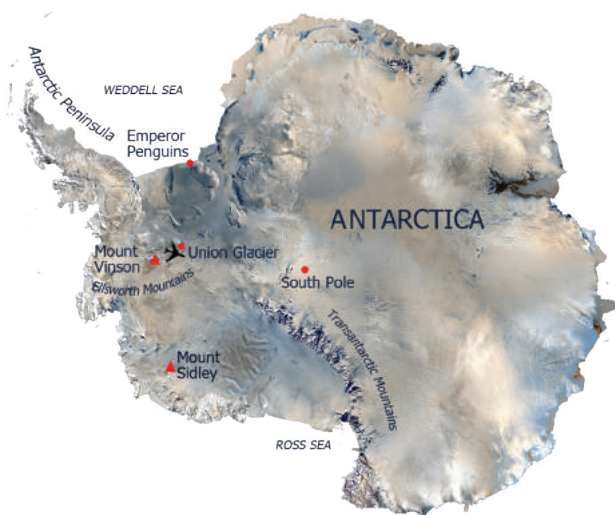


# UNION GLACIER CAMP



**79° 46'S 82° 52'W**  
**2297 FT (700 M)**

Our main camp is only accessible by air and lies on the broad expanse of Union Glacier in the Southern Ellsworth Mountains. All of our guests take their first steps in Antarctica here, on the naturally occurring blue-ice runway. We are a short flight from Mount Vinson, the highest peak in Antarctica, and just over 600 nautical miles (1138 km) from the South Pole. Majestic peaks rise in all directions offering unlimited opportunities for scenic excursions, technical climbs, and ski tours.





## ACCOMMODATIONS

Union Glacier Camp is the only facility of its kind in Antarctica. Our full-service camp operates during the Antarctic summer (November through January) and is dismantled at the end of each season. We can house up to 70 guests in our dual occupancy Clam Tents.

Clam Tents are double-walled sleeping tents that are designed to withstand Antarctic conditions with a high-tech nylon covering and durable aluminum frame. They are also incredibly comfortable to live in with large doors and a tall interior that allows you to stand upright and move around easily (16 ft x 8 ft or 5 m x 2.4 m). Tents are naturally heated by the 24-hour sunlight up to 60°F (16°C) but may be colder during long periods of overcast skies. Each guest is provided with a cot, mattress, pillow, linens, and towels.

Please tell us if you have a preferred tent-mate. Otherwise we will pair you with a compatible roommate of the same gender.

## WEATHER

The Antarctic climate is generally cold, dry, and windy. Even though it is summer, the temperatures remain below freezing at all times. Camp is typically less windy than other areas, such as the blue-ice runway, and temperatures range between -12° to 30°F (-24° to -1°C). Please keep in mind conditions can change rapidly and wind chill can make temperatures feel colder. Bring everything on our **Required Clothing & Equipment List** so you are prepared for all conditions.



## MEALS

### BREAKFAST 8–9 AM

Hot breakfast is served until 8:45am and self-serve continental breakfast is available until 9am.

### LUNCH 12:45–2 PM

### DINNER 6:45–8 PM

The dining tent is the heart of our camp and serves as a gathering place for all of our guests. You'll have the opportunity to meet people from all over the world embarking on everything from a Mount Vinson summit attempt to a Ski South Pole expedition. You'll get to mingle with our staff, who speak 15 different languages, and may have the chance to talk to scientists working on a variety of research projects.

Our talented chefs utilize a fully equipped kitchen to create fresh-cooked meals, baked goods, and fantastic desserts. You'll be surprised at the range of fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and cheeses we're able to fly in regularly from Chile. We offer a variety of hot beverages, soft drinks, juices, and water. Chilean beer and wine are served in limited quantities with dinner.

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served at set times. In between meals, self-serve snacks and beverages are always available. All meals are served buffet style and vegetarian options are available upon request. If you have made special dietary requests or have food allergies, please introduce yourself to the kitchen staff when you arrive in camp.





