



Indigenous Ecotourism in the NT

Helen Martin

**Owner Operator Banubanu Wilderness Retreat, Bremer Island, North East
Arnhem Land**

Bachelor of Social Work

Chair, NT Indigenous Tourism Advisory Council (ITAC)

Board Member, Centre for Appropriate Technology, Alice Springs

AWARDS

2012 East Arnhem Land Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year

**2013 East Arnhem Land Chamber of Commerce Environmental Sustainability
Business of the Year**

2015 Telstra Women's Business Awards – Finalist Entrepreneur Category

Indigenous Eco-Tourism in the NT

- * What we do at Banubanu - ecotourism exemplar
- * Indigenous Eco tourism
- * NT Indigenous Tourism Advisory Council (ITAC)
- * Particular challenges in Indigenous tourism
- * Indigenous Tourism and Sustainable Development

So where is Banubanu?



North East Arnhem Land Northern Territory



Leased Land - Traditional Owners



Respectful Relationship with the Custodians Living on Bremer Island.

Langani Marika – Matriarch
of Rirratjingu Clan.



Importance of Community Relations

Christmas Parties

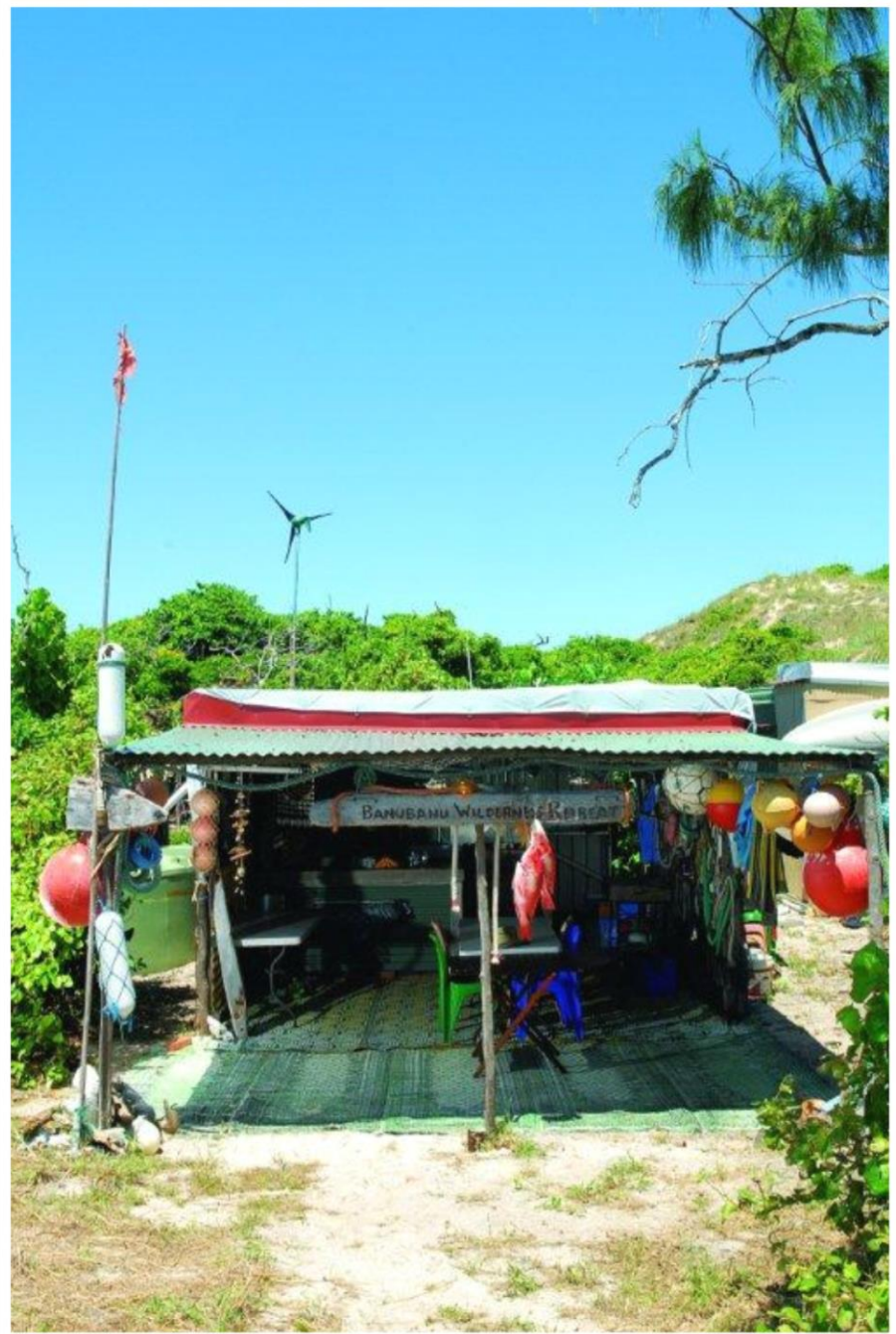


Birthday Celebrations



Humble Beginnings 2005

- Started from a Fishing Shack
- Powered by Solar Power & Wind



Land Care Conservation



Accommodation



Recycled Building Materials

Collecting Driftwood



Recycling ghosts nets for footpaths



Establishing our water supply



Local Community Involvement with Building Banubanu



Today's Products & Services





2016 Global Eco Conference, Hobart 21-23 November 2016
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Beach Front Bungalows



Indigenous Ecotourism Today

**Creating local
Indigenous
economy
through Art,
Culture,
sharing
knowledge
about the
land.**



Cultural Tourism

Traditional Hunting



Traditional art Work



Traditional Spear Fishing



Image supplied by TODU

Indigenous Art Galleries



NT Indigenous Tourism Advisory Council

Purpose:

- * To contribute to developing sustainable Indigenous tourism enterprises.
- * Enable individuals to create meaningful business opportunities and at the same time maintain and share their cultural heritage.
- * Make recommendations to Tourism NT on ways to grow Indigenous Tourism products.

