

Visitors Guide to the Centre for Arid Zone Research

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This guide is intended for visitors to the Centre for Zone Research (CAZR) located in Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia.

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Contacting the CAZR

Postal address:

CSIRO Sustainable
Ecosystems
PO Box 2111
Alice Springs NT
0871
AUSTRALIA

Courier address:

CSIRO Sustainable
Ecosystems Heath Road
Alice Springs NT 0870
Australia

Email addresses:

Telephone: +61-8-
89507100
Facsimile: +61-8-

General Enquiries:
cazr.enquiries@csiro.au
Accommodation:

How to get to Alice Springs

Please note that all international visitors must have a valid passport and visa to enter Australia.

For holiday visits or short business trips to Australia (up to three months), you may be able to obtain a visa via the internet - see the [Australian Government's Electronic Travel Authority System](#). Alternatively, please contact your nearest Australian Consulate, Embassy or High Commission.

Alice Springs lies almost in the geographical centre of the immense Australian landmass, some 1500 kilometres from the nearest major city (almost equidistant between Adelaide and Darwin). It has a population of approx 27 000 people. For more information on Alice Springs please go to [Alice Springs Town Council](#) website.

There are several ways to get to Alice Springs. Check out these addresses for more details.

For information on getting to Alice Springs by coach, rail or air travel, visit the Alice Springs Town Council's [travel](#) page.

[Central Australian Tourism Industry Association](#)- Local tourism association with plenty of information on the area and how to get there

[Northern Territory Holidays](#)- Northern Territory Tourist commission site listing accommodation, how to get there, weather, restaurants etc.

[ALICE SPRINGS there's no town like it!](#) LINKS and links alone to various ALICE SPRINGS related business, information and news pages

Once you arrive in Alice Springs, are several ways of getting to the CAZR.

The CAZR main entrance is located in Heath road next to the racecourse approx 7 km from the town center.

Take a taxi

The taxi fare from the airport to A\$10-15 If the taxi-driver does not know the way to, tell him/her that Heath Rd is next to the racecourse. Many drivers mistakenly go to the **Arid Zone Research Institute** which is on the Stuart Hwy. This is not part of CSIRO CAZR. Most taxis will accept credit card payment.

Book a shuttle bus

This service is a bus, which will pick you up from the airport and bring you directly to the CAZR site. The cost is approximately AU\$10.00 or \$18.00 return. The Shuttle bus can be caught directly outside the terminal.

Hire a car and drive yourself

Note that we drive on the **left** side of the road in Australia.

To get to CAZR by car, follow signposts for Alice Springs then follow the directions given for the taxi above.

Site security

The office is open from 8.00 am to 16.21 on weekdays only. At all other times entry to the site for work or use of the Conference room requires permission from the site manager. If leaving the site after 17.30 you must ensure you lock the gates after you.

Clothing

Alice Springs coldest month is usually July, (-4 to 20 Celsius, -39 to 66 Fahrenheit); the hottest months are December-February (>35 Celsius, >95 Fahrenheit, usually this is a dry heat. Temperatures in excess of 40 Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) can occur through the summer period.

Dress rules at the CAZR are not rigid; jeans and shorts are commonly worn. Jogging shoes are acceptable footwear. However please note that closed-in shoes are preferred for safety reasons.

[On site accommodation](#)

On-site accommodation is not provided at the CAZR.

CSIRO has a four-bedroom house on the site, which is used primarily for new staff members or visitors on extended visits to the lab.

[Other accommodation](#)

For short-term visitors, accommodation can be arranged at nearby motels; costs are typically A\$100-\$160 a night

Please go to

[Central Australian Tourism Industry Association](#) accommodation guide

Or the

[Alice Springs Accommodation Guide](#) for more details.

For visiting scientists and their families staying for longer periods of six months or more, there are houses or units available for rent in the Alice Springs area. The cost is typically in the range A\$250-350 a week. Rental accommodation of this type may be difficult to find, and if you need our help we would appreciate as much forward notice as possible. Visitors should note that almost all rented accommodation in Alice Springs is unfurnished.

Please send enquiries on accommodation to teresa.shanahan@csiro.au.

For frequently asked questions and information on Alice Springs go to:

[Alice Springs and Oz FAQ - town information for locals and travellers to Australia including weather, ayers rock, shopping, isps, entertainment, links to photos and events calendar](#)

[Getting meals in the district](#)

There are no canteen facilities available at the site.

Dining options in Alice Springs range from fast-food chains to five-star restaurants. [The Central Australian Tourism Industry Association](#) has a comprehensive guide to their members and contacts.

