

VILDMARK - VILDSKAB WILDERNESS - WILDNESS

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Vildmark - vildskab

I slutningen af august og begyndelsen af september er vildmarken i Grønland ved at være fri for de enorme mængder af bidende og stikkende insekter.

Det er en god tid at tage på trek. Men den grønlandske vildmark er altid en udfordring. Nætterne kan blive isnende kolde, og vind af orkanstyrke kan opstå som føn fra Indlandsisen.

Vi sejlede ind til den lille bygd længst inde i fjorden. Bygden ligger et hundrede kilometer fra Davis Strædets kyst, og der er kun få kilometer til den enorme grønlandske Indlandsis mod øst. Tæt på bygden spytter Indlandsisens gletsjer enorme ismængder ud i det, der fornuftigt nok kaldes Isfjorden.

I dette landskab kan vejrforandringer ske hurtigt og uden varsel. Vinden kan stige til orkanstyrke inden for få minutter og umuliggør alle aktiviteter udendørs. Et godt telt kan sikre ly for stormen, men et døgn, hvor

teltets buer og dug er presset ned over ansigtet, husker vandreren til hans dages ende. Det værste er, at et kort ærinde ud af teltet, presset af en naturlig trang, skal ske, mens det flyger med grus overalt.

Sneen begynder i starten af september at ligge sig på bjergtoppene. En morgen kan bjergtoppe og bjergsider være prydet med den fineste hvide nysne fra nattens nedbør, og overalt, hvor man træder, kan der dannes en fin glasur af is, når det veksler mellem regn og isslag.

Isbjørnen er altid en trussel på denne egn. Vi ser ikke rovdyret, men ved, at andre har observeret et individ et halvt hundrede kilometer fra vores rute. Ofte spejder vi rundt efter noget, der bevæger sig i dalen. Vi ser kun de vilde fugle og rensdyrene.

Mange bliver afhængig af denne vildskab i den grønlandske vildmark.

Wilderness - wildness

In late August and early September, the wilderness in Greenland is becoming free of the huge amounts of biting and stinging insects.

It is a good time to go on a trek. But the Greenlandic wilderness is always a challenge. The nights can get icy cold, and winds of hurricane strength can occur because of Foehn from the Ice Sheet.

We sailed into the small village furthest into the fjord. The village is one hundred kilometres from the coast of Davis strait, and the distance to the huge Greenland Ice Sheet to the east is only a few kilometres. Close to the village, the Ice Sheet glacier spits out huge amounts of ice into what is reasonable called the Icefjord.

In this landscape, the weather changes can emerge quickly and without warning. Winds can rise to hurricane strength within minutes and make all activities outdoors impossible. A good tent can provide shelter from the storm, but a day when the tent poles and the

canvas of the tent are pressed down over the face, the hiker remembers to the end of his day. The worst thing is that a short errand out of the tent, pressed by a natural urge, must be done while the gravel is drifting everywhere.

The mountain peaks begin to be covered by snow in early September. One morning, the mountain peaks and hillsides can be covered with the finest new white snow from the fall in the night, and wherever you walk, a fine glaze of ice can occur, when it alternates between rain and glazed frost.

The polar bear is always a threat in this area. We do not see the predator, but we have been told, that others have observed a bear half a hundred kilometres from our place. Often, we scout around for something that moves in the valley. We only see the wild birds and the reindeers.

Many become dependent on this wildness in the Greenlandic wilderness.



Bag bygden Kapisillit, Godthåbsfjorden, september 2004

Near the settlement Kapisillit, The Godthaabsfjord, September 2004



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KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: Vildmark - vildskab
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: Wilderness - wildness
By Keld Jensen*

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