# UK to see hotter temperatures than Ibiza amid driest spring in over a century



As the UK braces for an unusually warm weekend, parts of the country are poised to experience temperatures outperforming even those in popular holiday destinations like Ibiza. Forecasters are predicting highs of 25°C, particularly in western regions including Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. With blue skies dominating most areas, it heralds a continuation of a dry spell that has seen the UK facing its driest spring in over a century.

To date, the Met Office reports only 80.6mm of rainfall since the start of spring, nearly 20mm below the record low of 100.7mm set in 1852. Although there remains more than two weeks in May, the prospect of a historic spring raises questions about the implications of such an extended dry period. Tom Morgan, a forecaster with the Met Office, indicated that while the warm, sunny conditions would persist, parts of the eastern UK would be grappling with cooler, cloudier weather.

Despite the enjoyable sunny weekends, the agricultural sector is expressing concern. Rachel Hallos, the vice president of the National Farmers' Union, highlighted that the limited rainfall has compelled farmers to start irrigation significantly earlier than normal, though the reservoirs across many regions remain full owing to previous wet seasons. However, she cautioned, "The extreme weather patterns we now regularly experience are impacting our ability to feed the nation." This sentiment echoes findings from the Environment Agency, which warned of a “medium” risk of drought in England this summer without sufficient rainfall.

Historically, Britain has experienced remarkable fluctuations in its weather patterns. The last few years have illustrated a striking contrast, with 2022 seeing record heat, including a high of 40.3°C in Lincolnshire, while previous years turned exceedingly wet. In the latest data, England reported its driest start to spring since 1956, a notable trend that raises alarms not just for agriculture but also for water management. Water companies, notably Thames Water, are preparing contingency measures, including potential hosepipe bans, reflecting increased vigilance owing to previous close calls with severe shortages.

The current warm spell is largely driven by high-pressure systems, a pattern that could suggest an ongoing trend as the climate continues to evolve. With the expectation of another dry month ahead, the interconnections between weather phenomena, drought risks, and agricultural needs become increasingly apparent. Many experts are warning that such weather extremes could become more frequent, urging the government and relevant agencies to assess and bolster water infrastructure to mitigate future crises.

In this unique confluence of unusually warm weather and a devastating drought forecast, the UK faces an important challenge. The blending of high temperatures with limited water resources not only raises questions about the immediate impact on farmers and local ecosystems but also invites discussions about long-term climate adaptation strategies. As the nation basks in record warmth this weekend, the undercurrents of a potential drought loom, pressing the need for proactive measures to secure the UK’s water future in the face of changing climatic conditions.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Paragraph 6
3. Paragraph 5
4. Paragraph 6
5. Paragraph 7

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14720499/Britain-hotter-Ibiza-country-basks-sunshine-weekend.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/oct/03/uk-weather-south-of-england-forecast-to-be-as-hot-as-ibiza-this-weekend> - An article from The Guardian discusses the unseasonably warm weather in the UK during early October 2023. It highlights that temperatures in the south of England are expected to reach the mid-20s Celsius, potentially matching those in Ibiza, which is forecasted to be 27°C on Saturday and 26°C on Sunday. The piece also notes that this warmth is higher than that in Athens and Barcelona, which are predicted to hit 25°C over the weekend. The article provides insights into the weather patterns and forecasts for the period.
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/8e69c305-8f22-4052-817d-5397f107d8c8> - A Financial Times article reports on England and Wales experiencing their driest start to the year since 1997, with only 225mm of rainfall recorded by mid-May 2025—29% below average. The Environment Agency's report highlights significantly reduced river flows, particularly in northern regions, where six sites logged their lowest-ever April flows. The agency has issued a medium drought risk warning and anticipates potential water usage restrictions, such as hosepipe bans. Reservoirs remain around 84% full, but levels are notably low in the North East and North West, which have seen their driest start to a year since 1929. Farmers are increasingly concerned, with early irrigation underway in some areas despite good groundwater reserves. Water companies like Yorkshire Water, United Utilities, and Severn Trent are preparing for possible shortages. Thames Water's CEO affirmed that supply would continue but cautioned that usage restrictions may be necessary depending on future rainfall. The report links recent dry conditions to climate change, predicting more frequent summer droughts in the coming decades.
4. <https://news.sky.com/story/uk-weather-parts-of-england-set-to-be-hotter-than-ibiza-this-week-13330244> - Sky News reports that parts of the UK could be hotter than Ibiza and Corfu on Thursday, March 20, 2025—the first official day of spring. The Met Office forecasts temperatures reaching 19°C in the south of England, surpassing the 17°C predicted in Ibiza and 16°C in Corfu. The article highlights the dry weather and increasing sunshine expected in the coming days, with the south of England experiencing the warmest conditions.
5. <https://www.gbnews.com/weather/uk-weather-temperature-surge-britain-hotter-ibiza> - GB News discusses the UK's warm weather in early March 2025, with temperatures reaching 17°C in London and Cardiff. The article notes that these temperatures rival or exceed those in traditional sunshine hotspots abroad, such as the Balearic islands and Costa del Sol. The piece highlights the sunny conditions and the respite from what has been described as one of the dreariest winters in history.
6. <https://www.gbnews.com/weather/uk-weather-temperatures-soar-warmest-day-2025-britain-hotter-athens-ibiza> - GB News reports on the UK's warmest day of the year so far in early April 2025, with temperatures soaring to 22°C. The article notes that the UK is hotter than Athens and Ibiza, where temperatures are 20°C respectively. The Met Office attributes the warm conditions to high pressure building over the UK, resulting in fine, dry, and sunny days.
7. <https://www.gbnews.com/weather/uk-weather-january-record-hot-temperatures-forecast> - GB News reports on the UK's record-breaking January temperatures in 2024, with parts of the country experiencing highs up to 19.6°C. The article notes that these temperatures are higher than those in holiday hotspots such as Ibiza, Athens, and Corfu, where conditions peaked at 17°C. The Met Office confirmed that the UK has broken the January temperature record, which was set over six decades ago.