# SHOWERS & TOILETS

While at Union Glacier Camp, you'll have access to communal showers and toilet facilities. In keeping with our mission to set the highest possible environmental standards, we try to minimize the amount of residue (grey) water we generate as well as the fuel we use to melt snow in Antarctica. We provide disinfectant hand gel in the dining tent and in all toilets and ask that guests limit shower use to every 2-3 days to conserve water. We also provide wash basins if you don't want to take a full shower. Many guests bring pre-moistened towelettes such as Wet Wipes to use in between showers. Towels are provided in your tent and body wash is available in all shower stalls but you should bring any other toiletries with you. We do not offer laundry service in Antarctica.

## SHOWER HOURS

7-10:30 AM

5-10 PM

All human waste is removed from Union Glacier Camp, which requires us to keep liquid and solid human waste separate for ease of transport. For men, a stand-up urinal is provided in addition to a sit down toilet. For women, two sit-down toilets are provided, one for liquid waste and another one for solid waste and toilet paper. During the night, some guests prefer to use a "pee bottle" in their tent. Our staff will show you the container where you empty pee bottles next to the toilet facility. Don't forget to bring your pee bottle with you when you leave camp. On vehicle excursions, our guides will also have a portable toilet you can use in emergencies.





## ACTIVITIES

You can be as active or relaxed as you like while at Union Glacier. Each morning we will meet with you to discuss options for the day and organize activities tailored to the weather and your interests. We offer a variety of group excursions (described in your detailed itinerary) and there are plenty of activities you can do on your own around camp. Take a walk, cross-country ski, or try out one of our fat tire bikes on the groomed 6 mi (10 km) loop. If you're looking for something more low-key, check out a book, movie, or game in our polar library. We also have a small merchandise shop featuring clothing, hats, patches, and other keepsakes. These items are exclusively sold at Union Glacier Camp and cannot be purchased anywhere else in the world. Items range in price from \$10-\$200 and are available for purchase with US cash.

In the evenings, our guest lecturers will host engaging talks on a variety of topics from polar history to glaciology. Many will share photos and stories of their own expeditions to remote parts of Antarctica and beyond. Please respect camp quiet hours between 10pm and 7am.

If you'd like to experience more of Antarctica, you can add a flight to one of our other destinations for an additional fee. Based on the time of your visit and weather conditions, you may be able to join a flight to the South Pole, charter a scenic flight around the Ellsworth Mountains, or visit Mount Vinson Base Camp. If you're interested in adding one of these flights to your itinerary, please ask our Guest Services team and they can provide you with rates and availability.





# COMMUNICATION

Satellite phone cards are available for purchase with US cash (\$40 USD for 30 minutes) from our Guest Services team. Please note that you are charged per attempted transmission, not per connection. You can make calls from our two phone booths which are equipped with satellite phones for your use. Please do not use personal satellite phones in communal areas like the dining tent.

There is no mobile coverage in Antarctica. Satellite internet access is for operations only. Please enjoy this digital detox!

In an emergency, your family may contact our offices in Salt Lake City or Punta Arenas and we can forward a message to you while you are on the ice. However, we will only give out information about you to those individuals listed on your Personal Information Form (PIF).

## Punta Arenas Guest Services

Calle Bernardo O'Higgins 568

Punta Arenas, Chile

Guest Services Manager +56 9 6832 7472

guests.punta@antarctic-logistics.com

## Salt Lake Sales Office

3478 South Main Street

Salt Lake City, UT 84115 USA

Tel +1 801 266 4876

info@antarctic-logistics.com



# POWER

Limited charging facilities are available in the dining tent and feature two types of outlets: USB and 120V A/C (North American Type A or B plugs). Ensure your batteries are fully charged prior to leaving Punta Arenas, you have back-up batteries on hand, and you leave any unnecessary electronics behind. Please be courteous of your fellow guests and do not leave electronics plugged in overnight.





## TRANSPORTATION



Most of our guests arrive in Antarctica on an Ilyushin-76TD. This robust, four engine Russian jet was originally designed to deliver heavy machinery to remote areas of the USSR. It is well-suited for off-strip landings, such as the blue-ice runway at Union Glacier, and easily copes with polar weather conditions.

