



Ratatatoskr

Official 15th World Scout Moot Magazine 2017 - Issue #2



BRAVING THE
FORCES OF
NATURE

Editorial

Alþingi is in Session



Stefán Rafn Sigurbjörnsson

Like the chieftains of the ancient Alþingi you gather to exchange ideas and culture, ready to inspire others from your community

Welcome to Alþingi, the central camp at Úlfjótvatn during the 15th World Scout Moot. You have spent the first few days spread across this barren island, experiencing its beautiful and sometimes unforgiving nature, which the participants in several Expedition Centers got to experience during the first few days of the Moot. Like the chieftains of the Icelandic medieval era, you make your journey from different corners of the country and convene by lake Úlfjótvatn. The only differ-

ence is that they made camp at Þingvellir, some 30 minutes drive from Úlfjótvatn (S/O to Þingvellir expedition).

Like those chieftains you gather to exchange ideas and culture, ready to inspire others from your community when the Moot disbands. The Alþingi gatherings were a noble event but please refrain from the ancient Alþingi practices of slave-trading, dueling and the particularly gruesome “blood eagle” viking executions. The faint of heart

should abstain from Googling it.

Through every Moot and Jamboree we celebrate the great diversity of our movement; diversity through nationality, language, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and more. We at Ratatoskr sincerely hope that you will seize this unique opportunity to maximize your experiences and interactions, whether it being exchanges of badges, scarves, ideas, culture, opinions or romances.

Expedition Mega Issue!

The second issue of Ratatoskr is dedicated to the 11 Expedition Centers scattered around the country. The sharpest of you might notice that there is one center that is not featured,

but Hólaskjól is situated in the Highlands, far away from cell reception, running water or civilization. With no means of communicating with the brave people of Hólaskjól or acquir-

ing pictures from the talented photographer we prominently placed there, we decided that Hólaskjól will get an honorary mention in issue 3 instead.



The Moot Magazine

Editors: Inga Auðbjörg Straumland, Stefán Rafn Sigurbjörnsson
Correspondants: Sara Bonetti, Kirsty Minnis, Dominique Lysser, Ger Hennessy, Gemma Mears, Mayra Sánchez.
Photographers: Vincent Duval, Fredrik Sahlström, André Jörg, Björn Larsson, Diego González, Kate Spencer-Jones, Nicolas Mercier, Friederike Hoffmann, David Byatt, Bláður Arnason, Erin Slaviero.
With support from the World Scout Bureau

Seen something cool?

We at Ratatoskr Moot magazine are always looking for a fun tale to tell or photos to capture a true scouting adventure. If you have tips for us at the magazine send an e-mail to news@worldscoutmoot.is or drop by the Media Center, number 11 in the Alþingi map.

The Typical Mootster

By Mayra Sanchez

Before coming to the Moot we spent months preparing and buying all the stuff we needed for surviving in Iceland. Among all the stuff

that participants and IST's packed in their baggage, there are certain consistencies and that's how we get the "Moot Participant Stereotype".

Mosquito net
To avoid eating midges or them eating you.

Backpack
For the basics: changing clothes, personal needs, towel, shoes, sleeping bag.

Warm jacket
Windproof, water resistant, insulated.

Swimsuit
The public pools and the Blue Lagoon are a must in Iceland. Don't forget to wash without it in the shower.

Hat
Because even in Iceland, the sun can burn your beautiful, soft, baby-like skin.

Buff/scarf
For protection from the cold wind.

Mat
So you don't get an inconvenient rock in the middle of your back.

Sleeping mask
So the lovely midnight sun doesn't disturb your sleep.

Small backpack
For some other stuff that didn't fit in the big one.

Badges for swapping
To get the complete international experience

Tent
Suitable for wind, rain, snow, earthquakes, ice, volcanic eruptions... You know, the basics!

Boots
Warm, sturdy hiking boots.

Remember that the maximum weight for most airlines is normally 23 kg. Also, if you see someone struggling be-

cause their luggage got, offer a hand until they get it back. That will also be a great way to make a new friend.

