

A world of ice
- Sculptures constantly changing



by
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The ice appears in many forms. The surface of the ice sheet is slightly wavy, but rugged by major rivers and lakes on top of the ice.

In the border zone the ice often forms forty to fifty meters high vertical walls. The walls are constantly pressed out and collapse.

From the ice sheet enormous glacier tongues reach into the fiords along the coast of Greenland. Large and small pieces of ice continuously are broken off from the glacier tongues. They form all sorts of icebergs that look like giant ice palaces or small ice floes and crushed ice in all possible forms.

The icebergs have a density, which means that only about one-tenth of the ice may be seen above the surface of the sea. It provides a dizzying sense to imagine how huge these icebergs above sea level

must be in full size.

Thousands of vessels have been involved in accidents in the ice-filled waters. Some disappeared in the depths in dark and stormy weather, because an iceberg knocked a hole in the hull.

Other vessels have experienced being trapped in pack ice and crushed by the tremendous forces that the eternal movements of the ice create.

As far back as the 1850s, researchers have attempted to map the ice movement along the coast of Greenland. It is this ice along the coast, we normally experience in everyday life in the Greenlandic towns and settlements. But the ice sheet reveals itself in the form of so-called iceblink in the sky. The iceblink is formed as a distinct bright light in the sky, which shows

that under the clouds a surface of snow and ice reflexes skyward.

The forms of ice can – like when you look up at the clouds - let your imagination create all sorts of monsters and human faces. The ice appears as an infinite number of floating sculptures along the coast of Greenland.

The icebergs and the ice floes are constantly being belaboured, and beautiful forms disappear forever when the ice is crushed under its own weight, or when the ice melts away.

The floating sculptures of ice often give a good rest and view place for seabirds and seals, in the same way as the pigeons in the southern foreign cities have taken advantage of the man-made sculptures of the past rulers.



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