Climbing the Rinjani Volcano, Indonesia – Lombok

Early in the morning, while it was still a little foggy, we left a small village in Lombok to set foot to the 3726m high volcano peak of mount Rinjani. It is the second highest volcano in Indonesia and still active, although it is considered safe enough to be climbed. From where we left it was a three day climb to the top and at that time, I did not know it yet but it turned out to be the coolest and most wonderful thing I have ever done. The first day, a small trail took us through a dense rainforest with moss covered trees. When it started to rain, the forest became foggy which gave it a mystical atmosphere. At night our guides cooked dinner on self made fires and we slept in tents.

When we woke up the next morning, the sky was crystal clear and the higher we got, the better the views. From this side of the mountain we could easily see Bali in the distance with the tropical Gili Islands in between. Around noon we reached the lower ridge of the volcano and from there we could see the inside of the volcano. The view was stunning. It was a huge crater with a lake inside and a mini volcano. Slowly we descended to the lake where we had a swim and lunch. Nature was amazingly beautiful in this area. There were waterfalls and hot springs which gave an excellent opportunity to take a bath, heated by the inner earth. When we reached the other side of the lake, the climb got steeper and tougher. At the end of the afternoon, we got to another part of the ridge where we set camp and had a beer above the clouds during sunset.

Questions

a) How tall is the volcano?

b) Where did they go through?

c) How many days does it take to climb to the top?

d) Where did the writer sleep?

e) What could the writer see from the side of the mountain?

f) What did they do in the lake?

g) What did the writer see around the lake?