Badge of the Day



The badge of this issue is this beautiful badge from the Hong Kong Contingent, which won the competition for the prettiest puffin badge on the official Moot Facebook page, with a stunning 445 likes! This wonderful badge was designed by Rover Wong and is stuffed with wonderful

imagery; a five petal Hong Kong orchid, the Fleur de Lis, a happy puffin, the moot logo, the word "change" in Chinese, the Hong Kong skyline, the Icelandic flag and the outline of Iceland, proving for once that less isn't more. More is more!



Akranes: Change the Game, Call it Culinary Chaos

The way to a person's heart is through their stomach. This also applies to cultural enrichment. Enjoy!

By Dominique Lysser

No. Yeah, it was. But the trick is not to care about if it's cold or not." Are we talking about food? The weather? Beer? Nope, none of the above. This was the answer of an Icelandic participant named Hrafnkell when asked about his patrol's swim in the sea. FYI, the average sea temperature in Iceland in summer is about 11°C!

At the Akranes Expedition Center, located around 20 km north of Reykjavík, the participants learnt a lot more than just how to withstand ice-cold temperatures. 40 people from all around the world, cooking together, provides a steep learning curve: "We had spaghetti and two Italians cooking. Then someone asked for ketchup and they got like really, really mad. But it was all a joke!" Organizing the actual cooking, or in Akranes' case NOT organizing it, turned out quite well: "Our tribe doesn't have a system. It's the ones who are

up to it, that do the cooking. And it's not been a problem so far."

The cultural exchange between the patrols has in fact exceeded the realms of the mess tents: As of now, there are Aussies, Swiss and at least one Japanese and one Korean who know how to pronounce þetta reddast correctly, and at least one Icelander who wants to learn some Korean and who has learnt the infamous Dutch phrase that shall not be repeated here (this is a serious magazine! But it has to do with doing something in the kitchen. Yes, that one). It is now common knowledge that Gimli is not just a character in the Lord of the Rings Trilogy, but a place in Canada where a lot of Icelanders live and Iceland turned



upside-down looks like a vomiting pig. All in all, it's safe to say that the Expedition Center in

Akranes has it all: words of wisdom (in many languages) and hopefully their own cooking show soon!



Akureyri: Space for a Different Kind of Change

By Gemma Mears

Challenges should never be underestimated. But overcoming such challenges creates a bond and support that has a family feel to it.

I'm really pleased to have such a fabulous patrol who have supported me and feel like a close family

Emma Murphy
Australia

The sun has been shining brightly on the rovers at the Akureyri Expedition Center which is situated by the beautiful Eyjafjörður fjord in the north. Akureyri is nicknamed the Capital of North Iceland, as it is Iceland's 2nd largest urban area and the 4th largest municipality. The Akureyri Expedition Centre is situated in the hills looking across the town and provides lovely views for the daily sunset. After having to travel over 5 hours on Tuesday to get to Akureyri, the rovers were extremely happy to have showers and electricity.

The many, many activities that the rovers at Akureyri have taken part in, include climbing up the sides of mountains, community service (planting and protecting trees), hiking across waterfalls and geothermal areas, learning valuable search and rescue skills, swimming and sailing in the fjords and yoga.

One of the walking activities,

was the Christmas Walk. Lauren Evans from the UK, was in the first group to tackle the challenge, which was underestimated by all, both length and challenge wise. "One person sprained their ankle as there's no foot path and the grass was so long you couldn't see the potholes! And we had to cross a canyon! It was not the easy walk it said



it was, but it was all good fun. And the Christmas House was cute".

When speaking with Jagz Bharth (UK rover) about the general feel at the Expedition Centre, he stated: "The banter is great. Generally high and buzzing. Everyone is lovely and the setting is fabulous, therefore everyone is happy and couldn't have asked

for a better bunch of people. Most people go to bed when it gets lighter just to have as much fun as possible. The locals are fab".

Emma from Australia stated: "I'm really pleased to have such a fabulous patrol who have supported me and feel like a close family". The rovers have introduced a 'Thought of the Day' discussion which is helping all with deciding on their CHANGE. "It's been so nice to see everyone getting on so well like the family we are" adds Lauren.

Tallan Cameron (IST) sums up how all participants and IST scouts on site are currently feeling: "This place is amazing. The IST and participants are so motivated and energized. I can't wait to meet the rest of the Mootsters at the main site".



