

The blood leaves the heart from the right ventricle into the pulmonary artery. This transports the blood to the lungs where carbon dioxide is dropped off and oxygen is picked up – this is known as gaseous exchange. The blood then continues its journey back to the heart through the pulmonary veins. It enters into the left atrium before pushing through the valves into the left ventricle. With a large contraction, the blood is again pushed out of the heart through the aorta. This blood is destined for the body delivering key oxygen and nutrients to the working muscles and organs. Finally, the blood re-enters the heart via the vena cava, ready to start the cycle all over again.

