

The old harbour

I experience really the old harbour and the sea when the wind speed reaches over twenty-five meters per second and whips the surface of the sea to boiling foam. If the storm brings along snow, the buildings in the port area only appears as grey contours. I know a lot of people in there are looking out of the windows to watch the fury of the elements. Most people will call this bad weather, but I do like to feel that man must continue to creep into the shelter when the nature really becomes rough and is showing its teeth.

Wearing the right clothes, I can easily keep me warm. But it is difficult to keep my balance on the slippery rocks because the gusts of the wind come irregularly and are repeatedly threatening to bring me out of balance.

The Old Port is deserted this stormy day. On a sunny day of with calm weather the port area and the surrounding oldest buildings in Nuuk have a lot of visitors. When a cruise ship in the summer is visiting the town, the

harbour area is simply crawling with tourists.

It all feels more real on such a stormy day with a deserted port area. I cannot help but think of earlier generations of hunters and sailors. They must have experienced not to reach home from cruising before the storm broke. The make land manoeuvre to the quay has been dangerous, whether it was from a kayak, a women's boat (an umiak) or a large wooden ship.

The tide is in the harbour of up to five to six meters. This means that if you have to disembark from a smaller ship at low water, you have to climb up the small steps on the wharf

This day there is no traffic at the sea outside the old harbour in Nuuk. The storm out at sea in the Davis Strait have extreme strength, and even the ocean-going trawlers, the military ships and the transatlantic cargo ships have long since sought shelter inside by the traffic harbour or inside the more calm fiord.



Stormy weather, The old harbour in Nuuk, May 2013