Hafnarfjörður: Change Old Ways and Break New Grounds

By Dominique Lysser and Kirsty Minnis

Whether it's the geographical or the political landscape of the future, scouts are changing the world. Some of them started in Hafnarfjörður.

Skátalundur is a lovely little place that is a part of the Hafnarfjörður Expedition Center. It sits right on the bank of lake Hvaleyrarvatn, which means that, as well as stunning views, there are lots of activities to do, from canoeing to fishing, hiking to just sitting back and relaxing. When we arrived on site, it was a hive of activity. We had to dodge the laden wheelbarrows as they were coming down the hillside. An army of scouts used rakes and spades to spread gravel out to repair the lakeside path. We borrowed Mohammed for a quick chat to find out what was going on.

“We came here and we are helping repair the path. I think after we do that, it will be easier to move and go

from here to there. So yeah, that will be very good for the people who live here. I'm enjoying that it's hard work but it's very

nice. We're enjoy working together and it's very fun.”

Sophia shares this opinion, “Everyone in my patrol is amazing, which is really lucky. And yeah, so it's really cool. Yesterday we went on a half a day hike which was really incredible. We got to go all the way up and we were able to see all of Reykjavík and Hafnarfjörður from there. Re-

ally beautiful. This afternoon we are going to the viking village.”

Whether it's the sightseeing trips or the anticipation to finally arrive on the main camp site, everyone is looking forward to the coming days. Jason says:

“In a few days I'm taking part in the Youth Forum and I kind of look forward to how we are going to formulate plans as young adults. They gave us a few topics to prepare and asked us to choose some more. I'm looking forward to discuss the same topics with people from different cultures and see how we think differently about them.”



We enjoy working together and it's very fun.

Mohammed Al-Masroori
Oman



Yesterday we went on a half a day hike which was really incredible.

Sophie Rudham
South Africa



I'm looking forward to discuss the same topics with people from different cultures and see how we think differently about them.

Jason Wong
Hong Kong





Heimaland: Change into Survival Mode

Glaciers, canyons, waterfalls and heavy wind: The wild, wild south isn't for the faint-hearted. By Dominique Lysser

Cell reception is virtually non-existent in the wilderness of Heimaland, and there was no way of contacting the scouts in order to find out what they have been up to for the past few days. Are they still alive? What happened in Heimaland? We'll never know. The story about this particular Expedition Center has to end here, unfortunately.

Nah, just kidding! The scouts at Heimaland had so many better things to do than talk to the press: Hiking 22 km between Eyjafjallajökull and Mýrdalsjökull glaciers, along cliffs and in canyons

and experiencing the force of Icelandic winds at full blast. How does one survive in such harsh conditions? Teamwork! And this does not only apply to the mess tent. According to Ásgeir, one of the Expedition Center Chiefs of Heimaland, the Heimaland Team worked closely with Kópavogur Search and Rescue Team, especially with regards to their activity search technology. If you plan on traveling around

the world, be sure you'll make a friend from the Heimaland Expedition Center today as now they know how to rescue someone in distress! And as if that was not enough, the



scouts at Heimaland impressed both the locals and the tourists with their efficient and hard work on the town's flower beds. What have you

done today?

But if you think Heimaland was all about hard work and no play, you're mistaken. The casual campfire (who needs etiquette in the wilderness?) turned into what could be called a typical scout-rave: "It was basically just music, people playing, we had some games set up on the campsite. So they were playing games, playing soccer, dancing, singing - just everybody had a good time. At 12 o'clock we almost felt bad to put them to bed." We bet you did, Ásgeir. We bet you did.



