

A beautiful natural disaster

The trip starts in the former US military base, Bluie West 1, in Narsarsuaq in South Greenland - today home to an international airport and a small settlement.

The first part of the trip comfortably takes place in the bus owned by the local hotel, but the last kilometres are a quick walk on a pleasant path. The experience of the landscape, we cross through, makes us forget about the rigours. Everywhere there are small trees and shrubs in the most beautiful colours of autumn. A large lake and the small water holes are as smooth as mirrors and make the whole scene even more enchanting.

The leaves and rocks are still wet after the recent days of rain. But now the sun begins to break through the clouds, and when we reach the edge of the place they call The Flower Valley, the light is

perfect. What a view! This huge valley just on the edge of the infinite Greenland ice Sheet lays in front of us like a spotted carpet of glowing colours under a now blue sky.

We are not alone in the valley. Down by the river, we can watch four people as little dots. A few days before, this idyllic landscape was home to a major natural disaster. On the surface of the ice sheet there is a huge pulsating lake behind the mountains in front of us. The term pulsating testifies that the lake with unpredictable intervals literally punctures and sends huge amounts of meltwater down the river into The Flower Valley.

We still can see that the river has flooded a large part of the valley. A natural disaster of enormous size - but a beautiful natural disaster.



The Flower Valley, Narsarsuaq, South Greenland, September 2017