

Summer sailing

The arctic summer has arrived in South Greenland. The green Greenland unfolds and seems overwhelming for anyone who first sees the otherwise bare settlements in a rush of colours of green and all kinds of blooming colours.

Now the boat bridges also are mounted, and the small boats and yachts lie side by side in the harbour. Many make use of every opportunity to go sailing. Families and friends have to be visited in the neighbouring settlements, and many go fishing and hunting.

It is an expensive pleasure. The investment in a good and safe dinghy can easily be over 250,000 Danish kroner, and a yacht often costs more than double. In addition, the boat owners use relatively expensive fuel. Simultaneously, it is a risky affair to sail in the South Greenlandic waters. The combination of ice, reefs, fog and unexpected storms have cost many lives, and many boat owners have seen their boats been destroyed.

But nature is tantalizing and alluring in all its violence and beauty. When the weather permits, and a boat trip goes well, it's a lifetime experience sailing in the big fiords and across one of the largest archipelagos in the world along the west coast of South Greenland.



The fiord outside Qaqortoq, June 2015