Pingvellir: There's a first time for everything - Change is in the Air

By Gemma Mears

I'm really glad to be meeting all these different people and finding out what their countries are like

Art Priest
USA

Scout Bolognese" is what it says on the menu of the Pingvellir Expedition Center. The camp chief, Eiríkur Hjartar, swears that no scouts will be added to the stew. "I've got some great beef, that's what I'll use," he adds. Pingvellir is a spectacular place, both in terms of history and landscape. Back in the day, people from all around Iceland would gather at Pingvellir for a parliament feast, setting up camp, deciding over disputes, swapping merchandise and celebrating together. "This is my first time outside

of the United States and it's my first time at an international event and it's my first Moot," explains the enthu-



siastic Art Priest from the USA. "I'm really glad to be meeting all these different people and finding out what their countries are like, where they are from and what their cities are like. One of my more favorite

bits from that is seeing all the different uniforms, all the different configurations of uniforms." Rodrigo Rodriguez Tapia from Bolivia is just as excited as Art. "Pingvellir is an awesome place. Today we visited a very big lake and we tried fishing." Asked if the fishing yielded a delicious result, he claims that it didn't. "The fishing was very good but we didn't catch anything. The experience was very exciting. We did try Icelandic pancakes."



Breaking News!

Change of Marital Status!

Expedition Center Chiefs Ásgeir Hreiðarsson and Margrét Þóra Einarasdóttir got engaged at the Akureyri closing party last night. The couple has been together for 18 years, but they met when they were

tied together at a scout camp. Margrét and Ásgeir have three children together and hope to be married within the year. Congratulations, Margrét and Ásgeir!

The Moot in Numbers

3

the number of people needed to catch one Icelandic sheep

7.3

the average number of flies consumed while sleeping in Iceland

12

the number of tents which were damaged due to wind in Vestmannaeyjar

85

number of scouts who arrived without luggage

803

the current price of João Armando Gonçalves's autograph on ebay in the Icelandic króna

39820183

the version number for the IST canteen's "Waste Sorting Instructions"



Hveragerði: A Change of Pace

By Mayra Sanchez

The small town of Hveragerði (Kve-rager-thi) is known as the hot springs capital and is the site of one of the expedition center.

On their first full day in camp at Hveragerði, some patrols had a 6-hour hiking trip, while others took an hour's hike to Reykjadalur where they swam at the Reykjadalur river. Everyone got to see Icelandic

it's cool." said Abigail Franklin, Canada.

"A good thing about Iceland, it's not too dark, so we can't get lost," -Brazilian patrol leader.

Near base camp, some patrols were doing some community service, cleaning up public areas and road sides. They were working hard, but were still enjoying themselves. "I'm having a good time, because I really like the people that I meet," Ludvica from Italy said, "We are from different countries and continents but we find things in common and we can easily overcome difficulties. This is great because you can see how other people also see scout movement, so I'm really happy."

All the participants at Hveragerði Expedition Center had a great time with good weather. They were absolutely looking forward for their next adventure, and hoping for the good weather to continue.



sheep and horses, in their natural habitat: Iceland. Hot water rivers and sulfur-smelling clouds emanated from boiling hot spring pools. Eventually, they found the perfect place for a swim, at the confluence of one hot and one cold river.

At this point some of the participants shared a little of their experience and expectations that they had for Iceland.

"It's like a botanical gardens sort of thing and that's not at all what I was expecting, but



Practising for the flashmob

Reykjavik: Changing How You Look at Pancakes

By Ger Hennessy

Scouts in Reykjavik have experienced various aspects of Icelandic culture and cuisine. Members of the REYK 05-3 patrol Melissa Saavedra Rocabado, from Bolivia and Monica Desiree Ramoz Velazquez, from Mexico City took part in the 'Meet the Natives' activity in the city centre on Friday.

We've learned Icelandic words, and how to read the characters 'Ð' and 'Þ,' Melissa says "and we've tried different types of food." "Icelandic is similar to English," Monica thinks, "so it's a little bit more difficult for us Spanish speakers."

As well as learning their Icelandic names ('Melissa Fannýjar- og Hannibalsdóttir') they also tried sheep eye, angelica leaves, geyser bread and Icelandic style pancakes. "We've learned that when we put rhubarb jam on only one half of the pancake, we show that we are not greedy," Melissa explained, "the cream is put in the middle, and the pancake folded

twice, because it looked like there was more of it, so when cream was expensive, you would seem rich." "It's cool that this simple food is part

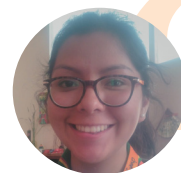


of the history here," Monica added. "Eating a sheep's eye was a strange sensation," Melissa admitted, "it was a bit salty."

