

Pontine cistern



The pontine [cistern](#) (also known as the [prepontine cistern](#)), cisterna pontis is one of the [subarachnoid cisterns](#). It occupies a large space on the ventral aspect of the pons and contains the [basilar artery](#).

It is filled with [CSF](#) and is contiguous with the subarachnoid cavity of the [spinal cord](#). It is also continuous with the [cisterna magna](#) behind, and the [interpeduncular cistern](#) anteriorly.

Surrounds the ventral aspect of the pons.

It contains:

The basilar artery and the origin of the anteroinferior cerebellar artery ([AICA](#)).

The origin of the superior cerebellar arteries.

The sixth (VI) cranial nerve.

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