October 2026 Monthly Weather Report

This document provides a summary of the UK's weather and climate statistics for October 2026.

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UK overview

October was a mild but unsettled month for the UK. Frontal systems brought rain, occasionally heavy, across much of the country throughout the first two weeks. Brief settled spells brought breaks from the rain, but none persisted for more than a few days, resulting in frequent changes from settled to unsettled conditions and back again. The first snow of the season fell across the tops of the Scottish mountains on the 7th, and northern Scotland experienced strong winds and local severe gales around the 12th and 13th as a low pressure system moved past. In the second half of the month, the first two named storms of the 2026/27 storm season arrived. Storm Austen was named on the 20th and underwent explosive cyclogenesis, rapidly deepening as it approached the south of the UK. The storm arrived on the 22nd and brought heavy rain and strong winds, with the Isles of Scilly recording a maximum gust of 76mph. Storm Boelo was named on the 22nd and brought heavy rain on the 24th, resulting in the provisional joint sixth wettest day on record for the UK. Both storms produced wind gusts of 60-70mph across parts of the UK, with Scotland seeing gusts exceeding 80mph along the western coast during Storm Boelo. The last few days of the month saw fog and mist in various parts of the country, especially on the 30th and 31st.

Mid-month saw a spell of below average temperatures for much of the UK, but the surrounding weeks saw above average temperatures and the month closed with the mean temperature provisionally 0.9°C above the 1991-2020 average. England was slightly warmer, while Scotland and Northern Ireland were closer to the average, with provisional anomalies of 0.6°C and 0.5°C, respectively. Rainfall was above average for the UK, which provisionally recorded 113% of the long-term average October rainfall. All four nations recorded above average rainfall, but some southern areas remain in drought after the prolonged period of below-average rainfall. Sunshine hours were also above average for all nations, with the UK provisionally recording 121% of the long-term average sunshine hours in October.

Reference climatology used for calculating anomalies is the period 1991-2020 unless otherwise stated.