The Reykjavik participants made a colourful impression on their host city on Friday afternoon with a flashmob dance parade. "We've been

learning a cool new dance," Niamh Slevin, 19, Ireland (Reyk 01-4) explained, "I really love dancing!" "We're group 6, so we'll join in halfway through" she adds, seconds before the flash mob began. Within a few minutes the streets were filled with scouts dancing along to the opening music for the movie 'La La Land', with many tourists and locals watching on. After the mob an impromptu singing session began.

This was one of the last activities of the Reykjavik patrols, with a barbeque later that night. "We were all pretty happy with our activities this week," Niamh added, "this morning's 'Reykjavik DIY' was lots of fun."



Eating a sheep's eye was a strange sensation

Melissa Fannýjar- og Hannibalsdóttir
Bolivia



Selfoss: An Unexpected Change

by: Mayra Sanchez

"If you don't like the weather in Iceland, wait five minutes" - so goes the infamous Icelandic saying. In just four days, participants in Selfoss have experienced all of the weather that Iceland has to offer.



There were people everywhere and tents were hanging all around the school to let them dry

Mariana Sanchez
Mexico

This didn't mean that the fun had to stop. Soon after moving into their new temporary home on Thursday evening, in a local school, volleyballs were found, shoes were kicked off, and the beat from the sound system dropped in a manner not unlike something which was hot.

Earlier that day, a gazebo had decided to make a break for freedom, achieving flight for a short period of time. Another few sleeping tents tried their best to join it before noon. Perhaps, a change in venue was needed, and that's where the local community stepped in.

Tents were taken down and

participants made their way to the school where they spent the night.

The conditions there were



pretty cozy. "There were people everywhere and tents were hanging all around the school to let them dry" says Mariana Sanchez, Mexico. Positive attitudes prevailed. "I think the hall is ideal, as we are much closer to the shops and showers! No more 20-minute walk, they're around the corner". Liam Clarke, UK

Despite the upheaval, the next

morning's activities included bridge jumping, rock-climbing, hiking, backwoods cooking and community service projects. "There was a lava tube on our hike", Liam added, "it was very cold, very wet, and very dark. It was fascinating!"

With no exact solution for the Icelandic weather, the decision was taken that the Selfoss scouts would move to Úlfjótuvatn one day early. So, after a final campfire visited by the local mayor, they moved to the base camp. Unconfirmed reports from the Scout Shop, suggest that there has been an increase in demand for tent pegs since their arrival.



Skafafell: The Greatest Change of Scenery

by Mayra Sanchez

When we think of Iceland, our first thought is about ice, and then of course about sheep, horses, rain, cold and Game of Thrones. But there is no way you can come to Iceland and miss the chance to see one of its big glaciers. But what about having one just next door? Well, participants and IST at Skafafell got the chance to experience ice cold activities as they camped near the biggest glacier in Europe.

I think it's the best Expedition Center, not because it's my center but because it's really well located and we have seen probably all the landscapes possible on Earth," says Luis Andres Lara from Mexico. He loves the adventure and challenges Iceland has to offer. "The activities are really good and I personally think that if you travel to another country you have to visit that country's wonders - something that maybe you won't see in your

native country. That is what we've been doing."

Of course, Iceland didn't let



them down and the Icelandic weather was not absent. "We saw a seal on our visit to a glacier and that certainly wasn't on the program. Also, I was surprised because the

whole of yesterday was windy. The whole day! And the weather changes every day - something that I still can't believe."

As at other expedition centers they've had a very international experience. "We can see that the interaction between patrols, tribes and the camp is going really well. It's really amazing how people all around the world can interact without judging anyone, something that probably doesn't happen in our local communities."



we have seen probably all the landscapes possible on Earth

Luis Andres Lara
Mexico



"Hello Can I Book All of Your Buses Please?"

By Ger Hennessy

"I'm feeling good," said Jón Ingvar Bragason, Moot Director, when he spoke to us for a few minutes on Thursday. Fueled primarily by smiles and coffee, and carrying a card confirming his attractiveness, the man behind the curtain shared his daily routine.

