

BESØG HOS
RUDOLF MED DEN RØDE TUD
VISIT TO RUDOLPH
- THE RED NOSED REINDEER

Keld Jensen

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Besøg hos Rudolf med den røde tud

I august 2009 var jeg på embedsrejse til Narsaq i Sydgrønland. Ved en herlig tilfældighed skulle et landsstyremedlem med følge samtidigt på besøg i en rensdyrfarm langt ude i ødemarken. En hurtig beslutning, og jeg havde fået mulighed for en spændende bådture.

Flere havde taget fejl af arrangementet. Jeg troede, at vi kom hjem til aften, men det viste sig, at sejlturen var så lang, at vi først ville være tilbage i Narsaq dagen efter. Ingen skiftetøj, ingen tandbørste. Det fandt jeg først ud af, da båden havde forladt havnen.

En fantastisk, flot sejltur indenskærs i skærgården op mod rensdyrfarmen. Nogle steder bredte farvandet sig ud med langt til bredderne, men andre steder kom vi meget tæt på de skarpe klippeøer. Et sted oplevede vi det ejendommelige at sejle nedad med en relativ stor båd. En indsnævring og relativ lav vanddybde dannede en barriere for tidevandet, så

der dannede sig et strømfald.

Rensdyrfarmens huse dukkede frem i horisonten. De små huse lå et godt stykke oppe på kysten og med udsigten til Indlandsisen lige bag farmen. Rudolf med den røde tud var ikke hjemme. Rensdyr så vi ingen af. De skulle først senere på måneden drives ind fra de øde områder omkring farmen. Til det formål havde farmeren både heste og en lille helikopter. Området ved Indlandsisen kan være temmelig vanskeligt at forcere.

Den samlede besætning af tamrener i Grønland omfatter cirka 3.000 rener. Efter at renerne er blevet samlet fra deres fourageringsområde i fjeldene bliver de samlet i fold ved farmen. Farmen har sit eget slagteri. På vores tur til farmen havde vi en dyrlæge med. Dyrlægen skulle påse, at slagtingen foregik under acceptable vilkår, samme vilkår som for EU-landene i Europa.

