

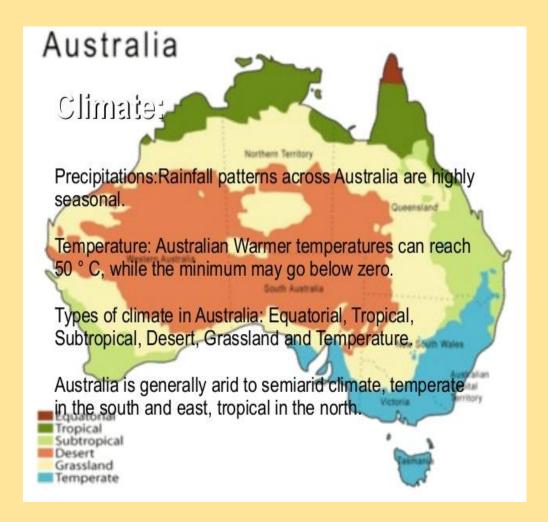
Australia is a continent that is unique in all, including climate conditions, which makes an attractive holiday destination throughout the year. This is the driest continent on Earth, but here are presented six climatic zones that provide a wide variety of environmental conditions:

deserts coastlines

tropical forests snow-capped peaks

the temperate climate of the island of Tasmania

the desert heat of the central part of the continent. The climate of Australia is very diverse.



Temperature

The hottest temperature recorded in Australia was 50.7 °C (123.3 °F) at Oodnadatta in South Australia, while the coldest was -23.0 °C (-9.4) °F) at Charlotte Pass, New South Wales. This represents an absolute temperature variation of 73.7 °C. A temperature below -20 °C (-4 °F) has been recorded twice in Australia, while temperatures above 50 °C (122 °F) have been recorded three times. Australia's record high winter temperature is 40.0 °C (104.0 °F) recorded in Kalumburu, Western Australia - one of the hottest temperatures recorded for any country during their "winter" season. The coldest summer temperature on record in Australia was -9.0 °C (15.8 °F), recorded in December at Thredbo Ski Resort.

The lowest maximum temperature on record in Australia was -6.9 °C (19.6 °F), recorded on 9 July 1978 at Thredbo Ski Resort in New South Wales. The highest minimum temperature on record was 35.5 °C (95.9 °F), recorded on 24 January 1982 in <u>Arkaroola, South Australia</u> and again on 21 January 2003 in <u>Wittenoom</u>, Western Australia.

Mean Temperatures (°C) Rain January July (mm) Location Max Min Max Min Annual Adelaide 149 7.5 553 28.5 16.6 21.2 40 274 Alice Springs 36.1 19.5 9.5 1189 Brisbane 29.2 21.0 20.6 Canberra 27.8 12.9 11.1 -0.2631 Darwin 31.8 248 30.4 19.3 1666 Hobart 21.5 11.7 115 45 624 Melbourne 25.7 14.0 13 3 5.8 661 Perth 31.5 16.8 17.7 8.1 869 Sydney 26.3 18.5 16 9 6.7 1220

Summer



Summer daytime temperatures range from 32 to 40 °C (90 to 104 °F)

Summers in southern Australia are generally dry and hot with coastal sea breezes. During a lengthy dry spell, hot and dry winds from the interior can cause bushfires in some southern and eastern states, though most commonly Victoria and New South Wales.

The tropical areas of northern Australia have a wet summer because of the monsoon.

Winter

In winter, this falls to 18 to 23 °C.In Australia, snow falls frequently on the highlands near the east coast, in the states of Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania and in the Australian Capital Territory. There is a regular snow season in several areas which have seasonal ski tourism industries. The occasional cold snap, caused by cold air drifting north from Antarctica, can cause significant snowfall in rural areas, as well as major cities such as Hobart, Melbourne's outer mountain suburbs and Canberra. Snow is rare in the southernmost capitals like Melbourne and Hobart, falling less than once every five .years

Natural hazards



Global warming

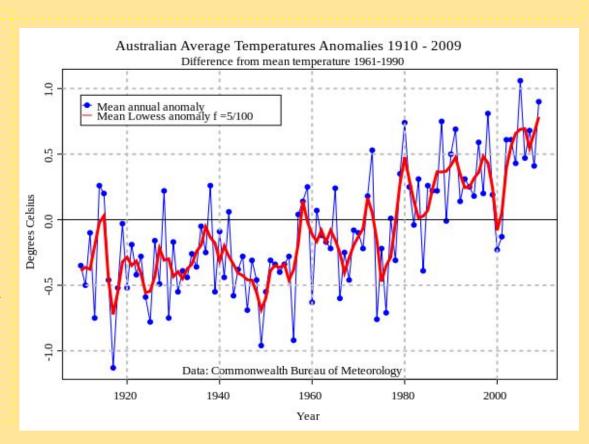
Problems which can be followed by global warming in Australia:

droughts are likely to become more frequent, particularly in the south-west

evaporation rates are likely to increase, particularly in the north and east

high-fire-danger weather is likely to increase in the south-east

🔆 sea levels will continue to rise



Drought

Scientists believe that due to global climate change, drought in Australia will occur twice as often as today. In addition, the scientists predict, periods of extremely hot weather, which now hold about 5% of the duration of the year, will soon go on for most of the year and will become the norm. The report of the Australian professor Ross Garneau, published in 2009, states that climate change in 2010, could have disastrous consequences for the Great Barrier Reef, Kakadu wetlands and river basins and Murray Darling.



Dust storms

A dust storm or sandstorm, a meteorological phenomenon common in arid and semi-arid regions, arises when the wind force exceeds the threshold value where loose sand and dust are removed from the dry surface.





