed geothermal pools heated to a steady 28C, along with opportunities to bushwalk or picnic.

[nt.gov.au/parks](http://nt.gov.au/parks)