

Butane



What is Butane?

Butane, sometimes referred to as C₄, is a component of LPG, known for its higher boiling point and energy density. It is used in fuel blending, cooking, aerosol propellants and petrochemical production.

Butane vs. Propane

FEATURE	PROPANE	BUTANE
Storage Temperature	-42°C (-44°F)	-0.5°C (31°F)
Vapor Pressure	Higher	Lower
Energy Content	Slightly lower	Slightly higher
Cold Weather Use	Preferred	Less ideal

- Butane is more energy dense than propane or natural gas, but its lower vapor pressure makes it less suitable for use in cold climates.
- Propane is preferred for outdoor and winter applications.

Transportation & Safety

- Like propane, butane is safely transported via rail, truck, pipeline and marine vessels.

- AltaGas ensures all butane movements comply with TDG (Transportation of Dangerous Goods) regulations and industry best practices.

Consumer Uses

- Butane is used for residential heating, cooking, transportation and industrial uses in Asia.
- Butane helps meet global rising demand for reliable, affordable and cleaner-burning fuels.

Export via VLGCs

- Butane is stored and transported by marine vessel in a liquid state. Refrigeration equipment at our sites and on marine vessels ensures the temperature remains at -0.5°C (31°F).
- AltaGas utilizes specialized ships, called Very Large Gas Carriers (VLGCs), to ship butane to global markets.

AltaGas: Delivering Safe, Reliable LPG to Global Markets

Safety is our top priority, and we partner with various organizations to ensure expert emergency response capabilities for LPG transportation incidents, reinforcing our commitment to safety and community protection throughout our value chain.