

The sheep farming settlement Qassiarsuk

Qassiarsuk in South Greenland is a remarkable settlement. The settlement is located at the head of the fiord Tunulliarfik. The older buildings are built of the available blocks of stone from the mountains surrounding the settlement, and the sight of the timeless sheep, lambs and horses gives me the feeling of a place with a long history.

Qassiarsuk has a very long history. The village is located at the place where Eric the Red settled when he in the year 982 arrived to Greenland from Iceland. Back then they called their settlement Brattahlid. Even today many ruins witness of the life of the Norsemen in this place.

Today the farms in the settlement are still active. 44 citizens are registered as residents in the settlement. Besides the income from sheep farming, the citizens in the settlement also get income from the tourists who arrive in South Greenland via The Narsarsuaq Airport, located just on the other side of the fiord.

Currently, the large agricultural area and the surroundings of natural beauty, which Qassiarsuk is a part of, is nominated on the Danish list of candidates to be considered for inclusion in UNESCO World Heritage.



Qassiarsuk, June 2014

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