UK Antarctic Heritage Trust Information Sheet

Damoy Hut

Dorian Bay, Wiencke Island 64°48'S, 63°30'W

Historic site and Monument No 84

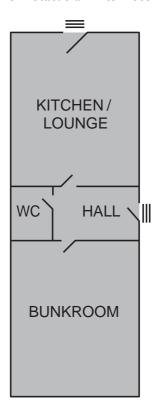


History

- The site was used intermittently by the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) from 1973 until 1993.
- In 1975 a 400m ski-way was marked out along the spine of the glacier on which a twin otter aircraft was able to land. BAS personnel arrived by ship and were then flown to Rothera research station. This enabled essential personnel to reach Rothera during the early summer when sea ice prevented access by ship.
- The hut was built in 1975 to support the airstrip operation. Two or three people operated the station during the summer period and organised the transfer of freight to the ski-way by snowmobile. They also provided vital weather reports to the aircraft pilots.
- Extra bunk space in the hut and temporary tents were used to accommodate personnel when the weather prevented flying.
- Damoy Air Facility closed in 1993 as the transit station was no longer needed. In 1994 BAS started direct flights from the Falkland Islands to Rothera.
- Damoy hut was designated Antarctic historic Site and Monument (HSM) No 84 in 2009 and is maintained by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT) on behalf of the UK.

Building guide

The hut consists of the bunkroom, the old toilet (now used for storage) and the kitchen/lounge. A number of artefacts still remain inside and around the building. Please refer to the interpretation posters for further information about the sites HSM status and its history as an air transit station.



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Please take note of the following during your visit*:

- I. The Port Lockroy team will endeavour to open and close the base each summer season. However, if the windows are shuttered when you visit then please remove them and store in the bunkroom. Please bring a ladder for accessing the shutters. The ladder at Damoy is an artefact and should not be used.
- 2. No more than 10 visitors are allowed inside Damoy at any one time
- 3. Ensure all outdoor clothing and boots are clean and free of snow before entering the building. Please use the boot scrubber provided. All backpacks and large bags should be left outside the hut.
- 4. The site is a historic site and monument and therefore overnight stays are not allowed, except in emergency situations.
- 5. Please do not handle, use or remove any artefacts or sit on chairs and other furniture.
- 6. Please do not smoke or use matches, candles or stoves in or around the building.
- 7. Leave a record of your visit in the visitor book and please report any damage to the hut or its contents or maintenance required to the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust: info@ukaht.org
- 8. A designated cleaning kit is kept in the porch. Please ensure that the hut is clean on your departure and that snow/water is mopped up from the floors.
- 9. Please ensure that the doors are securely closed when you leave to prevent snow entry.

- * For all official guidelines and specific instructions please refer to the Damoy Hut Antarctic Treaty Visitor Site Guide
- * Visitors enter the base at their own risk. UKAHT will not be liable for any personal injury or damage to property that may be

