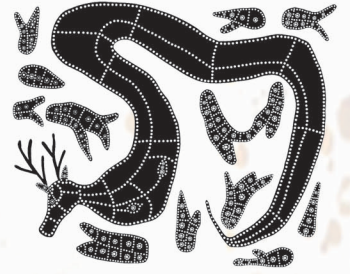




# *NITMILUK TOURS AND THE JAWOYN ASSOCIATION*

**Nitmiluk Tours**



## **COMPANY BIOGRAPHY**

Nitmiluk Tours is a successful wholly owned and operated Indigenous Tourism Operation which appeals to varied markets both international and national.

Our Indigenous touring company is the exclusive provider for touring the breathtaking Nitmiluk Gorge, located approximately 320kms South of Darwin Northern Territory, Australia. Product includes culturally based Cruises, On-board Dining, Canoeing, Scenic Flights and Hiking.

Nitmiluk Tours' current project is a luxury resort within the Park. By recognising the niche market of cultural tourism, Nitmiluk Tours have developed a unique style of accommodated touring that will be at the forefront of remote, eco-sensitive, luxury tourism. This will be the first accommodation of its kind in Australia. As the accommodation is situated within a National Park, it has adopted National Parks strict philosophy in protecting the environment. Accommodation packages will include exclusive touring elements, such as buffalo hunting, access to remote art sites, heli-fishing and luxury catered day trips to beautiful, remote reaches of Jawoyn land – both inside and outside the boundaries of Nitmiluk National Park.

Nitmiluk National Park is building on its reputation as one of the world's best nature and culturally based tourism destinations.

## **THE JAWOYN ASSOCIATION**

For thousands of years, Nitmiluk has been the foundation to the culture of the Jawoyn Aboriginal people, providing an abundance of water and food, a gallery of art and artifacts and today living history of ancient Aboriginal culture.

This 292,800 hectare National Park is owned by the Jawoyn Aboriginal people and jointly managed with the Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory.

Today, Jawoyn invite you to visit their country and to share the experience and grandeur of Nitmiluk Gorge. Step back to a time long past when the mythical figure of 'Bula' travelled this land leaving his image as paintings in rock shelters – images that depict the stories of the Jawoyn people and can still be seen and admired today.

Nitmiluk Tours is wholly owned and operated by the Jawoyn Association. The Jawoyn Association was incorporated in 1985 to progress the views and aspirations of the Jawoyn people (traditional land owners), now numbering around about 700. Their country stretches across an area of approximately 50,000 square kilometres. In 1989, The Jawoyn were successful in winning back some of their traditional land under the NT Aboriginal Land rights Act, which they then agreed to lease to the NT Government to be run as the Nitmiluk National Park. Jawoyn people are the majority stakeholders on the Park Management Board. In 1993, Nitmiluk Tours Pty Ltd was established by the Jawoyn

Association to become partners in the boat cruises operating on the Katherine River, within the Park. By Jan 1, 2006, Nitmiluk Tours had bought out its partners and became the sole owner/operator of the commercial activities.

Nitmiluk is the Jawoyn name for Katherine Gorge. It is pronounced Nit-me-look, and literally means Cicada Place. The name was given by Nabilil, important figure of the Creation Time. As he travelled through the country he came to the Gorge where he hears the song of the Cicada, "Nit, Nit, Nit!"

