

Climate

London has a temperate [oceanic climate](#), similar to much of southern Britain. Despite its reputation as being a rainy city, London receives less precipitation (with 601 mm (24 in) in a year), than [Rome](#) (at 834 mm (33 in)), [Bordeaux](#) (at 923 mm (36 in)), [Toulouse](#) (at 668 mm (26 in)), and [Naples](#) (at 1,006 mm (40 in) per year). Winters are generally chilly to cold with frost usually occurring in the suburbs on average twice a week from November to March. Snow usually occurs about four or five times a year mostly from December to February. Snowfall during March and April is rare but does occur every two or three years. Winter temperatures seldom fall below -4 °C (24.8 °F) or rise above 14 °C (57.2 °F). During the winter of 2010, London experienced its lowest temperature on record (-14 °C (6.8 °F)) in Northolt and the heaviest snow seen for almost two decades, a huge strain on the city's transport infrastructure. Temperature extremes for all sites in the London area range from 38.1 °C (100.6 °F) at Kew during August 2003 (which has been proposed to be the UK's highest 'accurate' temperature) down to -16.1 °C (3.0 °F) at Northolt during January 1962. Temperatures of below -20 °C (-4.0 °F) have been noted prior to the 20th century, but the accuracy cannot be validated.

Summers are generally warm and sometimes hot, the heat being boosted by the [urban heat island](#) effect making the centre of London at times 5 °C (9 °F) warmer than the suburbs and outskirts. London's summer average is 24 °C (75.2 °F). On average there are 7 days a year above 30 °C (86.0 °F) and 2 days a year above 32 °C (89.6 °F). Temperatures of 26 °C (79 °F) usually occur on a weekly basis from mid- June to late August.

During the [2003 European heat wave](#) there were 14 consecutive days above 30 °C (86.0 °F) and 2 consecutive days where temperatures soared up to 38 °C (100.4 °F), leading to hundreds of heat related deaths. Rain generally occurs on around 2 out of 10 summer days. Spring and Autumn are mixed seasons and can be pleasant. On 1 October 2011, the air temperature attained 30 °C (86.0 °F) and in April 2011 it reached 28 °C (82.4 °F). However in recent years both of these months have also had snowfall. Temperature extremes range from -10 °C (14.0 °F) to 37.9 °C (100.2 °F).

[hide]Climate data for London (Greenwich)													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	18.5 (65.3)	19.7 (67.5)	25.3 (77.5)	29.8 (85.6)	32.8 (91)	35.6 (96.1)	36.5 (97.7)	38.5 (101.3)	35.4 (95.7)	29.9 (85.8)	21.1 (70)	17.7 (63.9)	38.5 (101.3)
Average high °C (°F)	8.3 (46.9)	8.5 (47.3)	11.4 (52.5)	14.2 (57.6)	17.7 (63.9)	20.7 (69.3)	23.2 (73.8)	22.9 (73.2)	20.1 (68.2)	15.6 (60.1)	11.4 (52.5)	8.6 (47.5)	15.2 (59.4)
Average low °C (°F)	2.6 (36.7)	2.4 (36.3)	4.1 (39.4)	5.4 (41.7)	8.4 (47.1)	11.5 (52.7)	13.9 (57)	13.7 (56.7)	11.2 (52.2)	8.3 (46.9)	5.1 (41.2)	2.8 (37)	7.5 (45.5)
Record low °C (°F)	-10.0 (14)	-9.0 (15.8)	-8.0 (17.6)	-2.0 (28.4)	-1.0 (30.2)	5.0 (41)	7.0 (44.6)	6.0 (42.8)	3.0 (37.4)	-4.0 (24.8)	-5.0 (23)	-7.0 (19.4)	-10.0 (14)
Precipitation mm (inches)	51.6 (2.031)	38.2 (1.504)	40.5 (1.594)	45.0 (1.772)	46.5 (1.831)	47.3 (1.862)	41.1 (1.618)	51.6 (2.031)	50.4 (1.984)	68.8 (2.709)	58.0 (2.283)	53.0 (2.087)	591.8 (23.299)
Avg. rainy days (≥ 1.0 mm)	10.8	8.5	9.6	9.4	9.0	8.3	8.0	7.6	8.5	10.7	10.1	9.9	110.4
Avg. snowy days	4	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	16
% humidity	91	89	91	90	92	92	93	95	96	95	93	91	92.3
Mean monthly	49.9	71.4	107.1	159.8	181.2	181.0	192.1	195.1	138.9	108.1	58.5	37.4	1,480.5

**sunshine
hours**



Source #1: Record highs and lows from *BBC Weather*,^[113] except August and February maximum from *Met Office*^[114] ^[115]

Source #2: All other data from *Met Office*,^[116] except for humidity and snow data which are from NOAA^[117]