

Pine Creek Geotrail

ENJOY A 3.3 KM
WALKING TOUR
AROUND THE
HISTORIC TOWN
OF PLAYFORD,
NOW BETTER
KNOWN AS
'PINE CREEK'.

The township of Pine Creek, only two hours drive from Darwin, has a fascinating history and was instrumental in developing the Top End of Northern Australia.

For thousands of years, these lands were a meeting place for Aboriginal people. The region rose to prominence as a gold field from 1871 through a chance discovery during the construction of the overland telegraph line (OTL). This town was one of several that grew to support the early mining in the area.

Within a few months, thousands of people descended upon the region including Chinese immigrants whose culture influenced and supported the emerging community and whose sites and relics are still preserved today.

Pine Creek has retained its character with several heritage-listed buildings and artefacts of local and national significance.

The Pine Creek Geotrail is a journey into this past, including the ancient geology of the region, which enriched the land with gold, copper and other metals and provided the construction materials that the early pioneers depended upon.

We hope you enjoy your Pine Creek Geotrail experience.

Sponsors and Contributors

The following have made the Pine Creek Geotrail possible.



Victoria Daly
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Looking for other NT Geotrails?

The *Darwin City Geotrail* offers a walking tour through the Darwin Central Business District. Learn about the geology, history, and cultural features of Darwin.

If heading south, the *Larapinta Geotrail* is a multi-day experience, exploring the unique landforms and features in Central Australia.

Other geotrails celebrating the unique natural, cultural, social and industrial heritage of the Northern Territory are planned or are in various stages of development.

1. The Heritage grounds and walkway

Starting at the Lazy Lizard Carpark learn about the history of the town and railway artefacts from the Northern Australian Railway.

2. The Railway Precinct

A joy for train enthusiasts, the Railway Precinct was a major stopping point for the railway which serviced the goldfields from circa 1890 onwards and eventually extended another 300km to the south, terminating at Birdum near Larrimah.

3. The Miners Park

The park contains mining equipment sourced from mines across the Top End. Signs explain some of the early mining methods and how the machines were used. It is also the site of the annual Gold Rush Festival.

4. The Geological Time-walk (Future attraction)

The geological formations around Darwin, Pine Creek and Kakadu are some of the oldest on the planet, extending back 2.5 billion (2,500,000,000) years. This is before life had evolved beyond single-celled organisms – or even the development of the atmosphere that most terrestrial life on the planet depends on today.

5. The Main Street Heritage Buildings

The main terrace of Pine Creek hosts several heritage-listed buildings. Signs explain about the buildings, their origins and significance, and tell of some of the past occupants and owners that lived in the area.

6. Mayse's Café rest-stop

Mayse's Café is named after Mayse Young whose family were prominent in Pine Creek from the 1920's onwards. Learn more about their history while enjoying a quiet break along with coffee, cake and other refreshments.

7. Moule Street Nature Walk (Future attraction)

Pass along a moderate grade trail in the bushland to the Enterprise Pit lookout.

8. Enterprise Pit Lookout

The Enterprise Pit lookout offers spectacular elevated views over the Pine Creek Township and the Enterprise Pit which ceased operation in 1995. Learn about the operation and the rehabilitation efforts that have influenced this site post-mining.

9. The Water Park

The Water Park was established in the 1990's and is now a home to many different birds. Wander along its paths and enjoy a shaded and cool interlude.

10. The Pine Creek Museum

The Pine Creek Museum is a heritage listed building and the oldest example of a pre-fabricated building in Australia. It has served a variety of purposes since its initial construction. It was first erected in the NT's first gazetted town, Burrundie, around 35km to the North and was later dismantled and relocated to its current position in Pine Creek.

This concludes the Pine Creek Geotrail.

When ready, wander back to the Lazy Lizard and enjoy Pine Creek hospitality at its finest.

Want to know more?

The Pine Creek Geotrail website offers more information on attractions around the town and can be accessed at the following link:

<https://arcg.is/1b5aO90>

A visit to the companion website detailing the Miners Park equipment is also available through the following link:

<https://arcg.is/OWy1iK0>

Location and route



Map source: ArcGIS Online with data contributions from
Northern Territory Government | Esri | TomTom | Garmin | FAO | NOAA | USGS