

ICELAND ADVENTURE

IN A

FIRE TRUCK



A „BAD WEATHER-TOUR“

Today is the day: We start our „Fire Truck Adventure Tour“ in the highlands of Iceland. There is enough space for all the luggage in the comfortable, modern and spacious Caravan.

On ringroad nr. 1 we drive to Kirkjubæjarklaustur, where we stop close to an abandoned old farm. As we walk there, we see various rusty old car wrecks scattered around the farm. Lying there in the high grass- bizarre and still somehow picturesque- , they are going to be the subjects of our first great photos.



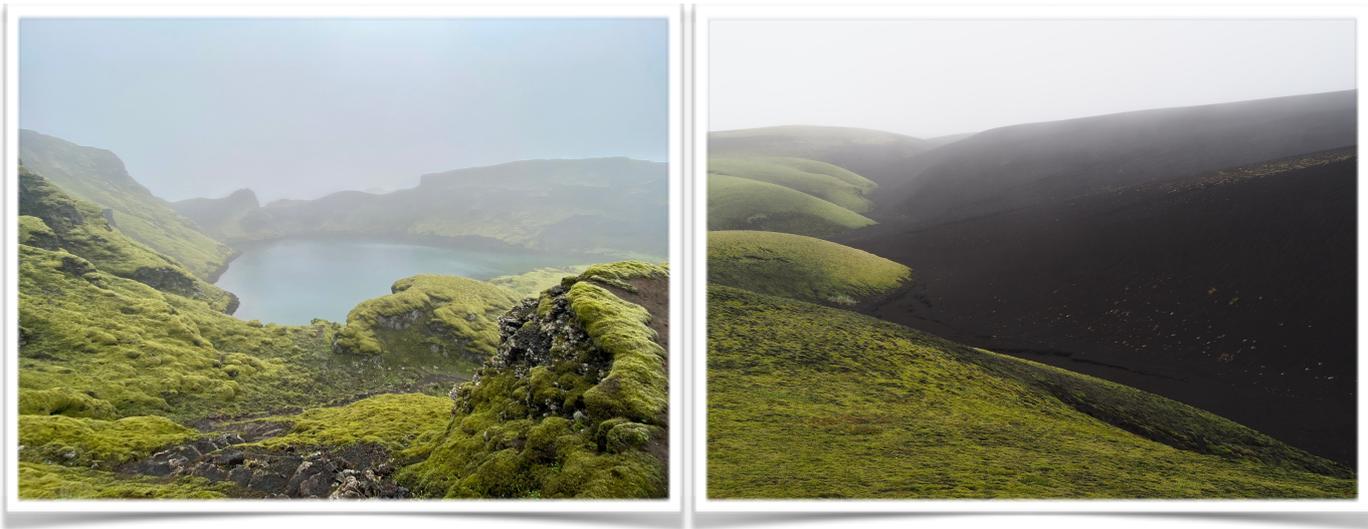
Then we leave the ringroad nr. 1 and follow a dirt road that leads us directly into a huge lavafield. The track winds through a moss covered lava landscape with bizarre rock formations that look like mystical trolls in the upcoming fog.

We drive all alone through this incredibly impressive landscape until we end up at a lake, hardly visible in the fog. We stop, take our helmets and headlights and set

off in search of lava cave entrances. Soon we find a small entrance. We get in and find ourselves in a spacious Tunnel. In the light of the headlamps, the lava formations appear in various shapes and the most amazing shades of red.

We find various more of these beautiful and impressive caves and we move alternately in this fascinating „underworld“ and the misty magical lavalandscape above. A really unique experience!





The first night we choose a place on the shoulder of a mountain with fabulous panoramic view, but then the fog gets us again and resurrects the stonetrolls.

We enjoy the evening in our cosy home with a delicious dinner, good conversations and a game of chess. As wind and rain pick up and get stronger again around midnight, we had to drive down to a more secure and protectet place.

The next morning we drive to the crater lake Tjarnargigur in the Laki area. After a short walk the lake appears out of the fog, bordered by green mossy crater walls. Again, the atmosphere is somehow mystical. Die Stimmung ist einmal mehr irgendwie mystisch. We enjoy the silence, the remoteness and the sheer beauty of this nature.

We continue driving in this great Laki area. After a short climb to one of the numerous craters here, we have a fantastic view on the many lined up stratovolcanoes that stick out of the brown-black plane.

On our tour, we often cross smaller and bigger streams and rivers without any problems. But then we suddenly end up on the shores of a river that seems to carry quite a lot of water! Two cars are standing there obviously unsure about what to do. Fortunately we have a big truck and we can dare the river crossing. But the river really is deep and the water almost covers wheels which are 120 cm high!

On the other side there is help on the way for the small cars, as they don't have any chance to cross this river right now. Without any help, they only have two options: A big detour, or wait until the water level drops.



Tonight we stay - with the permission of the landowner- on a hill with a beautiful view on the river Skaftá.



The next morning we took a walk to different splendid waterfalls, before we continued our journey. After a short stopover at a picturesque little church, we drive up a very steep track. To me it is still amazing and fascinating how such a big and heavy vehicle as „Babú“ can manage such a narrow, steep, winding, rocky track!



And then suddenly there lays a very impressive, huge black sand plain ahead of us. Far away in the foggy distance, we can barely make out the silhouette of a single triangle shaped mountain. The closer we come, the more the fog thins out and then the mighty Mælifell suddenly appears in full size. What an unbelievable sight!

We leave the impressive green pyramide mountain and cross the black sand plain, which lays in a fascinating contrast to the Glacier Myrdalsjökull.

The last highlight is the beautiful wide valley „Þórsmörk“ which lays at the northside of the famous glacier and volcano Eyjafjallajökull. There are numerous small and bigger streams running through this valley. On

the rugged Rock walls we can not only see wonderfull waterfalls but also



an impressive part of the glacier: The Gígjökull.

Driving out of the valley, we move away from this unique and diversified scenery of the highlands and approach ringroad nr.1 and civilization once again.

The sturdy truck with its very comfortable „Caravan-House“, this most interesting and varied journey and of course the unbelievably experienced and passionate Driver Guide made this expedition -in spite of the bad weather- a fantastic and unforgettable Experience!



Barbara Spycher