

KAPISILLIT *- The Lakes*



by
Keld Jensen

Kapisillit – The Lakes

It is huge forces that have shaped the landscape around Kapisillit. The whole area is characterized by morainic deposits of the ice that once covered the entire area. Everywhere the geology is visible, because only small areas are overgrown with dense scrub.

The Kapisillik River finds its course through this landscape from the ice sheet to the fiord. The river connects seven lakes throughout the whole of its course. The geology has created this river and these lakes, which today is home to birds and fishes.

I still remember how it felt to lie in the tent near a lake and then listen to the voice of the common loon. The voice gives impressive resonance here between the mountains, and in September it was the winter call, which found its way over long distances.

The lakes are also home to the black guillemot, waiting to migrate to other regions. The black Guillemot lives a dangerous life here. Several white-tailed eagles forage above the lakes. There is almost always an eagle to watch while we walk along the Kapisilik River and the lakes.

These impressive birds - the Greenlandic species is the world's largest white-tailed eagle – are repeatedly attacking the birds on the surface of the water. But the eagle is fishing too. Many salmon and trouts have been a delicious meal for the white-tailed eagle.

At the end of one of the lakes the eagle has its permanent observation post. At the top of a rock on a small mountain all our movements were watched over. From here the eagle could look out over its entire empire.

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Many small streams are leading water into the lakes. Some are less than a meter wide, and perhaps similar deep. Yet we found flocks of large trouts in these small streams. The fishes are very visible in the clear water while they are facing the stream. It is easy to get very close to the beautiful fishes.

In many places we can see that the vegetation is more lush and green. This is in most places an indication of the remains of the farms of the Norsemen. The Norsemen located their farms close to the lakes, which are parts of the course of the Kapisilik River. Once, their cattle walked around here, munching the vegetation and drinking the fresh and cold lake water.

When we stand on the sandy shores of a glassy lake, we can dream about taking a needed bath if the water wasn't so icy cold. Instead we can try to put us in our ancestors place, and these peoples fight for life in this cold wilderness.

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The lake Qajartariorssuaq, August 2004



A glassy lake, August 2004



At the shore of a sea, August 2004



The lake Qajartariorssuaq seen from the north, August 2004



A view from the valley of Kapisilik down to the ice-covered Ameralik Fiord, August 2004



A mountain lake, September 2004



A mountain lake in the September sun, September 2004



The lake Qajartariorssuaq with a view towards the Ice Sheet, August 2004



The southernmost lake by the Kapisilik River, August 2004



*A landscape with mountain lakes in front
of the Kapisillit Timaat Mountain,
September 2004*



The lake Qajartariorssuaq in front of the Kapisillit Timaat Mountain, September 2001



The southern shore of the lake Qajartariorssuaq, September 2001



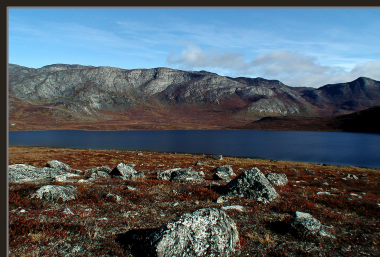
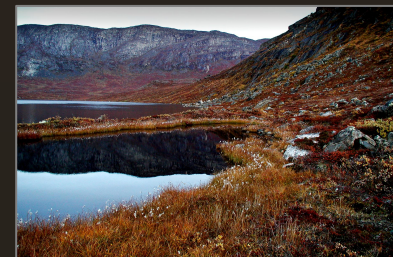
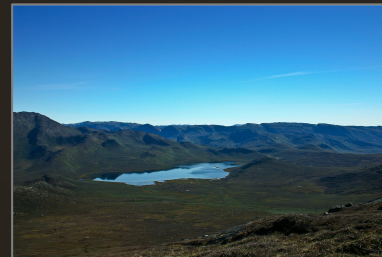
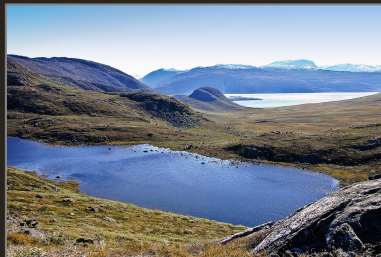
A lake in the landscape, September 2001



The colours of the autumn around the lake Qajartariorssuaq, September 2001

Thumbnails

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COLOPHON

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