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## Intense European Heatwave Prompts Warnings for British Tourists

### Seville and Southern Spain Experience Extreme Conditions

Seville, one of Spain's historic cities, has recently faced unprecedented heat, garnering severe warnings for British tourists. The city's recent temperatures have drawn comparisons to an "oven", with local advice urging visitors to remain indoors to avoid the sweltering conditions. A long-time British expatriate living in Seville since 2003 remarked, "In the afternoons, they need to be in an air-conditioned room. It's not advisable to venture outside at the moment."

The expatriate highlighted the harsh reality by recalling a recent journey from the UK to Seville, where she noticed a lack of Spanish travellers on the train from the airport, implicitly understanding the extreme temperatures awaiting them. "The locals themselves often wonder why tourists come here during this season," she explained.

Bernard Bossous, a primary school teacher, also stressed the intense heat, recalling, "I stay indoors and only come out later in the evening, around 8 or 9 pm." The city’s summer, he described, feels increasingly like being in an "oven".

Jose Galan, president of the Field Guide Association of the Donana National Park, added a graver note, expressing concerns about the broader societal impacts of rising temperatures and prolonged droughts. "The heat and drought because of climate change are significantly affecting water availability. We need to rethink our relationship with water," he emphasised.

### Heatwave Spreads Across Europe

British tourists are now also being cautioned about soaring temperatures in France. Many regions in southern France are expected to exceed 40°C, with Météo-France placing 26 departments under an orange heat warning as of Monday. The southern parts of Toulouse, the Gard, and Hérault regions, along with the interior areas of Nouvelle-Aquitaine, are forecast to experience the brunt of this heatwave.

Particular hotspots in France include the Toulouse region, where temperatures could peak at 41°C, and other southern and southwestern areas, such as Gironde, Landes, and Charentes, also anticipated to reach or surpass 40°C. Even the Pyrenean foothills and Corsica will not be spared, with temperatures ranging from 32°C to 40°C in various localities.

In Paris, where many Olympic events are set to occur, temperatures are expected to reach up to 35°C by Tuesday. Bordeaux, another Olympic venue, saw a considerable influx of people seeking relief at the city's Lac beach. Precautionary measures have been swiftly enacted to protect the public, especially in cities like Marseille, where the Olympic marina faced sweltering conditions with minimal wind.

### Balearic Islands Prepare for Extended Heatwave

The Balearic Islands, a popular tourist destination comprising Majorca, Menorca, Ibiza, and Formentera, are also bracing for an extended heatwave, marking the second of such this month. The Balearic Ministry of Health has issued warnings for tourists to take extreme precautions as temperatures are projected to exceed 40°C, possibly eclipsing the peaks experienced in mid-July, which reached up to 44°C.

The Directorate General of Public Health underscored the importance of avoiding caffeinated beverages and alcohol, eating light meals, scheduling physical activities for cooler parts of the day, staying hydrated, and wearing light, breathable clothing. Special attention was urged for vulnerable individuals, including babies, the elderly, and outdoor workers.

Héctor Tejero, head of health and climate change at Spain's health ministry, pointed out that "vulnerable" tourists, particularly the elderly, may find the conditions challenging. "It's a real risk because the big Spanish sol y playa tourist areas are heavily impacted by climate change," he noted.

### Conclusion

European regions, particularly in Spain and France, are experiencing an intense heatwave, prompting authorities to issue warnings for both residents and tourists. With temperatures soaring above 40°C in several areas, British holidaymakers are encouraged to heed local advice to ensure their safety during this period of extreme weather.