He seems quite relaxed during the conversation - "That's because of the great team we have, we all support each other." Knowing there is such a great team, around Hrónn, (the Camp Chief) and Jón, he doesn't have to get up too early. "I set my alarm for 8 o'clock this morning," he explains, "and had time for a shower and breakfast before the first status meeting of the day at 9."

Then the work starts. "It consists of many phonecalls and emails, some discussions with state officials, making sure we are following all the laws and regulations," he tells us, "we also respond to the day to day issues as they arise." Directing the largest ever moot means

there's a lot of balls in the air, a lot of conversations happening simultaneously. "We manage the flow of information," he continues, "with regular status updates from expedition centres, we create task forces to solve issues as they arise, with requests for water containers here, or toilet paper there." But it's not all glamour.

Jón was appointed as professional director in early 2015, but that was not his first role for this Moot. "I was part of the initial bid team," he recalls "and I was lucky enough to present the bid at the World Scout Conference in Brazil in 2011." So after such long months and years of planning and meetings and workshops, when was the moment Jón realised that this was really happening? "I think I

booked the coaches four years ago, "Hello, can I book all of your buses please?" he reveals, "but the day we moved from HQ to Laugardshöll was the day the event became real for me!"

With so much done so far, Jón tries not to focus too much on past achievements, "there's no time for looking back," he says, "we're not looking back, wind is the current issue, slowing us down with tents breaking, so we're considering plans for how to accommodate people when they come to Úlfjótvatn."

Even when the camp ends there won't be much time for Jón to relax, "we are presenting our review of the camp at the World Scout Conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, a week after the closing ceremony"

"No task is too big for our team," he concludes, "so long as we keep smiling."

No task is too big for our team, so long as we keep smiling.

Jón Ingvar Bragason
Camp Director



The card confirming Jón's attractiveness



Vestmannaeyjar: Sowing the Seeds of Change

By Kirsty Minnis, additional reporting Beth Fyfe

“The island has tested everyone’s limits, but it’s also made us feel like one big community and not just separate countries.”

Rebecca Ciclovan, Australia, has embraced the testing conditions on Heimaey Island, the largest of the Westman Islands, “It’s brought us all together - especially at Thursday night’s campfire!”

Participants at Vestmannaeyjar have had an action-packed few days. “It was impressive that we got so much done in so little time,” commented David Thompson, Canada, while telling us about the work: Planting grass seeds on the banks of Helgafell volcano.

Constantin Glueck, Austria, and his patrol, built fences around the scout campsite for his community action - “The

purpose of the fence is to keep the sheep from eating the trees! It was a lot of fun, and the results look stable”.



Although the tribes seem to have become one happy family, there was still an element of competition in the air... rumours reaching the Ratatoskr newsdesk stated that patrol VEST 04-03 had outperformed their peers, reaching four of seven peaks on the seven peak hike challenge... but at a price.

“The views were amazing, as were the pains in our legs this morning!” remarked Emma Hunter, UK.

Hopefully all our Westman Island pioneers will have plenty of time to rest up in time for today’s big moot reunion - although with a walk to the ferry, a boat ride and a long coach journey in front of them, before setting up camp again, only time will tell.

At least last night’s festivities were a blast - “Yeah, the pool party was just amazing; a super ending for the expedition on Vestmannaeyjar island”, finished Constantin.



The views were amazing, as were the pains in our legs this morning

Emma Hunter
United Kingdom



The Story That has no Story, but Much Love

A reporter spends one night at Pingvallavatn

By Sara Bonetti

This story is a very normal story. It's a story about a camp and its participants that share their food, their minds and their ideas even though they disagree sometimes. Even when the buses are late, or the food is not what was expected, or when the tents have blown away. It's a scout camp, which means we will be thrown out of our comfort zone. And it's a story about the amazing and wonderful and unbelievable diversity you find when thousands of scouts get together from across the world and do what they are supposed to do: CHANGE.

16:10 The minivan pulled up at the parking spot in Pingvallavatn. The vehicle

stopped, finally, and I rushed out of the vehicle as fast as I could, because I was really looking forward to starting my mission: reporting about

It's so sad that I have a boyfriend, the boys here are so hot, and they are scouts.

real camp life in Pingvallavatn. Okay, just kidding, I was in a real need for the restroom, but the other thing just sounds better.

