

Is canberratimes.com.au safe? TrustSniffer's moderate-trust assessment: 70/100

canberratimes.com.au

Verdict

70

OUT OF 100

MODERATE TRUST

canberratimes.com.au is moderately trusted.

Most signals looked ordinary, and some evidence was missing. Read the checks below before you pay or hand over personal details.

Not Scam

Governance Risk

Dynamic Interaction Caution

Assessed 2026-08-13 by automated analysis. Classification confidence 55%.

What this site appears to be

The Canberra Times homepage covering local and national news, sport, weather, opinion pieces and subscription prompts. Primary monetization is subscriptions and advertising; content is consistent with a legitimate regional news outlet.

Evidence status and limitations

- Evidence completeness: UNKNOWN
- The real-world operator identity was not independently verified.
 - Module-level completeness metadata is unavailable for this legacy report.

At a glance

The checks that decide most of this verdict.

Malware engines	None flagged it VirusTotal	CLEAR
Google Safe Browsing	Not listed Google	CLEAR
Abuse reports on the host	0 reports AbuseIPDB; shared hosting inflates this count	NOTED
Domain age	Not available No registration record was returned	NOTED
Web archive	Never archived No public history of this site	WATCH
Certificate	Encrypted connection Issued by Amazon RSA 2048 M04	NOTED

The page as captured

No screenshot is retained for this report.

Key findings

- Automated classification: Not Scam.
- No flags from the reputation services TrustSniffer consulted at assessment time.
- The operator behind the site could not be independently connected to a real-world brand or person.

Full analysis

Overview

The Canberra Times is a regional Australian news and media website presenting local, national and world news, sport, weather, opinion, puzzles and employment content. Its apparent business model is that of a conventional publisher funded through advertising, sponsored content and digital subscriptions, with visitors offered registration or subscription access.

Scam/Impersonation Risk

No contradictions were observed. The homepage content is internally consistent with a regional news publisher, and the available technical and reputation checks found no phishing, impersonation, malicious-content or blacklist indicators. Dynamic advertising, consent-management and analytics activity is present, but the observed behavior included no hidden forms, wallet interaction, credential-exfiltration form, clipboard manipulation or cloaking; these factors do not establish scam behavior. The real-world operator identity remains independently unverified, so the legitimacy assessment is evidence-consistent rather than proof of ownership.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage identifies itself as “The Canberra Times” and presents news, sport, weather, opinion and subscription content; its page analysis recorded no red flags.
- External reputation checks recorded zero malicious and zero suspicious detections, with no Google Safe Browsing or external blacklist hit.
- The behavioral capture recorded zero wallet-connect runs, zero wallet-sensitive runs, zero wallet-drainer runs, zero hidden forms and zero password forms submitted to external destinations.

Regulatory Verification Notes

The site presents a conventional publishing and subscription model rather than a financial or otherwise regulated service. No licensing claim or registration number is evidenced in the supplied page material; for this business type, that is a transparency and verification point rather than an indication of fraud. The available evidence supports an established-looking publication, but the operator’s legal identity has not been independently verified. A mid-level page-authority signal and an absent broker-dataset match provide contextual support without constituting legal, licensing or regulatory confirmation.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage's stated commercial functions are advertising, sponsored content and digital subscriptions, with "Subscribe" and "Log In" pathways.
- Hosted on AS16509 (AMAZON-02 - Amazon.com, Inc., US).
- TLS certificate issued by Amazon RSA 2048 M04, validation level DV, valid to 2027-01-08T23:59:59+00:00.
- The supplied technical evidence identifies Corporation Service Company (Aust) Pty Ltd as registrar and Rural Press Pty Limited as the registrant organisation.

What to Verify Next

Before a high-value subscription or other sensitive transaction, confirm the publisher's legal entity and subscription terms through the site's official legal or account documentation, and independently confirm that the payment page and customer-support channels belong to the same publisher. Review the privacy and advertising-consent choices before registration, particularly where personalized advertising or third-party processing is involved. Any regulatory or corporate-status question should be checked against the relevant Australian corporate or consumer-protection source rather than inferred from the website's branding.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage displays subscription and login prompts, creating a direct need to review account, billing, cancellation and refund terms before payment.
- The homepage's privacy notice describes cookies, personalized advertising, Google services and processing by numerous partners; these settings should be reviewed before consent.
- The observed page capture contained no sensitive form and no untrusted form destination, so verification should focus on the final account and payment workflow if those pages are accessed.