Each season we charter three to four ski aircraft to transport guests and cargo within the continent. We utilize De Havilland DHC-6 Twin Otters and a Basler BT-67. The Twin Otter is the workhorse of many National Antarctic Programs and is used by the British Antarctic Survey, the United States Antarctic Program, as well as the Argentine and Chilean air force. The Basler is our larger ski aircraft and is a turboprop conversion of the Douglas DC-3. We use it to transport larger groups of passengers and cargo into the field.



We maintain a fleet of specially adapted vehicles for ground transportation, snow clearing, and runway maintenance. These include two 4x4 and three 6x6 passenger vehicles, several tractors, Tucker Sno-Cats, industrial snow-blowers, skiway groomer, and a number of snowmobiles and sleds.



# MEDICAL SERVICES

Keeping you healthy in Antarctica is one of our key priorities. We have a basic medical clinic staffed by doctors and medics who specialize in emergency, high altitude, and remote medicine. The clinic is equipped to treat minor illnesses or can be used to stabilize more serious conditions until the patient can be evacuated. Our field guides all hold advanced first aid certification, are trained in emergency response protocols, and carry comprehensive first aid kits when away from camp. A member of our medical team accompanies all South Pole flights due to the altitude and extreme temperatures at this location.

If you take regular medication, bring enough with you for your anticipated itinerary as well as 4 weeks' extra supply. Even in Punta Arenas, compatible prescription medications can be difficult to source.

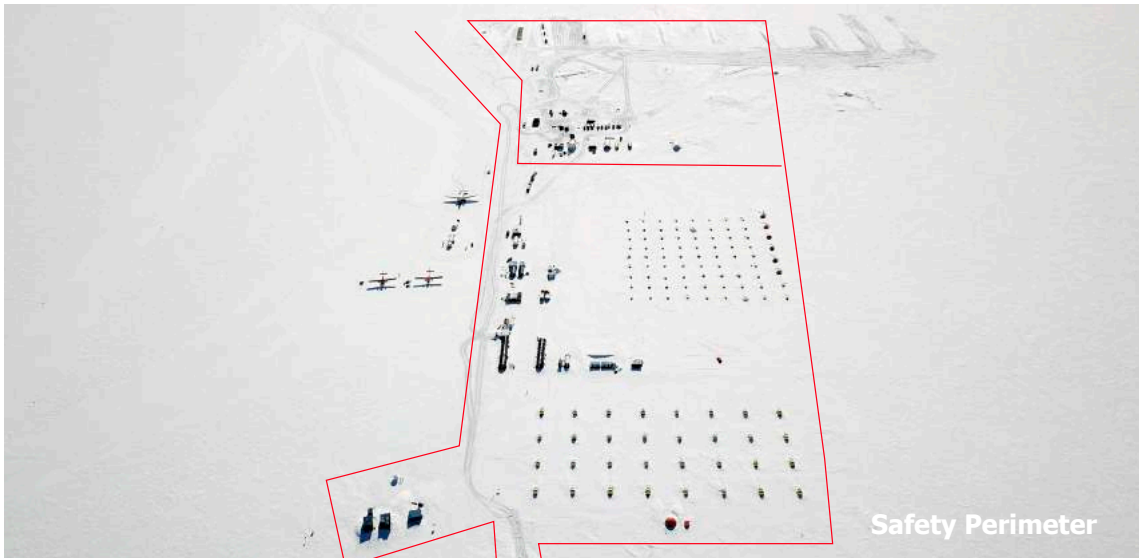
Common ailments such as dehydration, sunburn, and cold injury can easily be avoided through self-care. Make sure to drink plenty of fluids, as you can easily become dehydrated in Antarctica's cold, dry climate. Your body needs calories to keep warm, so please enjoy our hearty meals and delicious desserts. Keep your skin covered in cold and windy conditions to prevent frostbite. Wear gloves when taking photos and use a balaclava, Buff, or face mask. Wear high quality sunglasses or goggles whenever outside and liberally apply sunscreen. And don't forget to use the disinfectant hand gel!