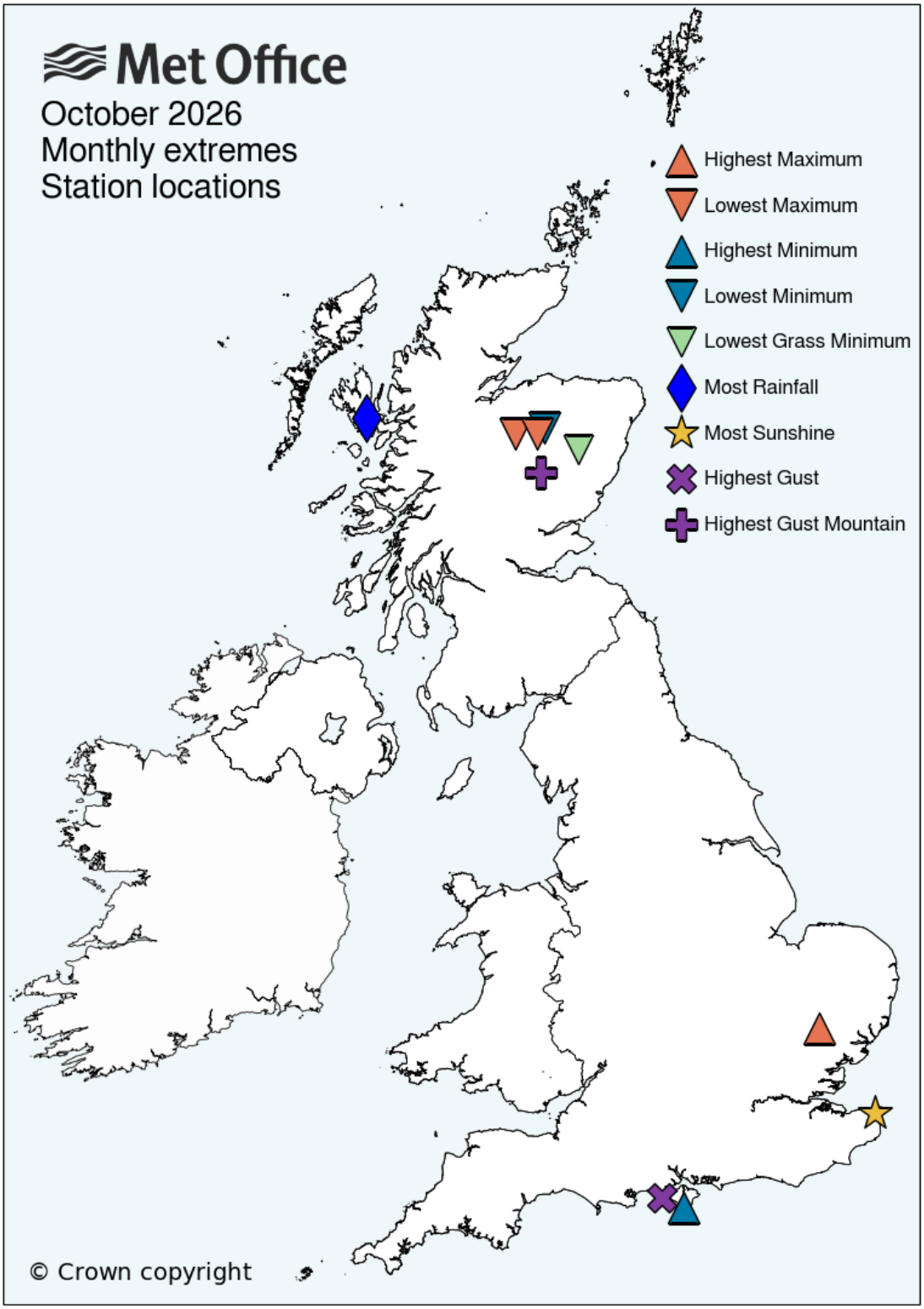
Monthly extremes

The table below lists UK monthly weather extremes recorded at individual weather stations during October 2026 from data available on 04/11/2026. The map shows the location of these stations.

Highest Maximum	**24.3°C** on **5th** at Cavendish (Suffolk, 55mAMSL)
Lowest Maximum	**4.9°C** on **23rd** at Aviemore (Inverness-shire, 228mAMSL) and Tomintoul No 6 (Banffshire, 320mAMSL)
Highest Minimum	**16.3°C** on **15th** at Wight: St Catherines Point (Isle Of Wight, 20mAMSL)
Lowest Minimum	**-5.1°C** on **18th** at Tomintoul No 6 (Banffshire, 320mAMSL)
Lowest Grass Minimum	**-7.8°C** on **19th** at Aboyne No 2 (Aberdeenshire, 140mAMSL)
Most Rainfall	**131.6mm** on **26th** at Skye: Alltdearg House (Inverness-shire, 55mAMSL)
Most Sunshine	**10.9hr** on **5th** at Manston (Kent, 49mAMSL)
Highest Gust	**74Kt 85mph** on **24th** at Wight: Needles Old Battery (Isle Of Wight, 80mAMSL)
Highest Gust (mountain*)	**105Kt 121mph** on **25th** at Cairnwell (Aberdeenshire, 928mAMSL)
Greatest Snow Depth at 0900 UTC	No non-zero values.

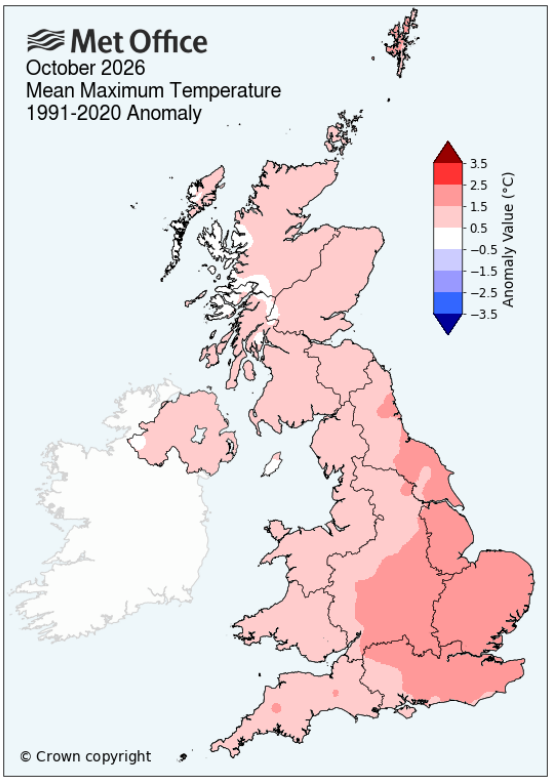
mAMSL refers to station elevation in metres above mean sea level.

