

Blood Falls

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Blood Falls Latest News

Salty water flowing through Antarctica's Blood Falls contains a distinct community of marine-specific microorganisms, providing evidence that the brine system beneath the glacier has a marine origin.

About Blood Falls

- It is a **bright red waterfall** flowing through **Antarctica's icy landscape**.
- It is located at the **edge of the Taylor Glacier** in Antarctica, where it **appears as if blood falls from the mountains made of glaciers**.
- **What makes it red?**
 - The **water** that flows from Blood Falls **comes from an underground reservoir** trapped **inside the glacier** and contains **large amounts of iron and salt**.
 - **Tiny cracks and fractures** within the glacier provide **natural pathways** through which iron-enriched salt water can move up.

- **Once the water reaches the surface** and gets in touch with the oxygen of the atmosphere, **iron reacts with oxygen** and **turns into rust**.
- **Why isn't the water frozen?**
 - The most mysterious thing about Blood Falls is why liquid water exists in such an extremely cold area.
 - It turned out that the **water is incredibly salty**, several times more than the sea water.
 - It **prevents the water from freezing** because of the **low freezing point due to the high concentration of salts**.

Recent Findings

- **Microbes in the Blood Falls suggest** the brine is composed of **ancient seawater** that was **trapped in a pool beneath the glacier** when **ocean levels fell and the glacier advanced**.
- However, it's unclear exactly when that happened.

News: **PHYS**

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