

SAFE HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Each year many Territorians travel long distances by car visiting friends and family throughout the Territory and the rest of Australia.

Before leaving, ensure you plan and prepare for a safe journey.

Is your vehicle safe?

Make sure your vehicle is safe and roadworthy. You should be confident it will get you home. Check:

- lights, wipers and washers are in working order
- fluid levels are correct (e.g. water, brake)
- tyres and spares are inflated as specified
- the vehicle is not overloaded
- vehicle registration is current and covers you for the entirety of the journey.

It is always best to have your vehicle properly serviced and consider taking out membership of a national motoring body such as the AANT.

Is the road safe?

Do you know the condition of the roads you intend to travel on, are they open and safe?

Weather (wind, rain or fire) can affect driving ability, reduce visibility and damage roadways, sometimes in short time-frames. Check:

- NT Road Report website (or call 1800 246 199) for updated information

Quick Fact

There are over 50 designated roadside rest areas in the Northern Territory.

- Bureau of Meteorology website for current and future weather conditions
- local news and radio networks
- with a local, the Police Station or Council Office.

Always drive within the speed limit, your capability, the capability of your vehicle and the road conditions. If you encounter an unfamiliar road situation, don't risk it, wait, turn back or get good advice before proceeding.



15 / **2**
minutes / hours

As a general rule to assist in avoiding fatigue, take a break from driving for 15 minutes every 2 hours.

Is your journey safe?

The Territory and the rest of Australia is often connected by vast stretches of road so make sure the time taken to reach a destination is realistic and safe. Check:

- your daily driving itinerary is achievable with regular rest breaks every 2 hours
- where the rest areas and fuel stops are
- that relatives and friends know when you plan to arrive and share your itinerary with them
- the road ahead and research what to expect (e.g. long, open, winding or dirt conditions)
- you have spares, fuel, food, water, a first aid kit, and know what to do in an emergency.

If you have never travelled a route before, a GPS device may be a safe alternative.

Further Information

For further information contact Road Safety on:

 1800 720 144

 roadsafety@nt.gov.au