# Monday set to break Wimbledon’s hottest opening day temperature record amid UK heatwave



Monday is set to be one of the hottest June days on record in the UK, with temperatures forecast to reach 34°C, offering a sweltering start to Wimbledon. This heat will surpass the previous hottest opening day temperature for the tournament of 29.3°C, set in 2001, and edges close to the all-time Wimbledon high of 35.7°C recorded in 2015. Much of England will be entering a fourth consecutive day of a heatwave, with some areas in the south-east expected to hit 35°C on Tuesday—temperatures hotter than popular holiday destinations such as Barbados, Jamaica, and Mexico. Meanwhile, Scotland and Northern Ireland are set to experience cooler, wetter conditions. The hottest day of 2025 so far was noted on June 21 in Charlwood, Surrey, with 33.2°C recorded.

The ongoing heatwave has triggered another amber heat health alert, the second in less than two weeks, covering major regions including London, the East Midlands, and the South East, lasting through to Tuesday evening. A yellow alert is also in place for Yorkshire, Humber, and the West Midlands, warning of significant potential impacts on health and social care services. Officially, a heatwave is declared when temperatures exceed thresholds ranging from 25°C to 28°C for three consecutive days across various parts of the UK. The UK Health Security Agency and emergency services have emphasised the risks posed by the extreme heat, including wildfires; the London Fire Brigade reported around 14 wildfires so far this year, underlining the importance of public caution during the dry spell.

At Wimbledon, the intense heat poses challenges both to players and spectators. The tournament organisers have put heat rules into effect, including a mandatory 10-minute break after the second set of best-of-three matches or the third set of best-of-five when Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT)—a measure accounting for heat, humidity, wind, and sun exposure—exceeds 30.1°C. This break is designed to mitigate heat risks without allowing coaching or medical strategies during that time. Players and experts have noted that such heat affects performance, particularly for athletes unaccustomed to these conditions. Italian fourth seed Jasmine Paolini, who has experience competing in hot climates, stressed the critical importance of hydration and adaptation strategies during matches as she prepares for the tournament. Wimbledon organisers have also enhanced facilities for spectators and staff, including extra water points, shaded areas, and adjusted staff schedules to cope with the heat.

This heatwave is part of a broader pattern of extreme weather events linked to climate change, with scientists warning that atmospheric phenomena known as "heat domes"—high-pressure systems trapping heat over regions—have nearly tripled in intensity and duration since the 1950s. Such patterns have brought record temperatures across Europe and the US, including 42°C in Seville, Spain, and consistent heat extremes in southern England. The UK Met Office has noted the unusual extent of tropical nights, with overnight temperatures remaining above 20°C in some parts, impeding relief from the daytime heat. Research highlights that climate change has made extreme heat events far more frequent and severe; for instance, 32°C days in the UK are now 100 times more likely than in the pre-industrial era. The impacts extend beyond health, with drought causing water shortages after England experienced its driest spring in over a century. Governments and agencies are under pressure to respond—public services have prepared heat action plans, unions urge workplace temperature limits, while solar energy production has surged as a somewhat positive side effect of the sunshine.