ITAC Visiting Indigenous Tourism Products



ITAC Assessing Established Products



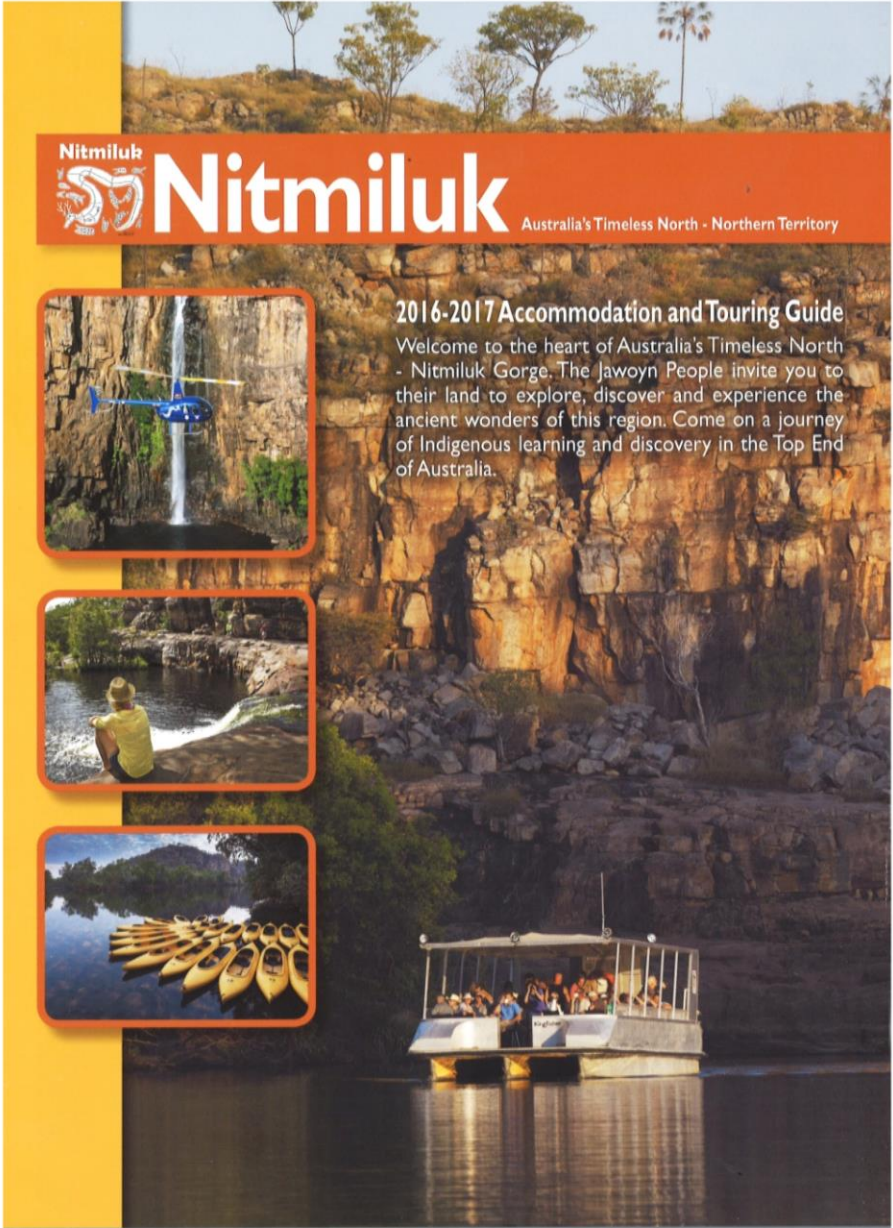
Identifying Successful Indigenous Businesses



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Nitmiluk – Katherine Gorge

- Proven Business Model
- Creating Real Indigenous Employment Outcomes



Nitmiluk Australia's Timeless North - Northern Territory

2016-2017 Accommodation and Touring Guide

Welcome to the heart of Australia's Timeless North - Nitmiluk Gorge. The Jawoyn People invite you to their land to explore, discover and experience the ancient wonders of this region. Come on a journey of Indigenous learning and discovery in the Top End of Australia.

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Indigenous Tourism & Sustainable Development

- **The realities of geography & difficult access – starting a business in a remote location.**
- **Understanding Governance & business management principles.**
- **There are varying levels of enthusiasm to embrace tourism as one possible solution to economic independence for participants.**

References

- * Wells, B. (2016) Top Of Down Under photos
- * Pudukul Tours
- * Nitmiluk
- * Tourism NT photos
- * Altman, J.C. & Finlayson, J. (2003) Aborigines, Tourism and Sustainable Development