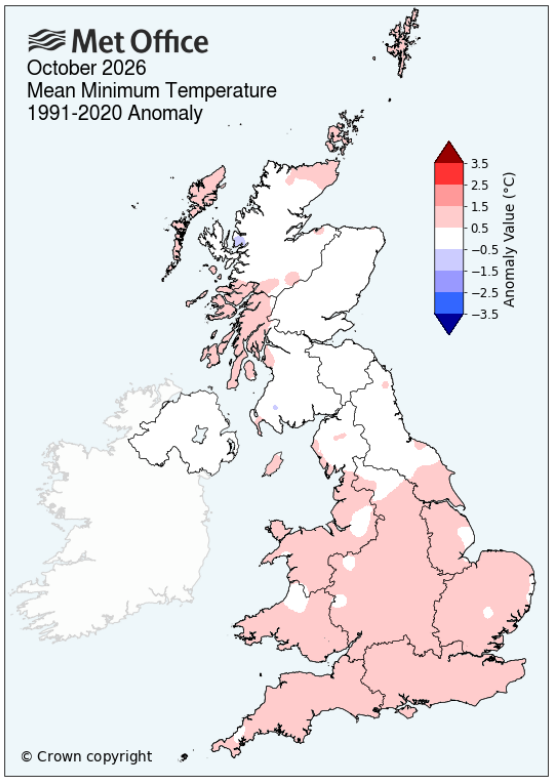
*Mountain stations are above 500mAMSL.

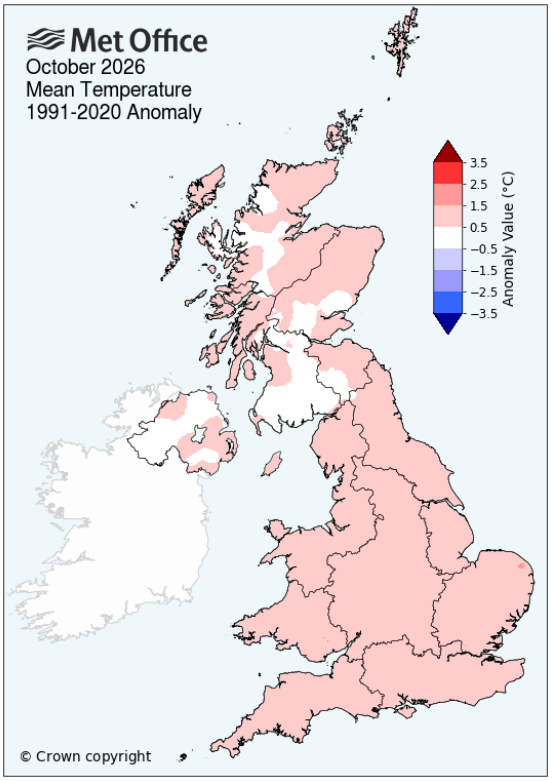

Met Office
October 2026
Monthly extremes
Station locations
Highest Maximum
Lowest Maximum
Highest Minimum
Lowest Minimum
Lowest Grass Minimum
Most Rainfall
Most Sunshine
Highest Gust
Highest Gust Mountain
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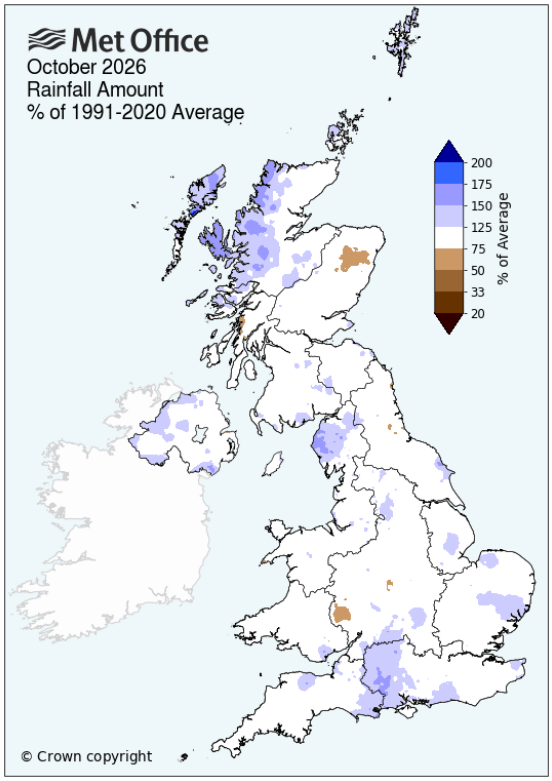
Monthly maps

These maps show monthly average daily maximum, monthly average daily minimum and monthly mean temperature and monthly rainfall for October 2026 as anomalies relative to the October 1991-2020 long term average.

