

## 1.7. 2015 Stokksnes, Höfn, Hoffell

We braved the cold and rainy weather and did a walk in Stokksnes not far from Höfn. Black lava sand, low clouds and with the fog it was a special scenery. If only the wind would not be so strong and so cold...



On the way we learned how to set the grass.



After braving the cold for so long and being really cold, we as usual had to reward ourselves ;-)





Fully recharged we experienced our first glacier, the Hoffellsjökull. To get the best view, we had to climb some quite challenging steeps! There was no wind, we were all by ourselves, really impressive.





On the way out, we passed by the natural hot springs of Hoffell II. We couldn't give it a miss, although it was again quite tough to take off all your clothes and go out in a swimsuit at 9C outside temperature. But these pools were really hot, so the starting rain was actually refreshing.



What followed was the usual search for a camping spot. Not far from Hoffell we discovered a small street, which was covered in fog. We followed the dam into the nowhere. On the right the river, on the left wide space, we couldn't see much else... Had an eery feeling...



Except for two reindeer.



At the end of the road we just stopped for the night.

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## 2.7.2015-07-02 Flaaajökull, Skálafell

The next morning it all looked very different! The fog was gone and to our surprise we had prime glacier view. How cool is that!



Today it was time for our 2<sup>nd</sup> glacier experience in Flajökull. Compared to yesterday it was easy to get to the glacier via a suspension bridge.



In Skálafell the next glacier was waiting. First we had to wait for the rain to stop, a good reason to have a coffee break in the Unimog. After the sky cleared, we started our glacier walk III. The sun even came out and we thought, we should do the whole walk instead of turning around and going back the same way. However, we ended up doing a 3-hours walk because we didn't know that the whole round was 8km long. Beginners mistake... But the walk was really nice and a bit adventurous, leading up a steep, then to the glacier and back over grassland, river beds and steep slopes along the river.







At 9pm we were back at the car. Our spot for the night we found at the beginning of road F985 opposite the power plant on a usual gravel ground



### 3.7.2015 Jöklasel, Hali, Jökulsarlon

Our spot from last night also served as starting point for today's trip up the road F985 to the mountain hut Jöklasel on the glacier tongue Skálafellsjökull on the Vatnajökull glacier. The hut is located at 870m and by reaching the top we came through the clouds, finally seeing the sun again.



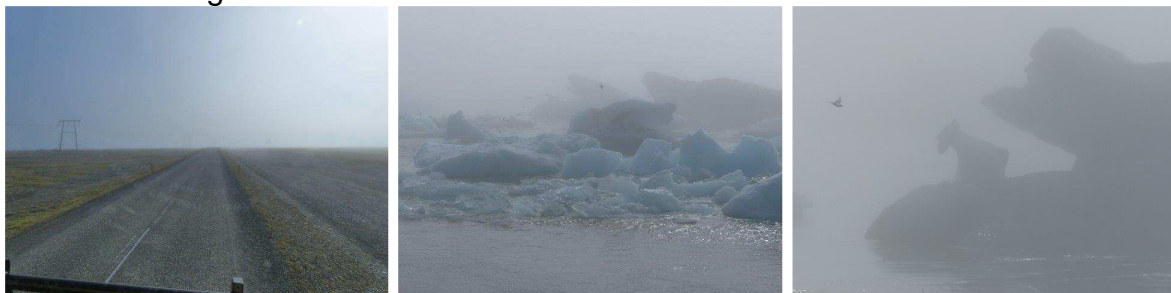
We were lucky, the sun even stayed with us after we were down from the pass. Blue sky was ours for lunch in Hali. This restaurant is dedicated to the Icelandic author



Porbergur Pordarson, but unfortunately the museum was closed. So we were sitting longer in the sun.



Should we be even more lucky to see the famous ice lake Jökulsárlón in sunshine? First we had to survive new waves of fog... But only in foggy conditions one is able to see the iceberg mammoth...



The pieces of ice in the lake, bumping at each other, are really fascinating and we couldn't stop watching them. Almost like a movie. We stayed so long, that all of the sudden the fog cleared and the sun came out... Wow...



We also saw tons of wildlife. The ducks on the foot path weren't disturbed by all the tourists and were just hatching their eggs on the pathway. What a view. And for the first time we saw the Puffins, which we were eager to see.



We stayed even so long, that we camped over night on the west side of the lake, directly at the black beach, which is covered with pieces of ice.

