

The Cultural Centre building

Vital statistics include:

- compacted earth foundations
- 90,000 mud bricks made of local soil. The bricks were built on-site using local Aboriginal labour
- a slurry of soil and water was bagged over the bricks to provide the finishing texture
- white cypress pine poles from southwest Queensland and northwest New South Wales
- cypress pine and stringy bark rafters
- Victorian yellow stringy bark cladding and panelling, radially-sawn allowing an efficient use of timber
- western red cedar door and window frames
- bloodwood roof shingles from New South Wales
- grey iron bark floorboards in Walkatjara Art
- grey iron bark bearers and joists
- copper roof shingles which slowly colour through the oxidisation process as they age, and
- external paths of compacted gravel overlain with consolidated sand.

The Cultural Centre experience

Cultural Centre logo

The logo for the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre represents four major *Tjukurpa* stories associated with Uluru. *Kuniya*, *Liru*, *Kurpany* and *Mala* are all ancestral beings who help form the basis of traditional Law and custom for *Anangu* today. They connect *Anangu* with country in all directions around Uluru. *Kuniya* came from the east near Erdunda and is still present at Uluru. *Liru* came from the southwest and returned to that country after the battle with *Kuniya's* nephew. The *Mala* people arrived for ceremonies from *Mawulyarungu* to the north near *Yuendumu*. *Kurpany* was sent in from the west near *Kaltukatjara* (Docke River) and chased the *Mala* people through Uluru itself and then into South Australia.

Opening day

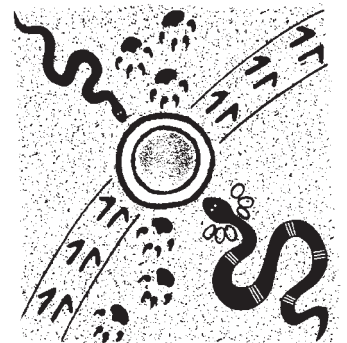
After four years of planning and 18 months to build, the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre was officially opened on 26 October 1995. A year after opening, the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre design was recognised through the prestigious Royal Australian Institute of Architects (Northern Territory Branch) annual awards. Other awards received by Gregory Burgess Pty Ltd for the Cultural Centre were the 1996 Tracy Memorial Award for the best building in any category, the Institutional Architecture Award and the People's Choice Award.

To fully appreciate the Cultural Centre visitors should allow at least two to three hours. Because of the deep spiritual nature of the area and what is contained within the Cultural Centre, visitors are asked not to film or video inside the building or precinct. This is to respect the wishes of the traditional owners, and protect *Anangu's* cultural and intellectual property.

Kanyangatja mulapa wali nganampa - Anangu marutju takum, Anangu uwankaraku - Pitjantjatjara
This building truly represents us *Anangu* people, it is for all people to visit.



Left to right - the Cultural Centre and the Cultural Centre logo



Australian Government
Director of National Parks