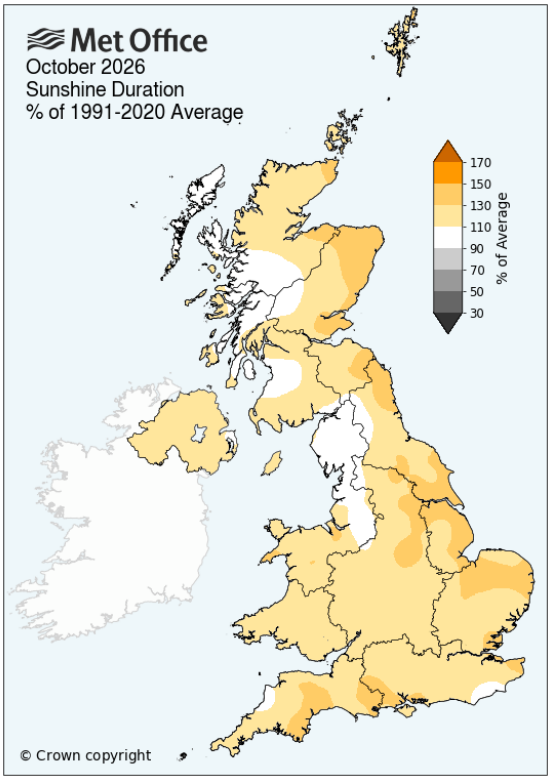


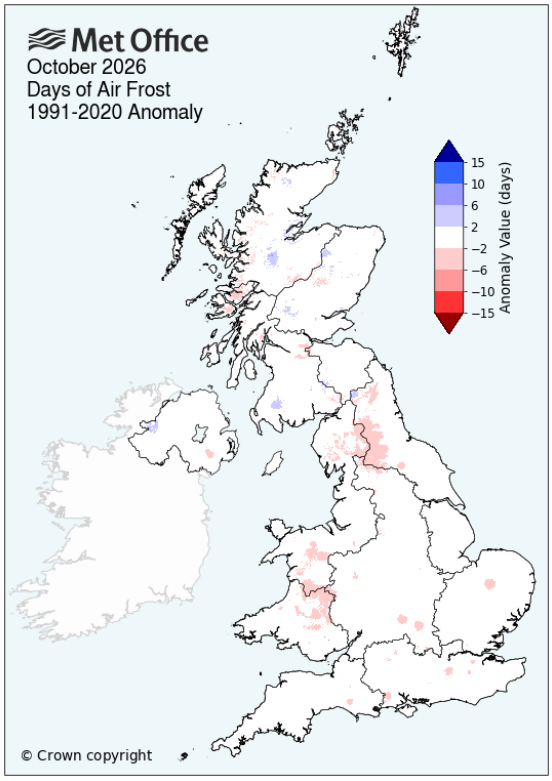


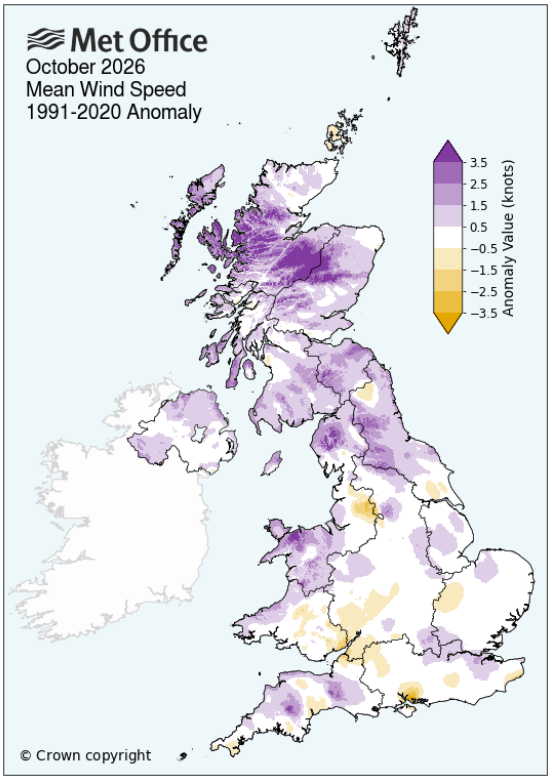


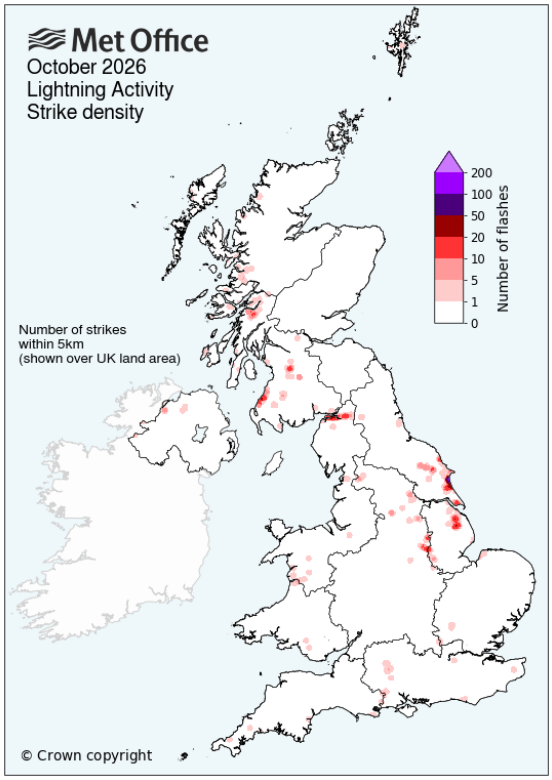


These maps show monthly sunshine, monthly air frost and monthly windspeed for October 2026 as anomalies relative to the October 1991-2020 long term average, plus a map showing lightning activity as the number of strikes within a 5km radius of any land location.









Monthly climate statistics - actuals and anomalies

These tables show the UK and national climate statistics for October 2026 for max, min and mean temperature, rainfall, sunshine and windspeed as actual values and anomalies relative to the October 1991-2020 long term average. The position of the value within the full series (in both ascending and descending order) is shown in the two 'Rank' columns. Central England Temperature (CET) and England & Wales Precipitation (EWP) are also included.

Mean maximum temperature

Region	Maxtemp (°C)	1991-2020 Anomaly (°C)	Rank - warmest	Rank - coldest	Series length (yrs)