Visit to Rudolph - the red nosed reindeer

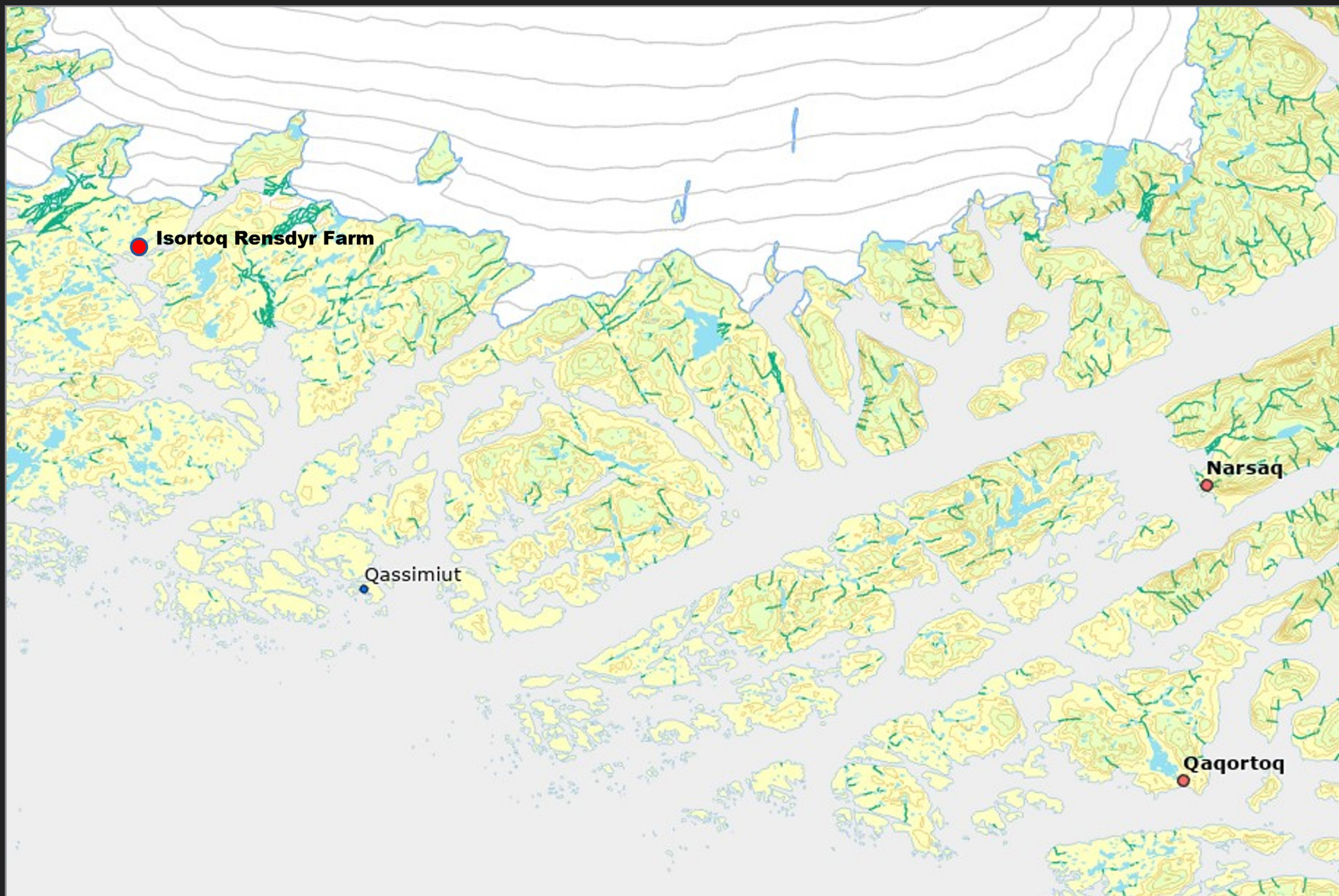
In August 2009 I was on an official journey to Narsaq in South Greenland. By a wonderful coincidence, a member of the government this day planned to visit a reindeer farm far out in the wilderness. A quick decision and I had been given the opportunity for an exciting boat trip.

Several participants were wrong about the trip. I thought we would return the same day, but it turned out that the boat trip was so long that we would not be back in Narsaq until the next day. No spare clothes, no toothbrush. I first got the information when the boat had left the harbour.

A fantastic, beautiful boat trip in sheltered waters in the archipelago up to the reindeer farm. In some places the waters spread out with far distances to the banks, but in other places we came very close to the sharp rocky islands. Somewhere we experienced the peculiarity of sailing downwards with a relatively large boat. A narrow passage and relatively shallow water depth formed a barrier to the tide, so rapids were formed.

The houses of the reindeer farm appeared on the horizon. The small houses were located well up above the surface of the sea and with the view of the ice sheet just behind the farm. Rudolf, the red nosed reindeer, was not at home. We did not see any reindeer. They were not rounded up from the deserted areas around the farm. This would take place later in the month. For this purpose, the farmer used horses and a small helicopter. The area around the ice sheet can be quite difficult to force.

The total herd of domestic reindeer in Greenland includes approximately 3,000 reindeers. After the reindeer have been collected from their foraging area in the mountains, they are gathered in pens at the farm. The farm has its own slaughterhouse. On our trip to the farm, we brought a veterinarian with us. The veterinarian had to ensure that the slaughter took place under acceptable conditions, the same conditions as for the EU countries in Europe.



Sydgrønland, august 2009

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KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: Besøg hos Rudolf med den røde tud
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: Visit to Rudolph - The red nosed reindeer
By Keld Jensen*

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