16:12 Welcome to the toilet queue.

16:58 Only 6 persons ahead of me left.

17:14 Just found out that I was standing in the shower

queue instead of the toilet one, but at least I met a nice group of rovers to talk with about the daily life of the campsite.

17:19 Gerardo Sognarell from Mexico invited me to

a bombisha-circle, to make some maté tea with him and his friends. "It's one of the great things here on the moot. You just start talking and share what you have, it doesn't matter where you are from because you wear a necker; that proves a lot."

17:10 The Swedish group starts a new round of kubb.

17:32 Someone shouted "Hot Dogs". No reactions. Someone else shouted "free Hot Dogs". Suddenly everyone ran! I followed the crowd and sat next to Athnan from the Lebanon. While eating one or two hotdogs (ok, maybe more than 2), we had a discussion about the nightlife and he explained that he loves to party,

*Anonymous
Pingvellir participant*

but not on the moot because what he enjoys most is walking through the rows of tents and talking with whomever he meets.

18:19 “The program is good, but, a little too chilled, too relaxed,” explained a girl from Switzerland.

18:20 “The program is perfect, it’s nice that you are not in a total rush and that it is not as stressful, as it could be,” explained a guy from Brazil.

18:40 “It is not possible to please all interested parties” explains Eiríkur Hjartar. He was the camp chief and in charge of the 360 participants and 62 IST members who were staying at Pingvallavatn. We were sitting together for a while, drinking coffee and discussing the amazing burden of being a camp chief. For four days, it is his responsibility that everything runs smoothly. He described the mornings, being particularly exhausting. 360 Rovers had to get on buses, the right buses, to get to the right programme. Food had to be organized, broken tents had to be fixed, broken knees needed transport and the meals for the special dietary requirements needed some form of creativity for various reasons. But it worked out. “Mistakes happen and some circumstances are just the way they are. But so far there has been nothing that I haven’t been able to rectify one way or another. And I love it. I love to walk around and see scouts working, playing and eating together. And even though it’s very exhausting, I get so much back. I learn every day from dealing with problems, from different cultures, behaviours, routines and needs. As time goes on, I’m getting to know my members which makes it

easier to deal with any problems thrown at me.”

20:03 I have nothing left to swap, says Franziska from Italy, but I want to give you these receipts for the pasta I brought with me from home.

20:37 The group from Sweden was still playing Kubb

21:00 Rebecca from the UK invites me to take a seat in the circle of her patrol. We are discussing different languages

“you have to choose at one point if you just want to party, or if you want to use your power and the power of the group to improve the world to make it a slightly better place.”

22:47 The group from Sweden was still playing Kubb

23:01 Jamie Haston-Dougan from Scotland tried to teach me Scottish folk dances.

23:02 Jamie gave up.

politely declined and continued exploring.

23:30 I followed the lyrics from Macarena and passed by the shower queue and gatecrashed a latin party, where people were dancing and singing and shouting, and laughing and having fun, with the music from a little speaker.

00:54 “It’s so sad that I have a boyfriend, the boys here are so hot, and they are scouts”, said someone from this one contingent, at which point I decided to go to bed.

08:20 Breakfast. “It’s amazing here. It’s like a family. The participants are great with each other and I can’t think about any problems, that I wouldn’t have been able to solve”, answered Ricardo, a member of the IST, from the Chilean contingent.

08:52 I wanted to say farewell to Eiríkur but we were interrupted. Three participants missed their bus for various reasons. Eiríkur picked up his phone, back to his daily task of solving problems.

09:03 The group from Sweden has started a new round of Kubb, just a short one between breakfast and the first activity as I headed back to the media center for writing down this story while I remembered it.



and their specific swearwords as well as discussing how great Iceland is.

22:08 One spot (that was definitely and never ever the smoking point) seemed to be very popular. Eduardo from Portugal talked about the two ways of scouting, and that

23:10 The group from Sweden is still playing Kubb

23:21 “Join us” screamed a bulk of people, lying on the floor. “This is called paddle-cuddle”, explains Sarah from the UK and wants me to join the circle of people for cuddling and lying around. I

I came to Iceland, not necessarily to find this one nasty, mean, sad, super romantic or cheesy story. Okay, some stories are cheesy, because they are about cooking, or cheese or parmesan but scouts are great. And they are change makers. That’s the real story.