As Monday’s heatwave peaks, many in southern and eastern England brace for record-breaking temperatures in June, a historically rare occurrence, with only three previous years since 1960 exceeding 34°C in this month. The combination of extreme heat and dry conditions poses significant risks but also unique challenges and opportunities, highlighting the urgency for ongoing adaptation strategies in a warming world.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/monday-set-to-be-one-of-the-hottest-june-days-ever-with-temperatures-to-hit-34c/a553548117.html), [[6]](https://www.expressandstar.com/uk-news/2025/06/29/heatwave-to-serve-hottest-ever-start-to-wimbledon-with-temperatures-to-hit-35c/), [[7]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/wimbledon-england-met-office-barbados-london-b2779052.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/monday-set-to-be-one-of-the-hottest-june-days-ever-with-temperatures-to-hit-34c/a553548117.html), [[5]](https://www.ft.com/content/650cfaa6-a82c-4d4a-9114-0d263b35a0db)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/tennis/wimbledon-set-scorching-start-heatwave-looms-2025-06-27/), [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/tennis/paolini-prepared-sweat-it-out-with-wimbledon-braced-hot-start-2025-06-28/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.ft.com/content/51893d2c-7c0b-4d5e-8942-560c35fd3673), [[5]](https://www.ft.com/content/650cfaa6-a82c-4d4a-9114-0d263b35a0db)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/monday-set-to-be-one-of-the-hottest-june-days-ever-with-temperatures-to-hit-34c/a553548117.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/tennis/wimbledon-set-scorching-start-heatwave-looms-2025-06-27/> - Wimbledon is set to begin under record-breaking heat conditions, with forecasts predicting temperatures in London to reach the mid-30s Celsius on Monday. This would surpass the previous opening day record of 29.3°C set in 2001, and potentially break the all-time tournament high of 35.7°C from 2015. To mitigate heat risks, Wimbledon will implement its heat rule, invoking a 10-minute match break when the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) reaches 30.1°C. This metric assesses multiple environmental factors and will be monitored throughout the day. The break will occur after the second set in best-of-three matches and after the third set in best-of-five, without permitting coaching or medical aid. Experts warn that the intense heat could impact player performance, especially for those unaccustomed to such conditions, with strategies potentially shifting toward shorter rallies. Cooling techniques such as iced towels are deemed less effective than targeting areas like the forearms or groin for temperature control. Wimbledon organisers have prepared comprehensive measures for spectators and staff, including additional water stations, weather updates, adjusted staff shifts, and shaded areas. After the opening heatwave, temperatures are expected to return to the low to mid-20s Celsius with possible rain later in the week.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/tennis/paolini-prepared-sweat-it-out-with-wimbledon-braced-hot-start-2025-06-28/> - Italian tennis star Jasmine Paolini, ranked fourth seed at Wimbledon 2025, is prepared for the tournament's anticipated hot weather, with temperatures expected to soar to 33°C. Preferring sunny conditions, Paolini emphasised the importance of staying hydrated, citing her experience in similarly hot conditions in recent tournaments in Hamburg and Berlin. As last year's Wimbledon runner-up and with an impressive 2024 season—including a WTA 1000 title in Dubai, Grand Slam finals at Roland Garros and Wimbledon, and a historic victory in Rome—Paolini enters this year's competition with measured expectations, especially given the unpredictability of grass courts. She remains the leading hope for Italy’s first Wimbledon singles title in both men's and women's categories. Despite her achievements, she aims to focus on one match at a time and maintain low expectations to manage pressure.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/51893d2c-7c0b-4d5e-8942-560c35fd3673> - Extreme heatwaves fuelled by "heat domes" are affecting large parts of Europe and the US, with scientists warning these atmospheric phenomena have nearly tripled in intensity and duration since the 1950s. A heat dome occurs when a high-pressure system traps heat over an area. This has led to record temperatures, including 42°C in Seville, Spain, and up to 35°C in southeast England. The UK Met Office has issued heat-health alerts, while tropical nights hamper relief from daily heat. In the US, temperatures have exceeded 40°C in several areas, exacerbating health and safety concerns. Meanwhile, China’s southwest has experienced deadly flooding linked to low-pressure systems, with similar flash floods reported in Pakistan and northern India. These extreme patterns are attributed to quasi-resonant amplification in the jet stream, which causes weather systems to stagnate. Michael Mann’s research indicates that such events have tripled over the past 70 years. Scientists warn that climate models may not fully account for these changes but agree that rising greenhouse gases are intensifying extreme weather. Professor Amanda Maycock emphasised that previously "normal" summer weather is a thing of the past, urging greater awareness and action on climate change.
5. <https://www.ft.com/content/650cfaa6-a82c-4d4a-9114-0d263b35a0db> - An intense heatwave in Britain has pushed temperatures above 30°C and is forecast to reach 34°C, with the possibility of the first tropical night of 2025. Climate change is significantly contributing to such events, making 32°C days 100 times more likely than during the pre-industrial era. The Met Office predicts a 50% chance of another 40°C day within the next 12 years. Accompanying the heat is a severe drought following the driest spring in over a century, prompting water companies to encourage reduced consumption. Heat-related health risks have raised alarms, with up to 3,000 deaths reported during the 2023 summer. Vulnerable populations including the elderly and homeless are particularly at risk, prompting cities like London to offer emergency services. Labour unions are calling on the government to set maximum working temperatures. On a positive note, solar energy generation has surged, with record outputs and an increase in photovoltaic capacity. Leisure activities and retail sectors are also seeing growth due to the warm weather, with increased seaside train bookings and cycling in London. The extreme conditions highlight the growing impact of climate change on British life and infrastructure.
6. <https://www.expressandstar.com/uk-news/2025/06/29/heatwave-to-serve-hottest-ever-start-to-wimbledon-with-temperatures-to-hit-35c/> - A heatwave will serve the hottest ever start to Wimbledon, with temperatures due to hit 35C. Sunday may reach 31C in parts of southern England, but Monday will be even hotter, with highs of 34C in central and eastern England, forecasters say. Parts of south-east England could then hit 35C on Tuesday, forecaster Matthew Lenhert said, which would be hotter than Barbados. Wimbledon is set for its hottest opening day on record on Monday and could even see the highest temperature ever recorded during the tournament. The hottest ever Wimbledon day was on July 1 2015, when temperatures reached 35.7C.
7. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/wimbledon-england-met-office-barbados-london-b2779052.html> - A heatwave will serve the hottest ever start to Wimbledon, with temperatures due to hit 35C. Sunday may reach 31C in parts of southern England, but Monday will be even hotter, with highs of 34C in central and eastern England, forecasters say. Since 1960, UK temperatures in June have surpassed 34C in only three years, with the hottest being 35.6C, recorded on June 28 1976. Parts of south-east England could then hit 35C on Tuesday, forecaster Matthew Lenhert said, which would be hotter than Barbados. Wimbledon is set for its hottest opening day on record on Monday and could even see the highest temperature ever recorded during the tournament. The hottest ever Wimbledon day was on July 1 2015, when temperatures reached 35.7C. The warmest opening day on record was on June 25 2001, when temperatures hit 29.3C. The hottest day of 2025 so far was recorded on June 21 in Charlwood, Surrey, when temperatures hit 33.2C. Tropical nights are also in store for many, with temperatures overnight not dropping below 20C, Mr Lenhert said.