



AURORA

C A M B R I D G E

a collaboration space
and event venue at



**British
Antarctic Survey**

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Welcome



Welcome to Aurora Cambridge, the Innovation Centre at British Antarctic Survey – a venue with excellent conference and meeting facilities, easy transport access, on-site café, open-plan office space and access to our expertise. Aurora supports an environment where creative thinking and new connections can lead to cross-disciplinary breakthroughs, new partnerships and improved funding opportunities. Our venue can be booked by organisations that share our passion for the environment.

Why here?

Innovation is integral to British Antarctic Survey, where our inventive approach and expertise makes the world-leading polar science we do possible. Supported by UKRI Natural Environment Research Council, Aurora is part of our dedication to make this creativity available for wider benefit—particularly towards solving the climate and biodiversity crises—through unique partnerships that focus on research and entrepreneurial activity in the areas of climate change, environmental stewardship and technologies for challenging environments.



Meet the team



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Inclusivity at Aurora

Aurora is a space for all, no matter your identity. Discrimination on grounds of age, sex, race, religious beliefs, gender identity, sexual orientation or other personal characteristics has no place at British Antarctic Survey. It is our responsibility to make sure Aurora is a safe place for everyone – [Pilvi Saarikoski](#) is your first point of contact if you are worried about anything.



Spaces

Conference theatre



Our spacious conference theatre can seat 120 in theatre style seating or 60 in cabaret or classroom arrangements. We can also accommodate other layouts. It can be hired by the day or half-day.



Spaces



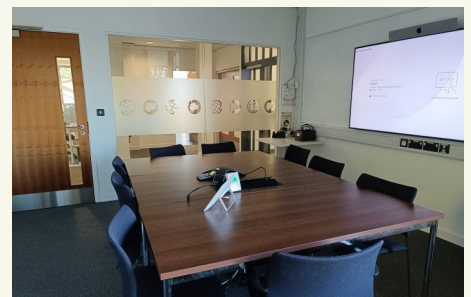
Seminar rooms

Our two modern seminar rooms seat 16 in boardroom style or can be used for larger groups with a theatre style layout. They can be hired by the day, half-day or hour.



Meeting rooms

Our four meeting rooms seat ten people each and are ideal for small breakout sessions. They can be hired by the day, half-day or hour.



Meet and mingle area

Our meet and mingle area lets guests eat, drink and circulate surrounded by polar science exhibits. With a dedicated refreshments area, it can accommodate comprehensive buffet-style catering. It's also an ideal space for posters.



Expertise



As a world-leading centre for polar science, we can provide speakers with unmatched insight. We can put together custom tours and arrange speakers for your event covering every aspect of a research organisation living and working at the extremes of Earth. Find out about the work of teams at BAS with your own selection of topics.

An extreme environment

- Life in the cold
- Fossil records
- Space weather
- Data as art

Humans in Antarctica

- Archives
- Mapping and GIS
- Plastics in Antarctica
- Decarbonising BAS
- Ecosystems management and policy

Past and future

- Ice cores, climate history and climate future
- Thwaites—the world's most unstable glacier
- Sentinels of change: from snails to whales
- AI Lab

We can arrange engagement activities featuring our polar expertise in a format to suit your needs, so please get in contact! Please bear in mind that the availability of any of the listed topics is subject to the availability of our scientists (who may be busy in Antarctica!)



Hybrid



All our state-of-the-art spaces are fully optimised for hybrid events with a large display screen and video conferencing technology. The conference theatre is ideal for hybrid events with lectern, panel, lapel, handheld, throwable and ceiling microphones available. There are also speaker, panel, room, handheld and manually positionable camera views so everyone can be seen and heard.



We can provide extension leads, ethernet connections and a laptop for presentations. Wifi is available to all visitors and printing is available in moderate quantities. We can help with setting up technology but management through the event is the responsibility of the organiser. IT support is available if there are problems. Filming and photography at your event must be agreed beforehand and a formal agreement must be made.



Food and drink



In line with our ethos of environmental stewardship and sustainability, we have committed to serving low-carbon, vegetarian and vegan options. Carbon data is available for all our options.



We can offer everything from teas and coffees to full lunches and can be very flexible to your requirements. Please get in touch to discuss further.



If you would prefer external catering, this must be self-sufficient.

Although we can't sell alcohol on the premises, you can bring alcohol on site—we can provide wine glasses.



Accessibility



We prioritise accessibility at Aurora. If there's an accessibility feature that would help you or your guests that's not listed on this page, please get in touch.



Features

- designated accessible parking
- step-free route with firm surface from car park to entrance
- automatic door at accessible entrance
- step-free access to all areas (lift)
- wheelchair-accessible food service
- seating at regular intervals
- dietary requirements catered for
- wheelchair-accessible toilet
- designated quiet room
- assistive listening system
- emergency alarm with flashing lights
- [virtual walkthrough](#)
- documents available in large print



Where we are



Aurora sits at the centre of British Antarctic Survey. As part of the West Cambridge Innovation District, we benefit from a world class research and development ecosystem anchored by the University of Cambridge. We're also close to the thriving sustainable development of Eddington, home to excellent coffee, contemporary cocktails and stylish hotels.



Photograph by [Jim Barton](#), used under [CC BY-SA 2.0](#)



Photograph by [Keith Edkins](#), used under [CC BY-SA 4.0](#)

You can get to us easily by bike or bus from the centre of Cambridge or from the station. We're right next to Maddingley Road Park and Ride. Ebikes are available throughout the city as casual rentals and we have dedicated visitor bike parking. We're connected to the city centre by the West Cambridge Cycle Path which allows for a safe and relaxed journey to us.



Prices



Spaces

Conference theatre	<i>day</i>	£980
	<i>half day</i>	£550
Seminar room	<i>day</i>	£570
	<i>half day</i>	£300
	<i>hour</i>	£90
Meeting room	<i>day</i>	£220
	<i>half day</i>	£150
	<i>hour</i>	£40

Food and drink

Catering prices vary with your selections. As an indication, coffee breaks and snacks tend to cost about £3 and buffet lunches cost about £10 per person.

Polar expertise

All our engagement activities are priced by the speaker. One session with a speaker is £575. To find a solution that fits your budget, get in touch.