Do's and Don'ts at the Moot

What happens if you put 5000 people from 100 different nations on an island high up in the North? You get the 15th World Scout Moot in Iceland! What an adventure! We want to make sure that this moot is an incredible experience for everyone. So many different people from all over the world in one place! We're all scouts, but we might do things differently around the world and communication can be tricky sometimes. Here are our do's and don'ts for the moot:



Don't be scared of asking questions. We are all a part of the same big international scout family!

Don't spoil the moot for anyone. And this also means NO - and we mean absolutely NO - Game of Thrones spoilers if you happen to have enough internet to stream or download it. Consider yourself warned. Winter is coming soon in Iceland!

Don't expect everything to work as it does back at home. Some things may be different or difficult to understand at first. Give yourself time and be patient with yourself and others.

Don't ignore queues. Nobody likes someone who skips the line. And you're here to make friends, aren't you? It's the perfect opportunity to chat and gossip.

Don't bottle up your feelings. If you feel misunderstood, correct the person. If you're bothered by something, explain yourself. If you witness misconduct, speak up. Otherwise you'll blow up like Eyjafjallajökull and we all know how that turned out. Don't be like Eyjafjallajökull.

Don't complain, do change! Don't worry, be happy. You're at the Moot!

Do something you've never done before. Leave your comfort zone and experience how free you really are if you just give yourself the chance.

Do talk to someone from a country you'd like to visit someday (and get your travel plans started. It's the best way to gain insider knowledge!)

Do how about a new skill? Knitting may come in very handy if you forgot to bring a scarf. Or doing a handstand? It looks pretty impressive and it's part of the photo challenge. Don't forget to upload the picture afterwards!

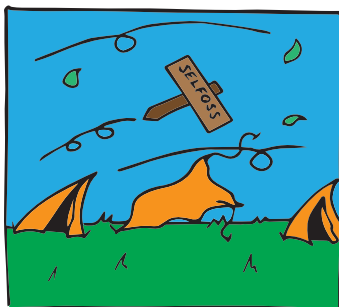
Do educate others: what do most people get wrong about your country? It's time to set the record straight.

Do learn the moot song by heart and sing it all day long! It's catchy, you can't help it.

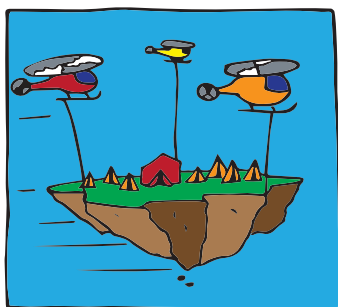
Do share your favorite scouting tradition from your country with someone and then become best friends and live happily ever after. Or don't. We're not here to tell you what to do. But anything is possible, right?

Do and last but not least: open your eyes, heart and mind to everything surrounding you and enjoy the feeling of being part of this wonderful experience.

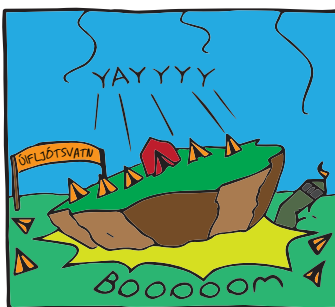
SILLY SCOUTS THE MOOT COMIC



Oh, no! The wind is blowing Selfloss away!



No worries. The planning team has a solution that's not crazy at all...



Problem solved!

In the next issue of Ratatoskr:

101 ways to eat bread

IST need TLC ASAP

Portaloo of the day

101 stupid questions you were to afraid to ask.

We weren't

Food Fight
Pu-Pu Platter vs. An al-Mexican Cod

Counting snores
Getting to sleep when the sun is still up

How to apply sunscreen in a rainstorm

Swiping for beginners
Tinder and Pokémon Go

Keeping your toes
How to tell if a river is hot or cold

Flashmob or unlicensed gathering?
The lawyers decide

Eat-meating
Mooters eat many Moot meats

Weather on Sunday



16°

Omm / 4m.p.s