

EN NY BEGYNDELSE  
A NEW BEGINNING

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## *En ny begyndelse*

Fra Lufthavnen i Kangerlussuaq i Midtgrønland er der kun tredive kilometer ind til Indlandsisen. I disse år trækker isen sig tilbage, og der er frilagt et terræn, der har været skjult under is i årtusinder.

Det er en mærkværdig oplevelse at stå ved kanten af Indlandsisen og stirre ind over de kolossale mængder af is. Isen strækker sig her i Midtgrønland omkring 600 kilometer fra vest til øst. Indlandsisens nordligste punkt er 800 kilometer mod nord, og det sydligste punkt ligger omkring 1.700 kilometer mod syd.

Men området foran isen er også bemærkelsesværdigt. Her får livet en ny begyndelse. Store mængder smeltevand fosser ud fra isen og over alt har isen efterladt enorme mængder grus, ler og sand. Alt omkring os synes goldt og tomt.

Men lidt efter lidt får vi øje på den nye begyndelse her i kanten af Indlandsisen. Flora og fauna er allerede ved at trænge sig ind i de nu isfri områder. Midt i kaos af sten, ler og sand er der noget, der bevæger sig. To små hareunger har af deres mor fået besked på at ligge stille, og nu betragter de os mennesker – måske er vi de første mennesker, de har set?

I området fra Kangerlussuaq og ud til Indlandsisen har vegetationen spredt sig, og de fleste steder er der nu en rig flora og fauna. Det barske klima gør, at træerne sjældent bliver andet en meter høj, så overalt er der udsyn til Indlandsisens tidligere efterladenskaber i form af vandløb og søer mellem store og små morænebakker.

## *A new beginning*

From Kangerlussuaq airport in Central Greenland, the distance to the Ice Sheet is only thirty kilometres. In these years, the ice is receding, and a terrain that has been hidden under ice for millennia has been cleared.

It is a strange experience to stand at the edge of the Ice Sheet and view beyond the enormous amounts of ice. At this place in Central Greenland the ice stretches about 600 kilometres from west to east. The northernmost point of the ice sheet is about 800 kilometres to the north, and the southernmost point is about 1,700 kilometres to the south.

But the area in front of the ice is also remarkable. This is a place, where life gets a new beginning. Large amounts of meltwater gush out from the ice and all over, the ice has left huge amounts of gravel, clay and sand. Everything around us seems barren and empty.

But gradually we become aware of the new beginning here on the edge of the Ice Sheet. Already, the flora and fauna are penetrating the now ice-free areas. Right in the middle of the chaos of rocks, clay and sand, something is moving. Two young hares have been told by their mother to lie still, and now they are watching us humans – maybe we are the first people they have meet with?

In the area from Kangerlussuaq to the Ice Sheet, the vegetation has spread, and now, in most places, there is a rich flora and fauna. The harsh climate led to, that the trees rarely acquire not more than a metre height. Everywhere there is a view of the remains of the Ice Sheet in the form of streams and lakes between large and small moraine hills.



*Ved Indlandsisen, Kangerlussuaq, Midtgrønland, juli 2010*

*At the Ice Sheet, Kangerlussuaq, Central Greenland, July 2010*



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KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: En ny begyndelse  
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: A new beginning  
By Keld Jensen*

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