

The South Greenland wilderness

Standing stern on the small fast boat, I watch the landscapes, sailing by. My camera captures some of the huge landscapes with high mountains, dense clouds, snow, stone slides and waterfalls.

Immediately I connect words like deserted, unknown and infinite with what I see. Inaccessibility and coldness. The millions of years old geology, which is visible to the naked eye without vegetation. Often places which man has not yet given a name. Perhaps never ever human beings have walked in this valley and on these mountains?

Every single time such scenes bring me in a certain mood: I feel a sense of humility and fall silent. I cannot find words for what I see. I do not need to look at my friends on the boat. Their eyes and silence express the same kind of humility. Even those, who from childhood have moved around in these desolate areas, are still fascinated by these landscapes, which make man so small and defenceless.

I fill like to visit this place: To be sailed to the rocky coast and with a tent and a sleeping bag hike up through the large valleys. A stay in silence and complete isolation of the outside world.

The grandiose landscape look monotonous and desolate, but I know from visiting such places, it is composed of thousands of small habitats, each of which has adapted to life out here in the wilderness: Wet, green mosses under the big waterfall and along the big and small streams. Small bogs in the valley attract their special plants and wildlife.

Within a short time, this landscape fades away astern. We sail fast, and a new, huge landscape emerges. Right now the South Greenland wilderness feels infinite.



North of Nanortalik, September 2014

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