

9 Initialization Strategies

June 28, 2016

Gatsby Unit, Tea Talk

Ingredients

- Kayak
- Ice-climbing equipment (ice axes, crampons, ...)





1: Mendenhall Ice Caves, Alaska

- Inside the 12-mile-long Mendenhall glacier
- sea-blue rooms made completely of ice
- +experience: all 4 stages of the water cycle
- retreating: one cave has already collapsed



2: Antelope Canyon, US

- Formed by erosion of sandstone:
 - above the canyon: extensive basins,
 - rainwater (monsoon season),
 - it picks up speed + sand, deeper & deeper passageways, smoother edges.
- Accessible by guided tour: 1997-, flood dangers.



3: Tunnel of Love, Ukraine

- 1.8 miles long leafy tunnel
- deep in the forest, close to Kleven
- for a private train that provides wood to a local factory, 3x/day
- train folded the trees' lines



4: Sagano Bamboo Forest

- sprawling bamboo grove close to Kyoto, Japan
- bamboo = symbol of strength
- Buddhist temples: often close to bamboo forests
- open 24/7



5: Zhangye Danxia Landform

- in National Geological Park (2011-; Rainbow mountains), China
- one of the 6 “most beautiful landforms” in China
- result of deposits of sandstone & other minerals (24 million years)
- wind, rain, time sculpted extraordinary shapes, colours, patterns; 510 km²



6: Ice Cave in Skaftafell, Iceland

- Formation:
 - streams of melted water from the glacier enter through its crevices,
 - bigger and bigger holes, ice caves/tunnels are formed.
- Constant cracking sounds: cave is moving along with the glacier itself.
- Ice caves like to collapse => better to visit 1/year



7: Son Doong Cave, Vietnam

- Whistling sound of wind, roar of rushing stream, steep descent => no entrance.
- found in 1991 by a local man, deep into the jungle
- 2009: British Cave Research Association
- world's largest cave; own weather system, inner forest, rivers; Age: 2-5m years (river in limestone).
- weak limestone, collapsed => skylight.



8: Pamukkale, Turkey

- site with numerous natural pools, terraces
- people have bathed in its pools for thousands of years
- 17 hot springs: 35-100C°
- recognised as a World Heritage Site, 1988-



9: Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia

- 3,656m above sea level
- world's largest salt flat (10,582 km²): 1m variation
- 10 billion tonnes of salt
- Lithium under the salt crust: 50-70% of the world's lithium reserves
- essentially no wildlife/vegetation
- breeding ground for several flamingo species



Thank you for the attention!