

Wasa

Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

73°03'00"S 13°25'00"W

Type: Station

Operational period:
December–February

Location

Dronning Maud Land. The station is co-located together with the Finnish station Aboa at the Mount Basen. The distance between Wasa and Aboa is about 200 meters. Together, the two stations form the Nordenskiöld Base Camp. The stations cooperate both in research and logistics. Distance to nearest year round Station (Neumayer Station III) is about 500 km.

Biodiversity and natural environment

Mount Basen is a small Antarctic Nunatak completely surrounded by ice.

History and facilities

Both Wasa and Aboa were built at the same time, no previous facilities at this location.

General research and databases

Wasa is a small facility without permanent staff. The station is manned and opened when there is Swedish expedition activity in this area. The fields of science vary to a high degree from expedition to expedition.

CLIMATE	
Climate zone	Inland Antarctica
Permafrost	Continuous
Mean annual wind speed (km/h)	
Max wind speed (km/h)	
Dominant wind direction	
Sea Ice Break Up	
Snow free period	None
Total annual precipitation (mm)	
Precipitation type	Snow
Mean annual temperature (°C)	-15.3
Mean temperature in February (°C)	
Mean temperature in July (°C)	-21.9
ENVIRONMENT	
Region	Continental Antarctica
Antarctic Environmental Domain: K – Northern latitude ice shelves	
Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Region: 6 Dronning Maud Land	
Altitude of facility (m)	440
Type of surface facility built on	Ice-free ground
Long term monitoring	No
Waste management	Yes
Hazard(ous) management	
Fuel spill response capability	Yes



Photo: Henrik Törnberg

Features in the facility area

Nunatak.

FACILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE	
Area under roof (m ²)	130
Area scientific laboratories (m ²)	0
Type of scientific laboratories: None	
Conference room (capacity)	
Logistic area (m ²)	50
Number of beds	12
Showers	Yes
Laundry facilities	Yes
Power supply type	Fossil fuel, Renewable
Power supply (V)	230
Power supply (hours per day)	24
Hydroponics facilities	No
Number of staff on station (peak/summer season)	5
Number of scientists on station (peak/summer season)	8
Number of staff on station (off peak/winter season)	
Number of scientists on station (off peak/winter season)	0
Max number of personnel at a time (staff, scientists and others)	20
Specific device/Scientific equipment:	
Scientific services possible:	
Long-term monitoring/observations:	
MEDICAL FACILITIES	No
Area of medical facility (m ²)	0
Staff with basic medical training or doctor (Summer)	1
Staff with basic medical training or doctor (Winter)	



Photo: Henrik Törnberg



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Main science disciplines

Climate change, Climatology, Ecology, Geodesy, Glaciology, Terrestrial biology.

Capability: None	
Equipment: Diagnostic ultrasound	
Distance to hospital (km)	
Closest emergency facility in Antarctica (km)	
Closest emergency facility external (km)	
Medical research capabilities	No
Medical screening requirements	No
VEHICLES AT FACILITY	
Sea transportation: None	
Land transportation: Snowmobiles, Haglund, 4WD	
WORKSHOP FACILITIES	
Mechanical, Metal workshop, Wood workshop	
COMMUNICATIONS	
E-mail, Satellite phone, VHF	
TRANSPORT AND FREIGHT	
Access	Air
Transport to facility: Airplane	
Number of airstrips	1
Length (m) of longest runway	
Width (m) of longest runway	
Number of flight visits per year	
Period of flight visits per year: January, February, December	
Helipad	Yes
Number of ship visits per year	0
Period of ship visits per year:	
Ship landing facilities:	



Photo: Jyni Näränen



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