

RUV 2007
Producer/Director
Eggert Gunnarsson

OUR TRIP
Geyser

10:16:18:21

Boy 1:

You know what the Computer told me about Geysers? They erupt because the water coming out of the ground hits the boiling point before it reaches the surface.

10:16:26:03

The heat turns the water into steam, which expands rapidly and pushes the water above it out of the ground and high into the air.

10:16:35:11

Boy 2:

Is Geyser the largest geyser in Iceland?

10:16:39:12

Boy 1:

-I'm not quite sure.
Let's ask the computer.

10:16:46:20

Computer:

Hi, guys!
What can I do for you?

10:16:52:06

Boy 1:

-We were wondering if Geyser is the biggest geyser in Iceland.

10:16:55:14

Computer:

You're close.
It was the biggest one.

10:16:58:07

Geyser was at one point the largest geyser in the world.
It was probably formed at the end of the 13th century.
It blew as high as 40-80 meters.

10:17:11:13

Before it started blowing you could hear noises below ground and people even thought the ground shook a bit.

10:17:19:13

The water in Geyser reaches 100 degrees centigrade.
Therefore, it boils every now and then, and that's when it blows, which seldom happens now.

10:17:27:20

The hot springs area around it is about 500 meters long and 100 meters wide. Geological research shows that

the history of the hot springs area and Old Geyser begins at the end of the last Ice Age. That means the hot springs have been active for the last 10.000 years.

10:17:46:10

If you want to know which is the biggest geyser now it is Strokkur, which blows every few minutes. It's the third biggest in the world, and the most active.

10:18:00:15

Boy 1:

Let's take a look at Strokkur.
It must blow soon.

10:18:07:02

Computer:

Research into the geyser's water chemical composition suggests that its temperature at 1 kilometer below ground is around 240 degrees.

10:18:18:06

The hot springs area has often changed hands in noted history. Until 1894 the area belonged to Laug in Haukadalur.

10:18:27:16

Laug's owners sold the area to a James Craig, who later became a minister for Northern Ireland.

10:18:35:05

While the area belonged to Craig, admission was charged, but that has not been done at any other point.

10:18:42:19

After changing hands a number of times, Sigurdur Jonsson bought it and donated it to Icelanders.

10:18:50:12

Boys:

Let's come back here later.
-You bet!