



Welcome aboard d'Around North America



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Soon, we will be leaving for Ilulissat on the fourth leg of the expedition. Ice awaits us at the exit of the harbour and will accompany us all the way to Pond Inlet. Baffin Bay. The debacle is under way and ice conditions vary from day to day. Upon entering the Bay of Disko, we truly began our polar navigation, even if the doors to the Northwest Passage are still far away. From here on, there is no letting down on the ice watch.

Port of call

Our stopovers in Greenland have greatly met and even exceeded our expectations. We met with political authorities, scientists, hunters, adventurers, musicians and sculptors, all of whom brought us their vision on the impact of climactic change on their country. Above all, we discovered a cheerful people, full of resources, upright and proud of their country, with a formidable ability to adapt.



On the sea

After leaving behind the ice which surrounded Cape Farvel, we were able to sail in free waters all the way to Disko. The southwest coast of Greenland is very much cut up and offers many opportunities for safe mooring, that is if one is willing to navigate in uncharted waters. In this respect, the fjord of Eternity was our greatest incursion without a map and we do not regret it! Mountains falling abruptly into the waters of the fjord lend a particular atmosphere to this maritime corridor, very encased, austere, wild and fascinating. In all the villages we visited, we were greeted and welcomed warmly. The two days we spent alongside hump back whales in front of Asiat will remain a high point of our Greenland journey.



The Documentary

The filming of the first documentary is coming to an end in Ilulissat. Thierry Robert, our in-house filmmaker, is already editing the film, as this first episode is due out at the beginning of October. He was on board for a month, from Nuuk to Ilulissat. The cameraman, Philippe Moreau, will join in at Pond Inlet for two legs of the expedition. Delphine Maratier will photograph each scene from one end to the other of the Passage. The second episode will be wrapped up in Dutch Harbour.



The Ice

Winter was very harsh in the Canadian Arctic. There is still a lot of ice about. Nonetheless, temperatures since the beginning of the summer have been above average and allow us to look forward to a debacle sufficient to open the passage. It's still too early to know for sure – future will tell. hiver a été très rigoureux dans l'Arctique Canadien.

The scientific program

The department of Chemistry of the University of Marseille has scheduled measurements on the sediments and the sea water stretching from Ilulissat to Gjoa Haven. Twenty students are involved in this project and their professor will be on board to collect the samplings. More information is available on the website set up the students : around-north-america.sup.fr (this website is not the official website of the expedition).

L'équipe d'Around North America