Summary Verdict

The website has a **moderate-trust, not-scam posture**: its content, business model, technical operation and external reputation are consistent with a functioning regional news publisher, while independent operator verification is incomplete. The evidence supports ordinary informational use and measured engagement, but does not justify treating the site as independently authenticated for consequential transactions.

Infrastructure Integrity

The site is protected by Amazon CloudFront CDN/WAF infrastructure, with observed traffic served through Amazon edge systems rather than a directly exposed origin. This is a mitigating security and availability measure, not proof of publisher legitimacy; the observed infrastructure-fragmentation heuristic is best treated as a characteristic of distributed delivery rather than a confirmed threat.

Closing Assessment

Informational use is proportionate on the present evidence; subscription, account and payment activity should proceed only after the relevant publisher, terms and transaction endpoint have been independently confirmed.

Written analysis generated 2026-08-13 by the TrustSniffer Analysis Engine from the evidence in this report.

What the analysis found

2 findings contributed to this verdict, raised by registration and ownership, behaviour in a sandbox.

- 01

Governance Risk

- The public registration record for this domain is incomplete.
Registration and ownership rule:KF_WHOIS_INCOMPLETE
- 02

Dynamic Interaction Caution

- The page exchanged network traffic with destinations TrustSniffer does not recognise.
Behaviour in a sandbox rule:BEHAV_NONWHITELISTED_TRAFFIC
 - A large share of what the page loaded came from other domains.
Behaviour in a sandbox rule:BEHAV_EXTERNAL_RATIO_MODERATE
 - The page sent data to a destination TrustSniffer does not recognise.
Behaviour in a sandbox rule:BEHAV_NONWHITELISTED_POSTS
 - The page made background requests to destinations TrustSniffer does not recognise.
Behaviour in a sandbox rule:BEHAV_NONWHITELISTED_XHR

Identity verification

Status	UNVERIFIED
Identity score	30/100
Identity verification confidence	50%

- No on-site identity signals detected

Identity verification measures whether the site can be independently connected to a real-world brand or person. It is separate from the classification confidence.

What TrustSniffer observed

First-party facts recorded during the assessment of canberratimes.com.au.

- The request stayed on canberratimes.com.au. It was not redirected to another domain.

CLEAR
- Registration is published under Corporation Service Company (Aust) Pty Ltd.

CLEAR
- DNS for this domain is served by awsdns-41.org, across 4 name servers.

NOTED
- It is hosted on AMAZON-02, from a server in US.

NOTED

Domain intelligence

Registrar	Corporation Service Company (Aust) Pty Ltd
Hosting	AMAZON-02 - Amazon.com, Inc., US
Country	US
Server IP	3.174.113.61

Name servers	ns-1357.awsdns-41.org, ns-16.awsdns-02.com, ns-1685.awsdns-18.co.uk, ns-867.awsdns-44.net
SSL issuer	Amazon RSA 2048 M04
SSL expiry	2027-01-08
Domain age	Not available (no registration date was returned)
Domain expiry	Not available
Archive first seen	Not available
Archive snapshots	0
Reputation	VirusTotal: 0 flagged AbuseIPDB: 0 reports Google Safe Browsing: 0 matches

About this assessment

A trust score summarises the evidence TrustSniffer could collect about canberratimes.com.au at assessment time. It is a starting point for your own judgement, not a guarantee: a high score means the signals were consistent with a legitimately operated site, a low or critical score means several risk patterns were present.

TrustSniffer assesses a website from the evidence it can collect at a point in time: domain registration and age, hosting and certificate, the content the site served, and third-party reputation feeds. A score is a summary of that evidence, not a guarantee and not a legal finding. There is no human rating and no user review in it. A site can change after it is assessed.

This report online: <https://trustsniffer.com/report/canberratimes.com.au> · assessed 2026-08-13