Shops, banks and cinemas

Shops

To shop for food, there are a range of supermarkets throughout the town. The major supermarkets are Coles located in Gregory Terrace in the Coles complex and is open 24 hours 7 days a week, Woolworths located in the Yeperyenye Centre Bath St and is open from 7.00 am until midnight 7 days a week.

For other shopping, most things (including food) can be found in the Town and can be accessed via the local bus. ASBUS services the [North](#), [South](#), [East](#) and [West](#) routes in Alice Springs from the interchange on Railway Terrace near the Coles Complex.

It operates on weekdays and Saturday mornings, except public holidays.

Banks

The four largest banks in Australia are the Commonwealth, Westpac, ANZ and National Banks. These have branches in the city centre. The standard working hours for banks are from 9.30 am until 4.30 pm.

All the banks operate a number of Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) which are available at the banks and in the shopping centres. The ATMs are available 24 hours a day and are usually the easiest way to obtain cash. ATMs accept many different types of internationally recognised cards including Maestro and Cirrus.

Many shops and restaurants in Central Australia will accept payment using credit cards or EFTPOS. Visa, American Express and MasterCard are among the most widely accepted credit cards. Note that some places will not accept Diners Cards.

Cinemas

The Alice Springs Cinema complex is Located in Todd Mall. It has 4 cinemas and offers a variety of the latest movies.

Transport Information

The **airport** is 14km south of town. The airport shuttle (tel 08/8953 0310) meets incoming flights and costs \$10, while a taxi (tel 08/8952 1877) will be about twice that amount. Greyhound Pioneer **buses** arrive at the Coles Complex on West Stott Street; McCafferty's buses outside their office on Gregory Terrace, opposite the tourist office. Some of the keener hostels send minibuses to meet incoming buses (as well as some incoming flights). Alice's **train station** – open only when trains are due to arrive – is on George Crescent on the west side of the Stuart Highway, just off Larapinta Drive, about a fifteen-minute walk (or \$4 taxi ride) from the town centre.

Taxis

Alice Springs is also serviced by taxi services Desert Private Hire Cars (ph 8953 1600) and Alice Springs Taxis (ph 8952 1877).

You will be asked to state the destination you require, the number of many passengers and whether you are ready for pick-up.

Emergency contact information

Dial 0 to get an outside line

- **Fire/Police/Ambulance** Ph: 0 - 000
- **After hours emergencies**
Office hours emergencies

Alice Springs Hospital

Telephone (08) 8951 7777

Alice Springs has a major public hospital that serves around one million square kilometres of Central Australia, including northern South Australia and communities near the borders of Western Australia and Queensland. Alice Springs Hospital (ASH) is a NT Department of Health and Community facility, the major provider of health services in the region

Medical Centres

Central Clinic

76 Todd Mall

Tel (08) 8952 1088

Mall Medical Centre

1/51 Todd Mall
Tel (08) 8952 2744

Bath Street Medical Centre

Bath St
Tel (08) 8952 2000

Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia

Stuart Tce
Tel (08) 8952 1033 A/H
Emergency Tel (08) 8952 5733

Dentists**Alice Dental Associates**

Reg Harris Lane
Tel (08) 8952 6055

Dr Andrew Toms Orthodontist

Community Dental Centre
Flynn Drive
Tel (08) 8951 6713

Dr Mike Nugent Orthodontist

Community Dental Centre
Flynn Drive
Tel 1800 630 539

More medical information can be via

http://www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au/community/community_services/health_directory.asp.

Directory Assistance - Ph: 1223

- <http://www.yellowpages.com.au/> - the commercial telephone guide
- <http://www.whitepages.com.au/> - the personal and commercial telephone guide

Emergency fire information**If you hear an alert sound during working hours:**

1. Look to see if there is a fire or any danger in the immediate area.
2. Report fire or emergency to the switchboard or to emergency services (0 000).
3. Alert others in the vicinity and seek help.

4. Only attempt to put out a fire if it is safe to do so and you know how to use the fire equipment.
5. Evacuate the building if there is any danger or you are instructed to do so. Take personal possessions. Close all windows and doors.
6. Assemble in the car park at the front of the building.
7. Do not reenter the building.

If you hear an **alert sound outside of working hours:**

1. When the alert is triggered after hours, the fire brigade is automatically called.
2. Check vicinity for fire. Attempt to extinguish a small fire if there is no threat to your personal safety.
3. Leave the building if there is any danger.
4. If necessary dial 0 000 and ask for assistance.

Maps

For a comprehensive map of the Alice Springs Township and the Central Australian region go to.

http://www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au/about_alice/pdf/town_map.pdf

http://www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au/about_alice/pdf/region_map.pdf