



High-Altitude Archaeological Logistics & Survival Checklist

Target Elevation: 20,000+ ft (6,000+ m) **Objective:** Establish secure supply chains, ensure physiological survival, and maintain cryogenic sample integrity.

Phase 1: Pre-Expedition Logistics & Capital Allocation

- **Budget Verification:** Confirm allocation of \$75,000–\$120,000 strictly for supplementary oxygen and extreme thermal survival gear.
- **Legal Clearance:** Secure international transport permits for bioarchaeological samples and coordinate with local indigenous representative councils.
- **Supply Chain Mapping:** Establish primary base camp coordinates and map out high-camp resupply routes to mitigate bottleneck risks.
- **Equipment Audit:** Inspect all portable HVAC and climate-control transit modules for micro-fractures or compressor faults.

Phase 2: Physiological Safety & Hypoxia Management

- **Thermal Gear Issue:** Distribute and inspect extreme weather suits, ensuring baseline protection against constant 5°F (-15°C) to -40°F ambient temperatures.
- **Oxygen Supply Lines:** Secure primary and backup supplementary oxygen cylinders, regulators, and high-altitude masks for all personnel crossing the 20,000-foot death zone.
- **Acclimatization Protocol:** Finalize the mandatory multi-week staged ascent schedule to prevent High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE) and High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE).
- **Caloric Management:** Stockpile specialized high-density, high-protein rations engineered for rapid metabolization under extreme hypoxic stress.

Phase 3: Extraction & Cryogenic Preservation

- **DNA Contamination Protocols:** Pack ISO-certified clean room suits, sterile gloves, and positive-pressure isolation bags to prevent modern human DNA cross-contamination.
- **Cryogenic Transport:** Secure liquid nitrogen dewars or specialized dry ice transit coolers to replicate natural permafrost conditions during extraction.
- **UV & Photon Shielding:** Ensure all transport modules are equipped with 100% UV-blocking materials to prevent immediate photochemical degradation of ancient tissues.
- **Non-Destructive Packaging:** Verify shock-absorbing, custom-molded acrylic containment units are ready for the secure transport of fragile organic assets.

Phase 4: Emergency Response & Evacuation



- **[] Satellite Communications:** Test all encrypted satellite uplinks and establish daily check-in protocols with lowland administrative centers.
- **[] Medevac Coordination:** Map exact GPS coordinates for rapid helicopter medical evacuation (where altitude allows) and establish strict weather-window monitoring.
- **[] Rapid Descent Plan:** Designate emergency rapid-descent routes in the event of catastrophic oxygen failure or sudden glacial storms.