

The fiord smokes in the cold weather

Godthåbsfiord (in Greenlandic Kangersuneq ‘the fiord with the many capes’) is the largest fiord complex on the west coast of Greenland. The arms of the fiord stretch from the Davis Strait into the Greenlandic Ice Sheet. The longest arm is about 160 kilometres. The fjord is often filled with large and small icebergs. Most are formed in the front of the glaciers in the head of the fiord.

Often the inhabitants of Nuuk are witnesses to smoke on the fiord, although the temperature is well below freezing. This phenomenon is called sea smoke.

Sea smoke is a steam fog which is created by cold air passing over warmer waters. Sea smoke is common in arctic regions where the cold and dry air from the ice and the snow covered mountains is carried out over open water.



The fiord is smoking, March 2008

Quit

Sea smoke

Go to the Text