Tell our medics or your guide immediately if you feel unwell or have a problem. Many issues can be easily resolved if they are addressed early, but can become serious if ignored.

If necessary, we will call in a dedicated flight to evacuate a patient. Keep in mind Punta Arenas, Chile is 1,859 mi (2991 km) away from Union Glacier and evacuation is entirely dependent on good weather conditions. Because of this, medical evacuation may take up to several days. Evacuation flights will be at your own expense, which is why we require all guests to carry Medical Evacuation Insurance.







## TRAVEL SAFETY

Few people get to camp and travel on an active glacier and this unique environment requires everyone to be cautious and conservative. Stay within your limits, listen to safety briefings, and follow instructions. Ask if you have questions.

Union Glacier is a large expanse of actively moving snow and ice that is flowing from the Polar Plateau towards the Ronne Ice Shelf. As the glacier carves its way through the mountains and flows over uneven terrain, deep holes and cracks can form in the surface of the snow. These crevasses can be hundreds of feet deep and are often covered by a thin layer of snow, making them very dangerous. Assume all glaciated terrain contains hidden crevasses and always seek advice before traveling outside of camp.

We use a variety of tools to identify safe areas around Union Glacier and our field camps. These include high resolution satellite imagery, ground penetrating radar, a thorough understanding of glacier dynamics, and historical knowledge of the area. Our camp boundaries and safe travel routes are routinely maintained and clearly marked to ensure safe passage in low visibility. Our Travel Safety team gives regular briefings to guests and staff on where it is safe or not safe to travel.

All guests and staff must adhere to a strict Check-Out and Check-In Procedure when leaving camp and be cleared by our Travel Safety Manager. Guests and staff must stay on established safe routes outside of

camp or employ glacier travel techniques (ropes, harness, etc.). Please check with our Communications staff before crossing the skiway to use the 6 mi (10 km) loop. Even if you see all of our aircraft on the ground, there may be other aircraft in the vicinity.

If you need assistance, our Guest Services team is always available as your first point of contact. The Communications and Operations Offices are open for guests between 9am and 7pm. Please be respectful of these busy workplaces and only visit them when necessary.

## “NO GO” AREAS

We have identified a safety perimeter around camp, identified by flags. Do not cross the flags or enter any of the following “No Go” areas unless you are accompanied by a member of our staff.

- The blue-ice runway or taxiway when a flight is due (You will be advised where you may stand to take photos)
- The back of the Ilyushin during unloading or loading
- Radio masts, antennas, and guy lines
- Ski aircraft parking area, skiways, air crew tents, and air crew office
- Medical Clinic unless a medic is present
- Garage and Workshop Areas
- Staff sleeping tent area, unless you are visiting the medic’s tent
- Clean snow area



## TIME

Even though you'll be living in 24-hour daylight, Union Glacier Camp time is the same as Punta Arenas, Chile, where our flights originate. Our field camps at Mount Vinson, South Pole, and Gould Bay also operate on this same time.

Union Glacier Time

= GMT (UK time) -3 hours

= Eastern Standard Time (NYC time) +2 hours

= Pacific Standard Time (LA time) +5 hours.

Amundsen-Scott Station, located at the South Pole uses New Zealand Daylight Time (GMT +13 hours).

## DISTANCE

1 nautical mile (nm) =

1.15 statute miles =

1.852 kilometers

1 degree of latitude = 60 nm

1 minute of latitude = 1 nm

## SMOKING

Smoking and/or vaping are PROHIBITED inside ANY tent, structure, vehicle or aircraft due to extreme fire danger. Smoking is permitted outside only. Containers for ash and cigarette butts are located outside the dining tent. Please use your own container with a lid should you wish to smoke elsewhere.

## GRATUITIES

You are welcome to give gratuities/tips if you wish but should feel under no pressure to do so. Tipping rates are left entirely to your discretion based on your level of satisfaction with our service. Tips can be given to our Guest Services Manager. Like many travel companies, gratuities are pooled and shared among the entire staff because we feel each person plays an equally vital role in the safe and successful completion of your experience.