UK	14.2	1.2	14	130	143
England	15.6	1.5	10	134	143
Wales	14.3	1.0	20	124	143
Scotland	12.1	0.8	20	124	143
Northern Ireland	13.7	0.8	23	121	143
Central England	15.6	1.4	11	139	149

Mean minimum temperature

Region	Mintemp (°C)	1991-2020 Anomaly (°C)	Rank - warmest	Rank - coldest	Series length (yrs)
UK	7.0	0.5	28	116	143
England	7.8	0.7	20	124	143
Wales	7.6	0.7	26	118	143
Scotland	5.4	0.3	43	101	143
Northern Ireland	6.5	0.2	49	95	143
Central England	8.1	0.6	29	121	149

Mean temperature

Region	Meantemp (°C)	1991-2020 Anomaly (°C)	Rank - warmest	Rank - coldest	Series length (yrs)
UK	10.6	0.9	20	124	143
England	11.7	1.1	16	128	143
Wales	10.9	0.8	23	121	143
Scotland	8.7	0.6	31	113	143
Northern Ireland	10.1	0.5	33	111	143
Central England	11.9	1.0	22	347	368

Rainfall

Region	Rainfall (mm)	% of 1991-2020 Average	Rank - wettest	Rank - driest	Series length (yrs)
UK	138.9	113	51	141	191
England	101.5	112	66	126	191
Wales	163.3	103	75	117	191
Scotland	195.3	116	39	153	191
Northern Ireland	135.6	119	53	139	191
EWP (England and Wales)	111.7	109	91	171	261

Sunshine

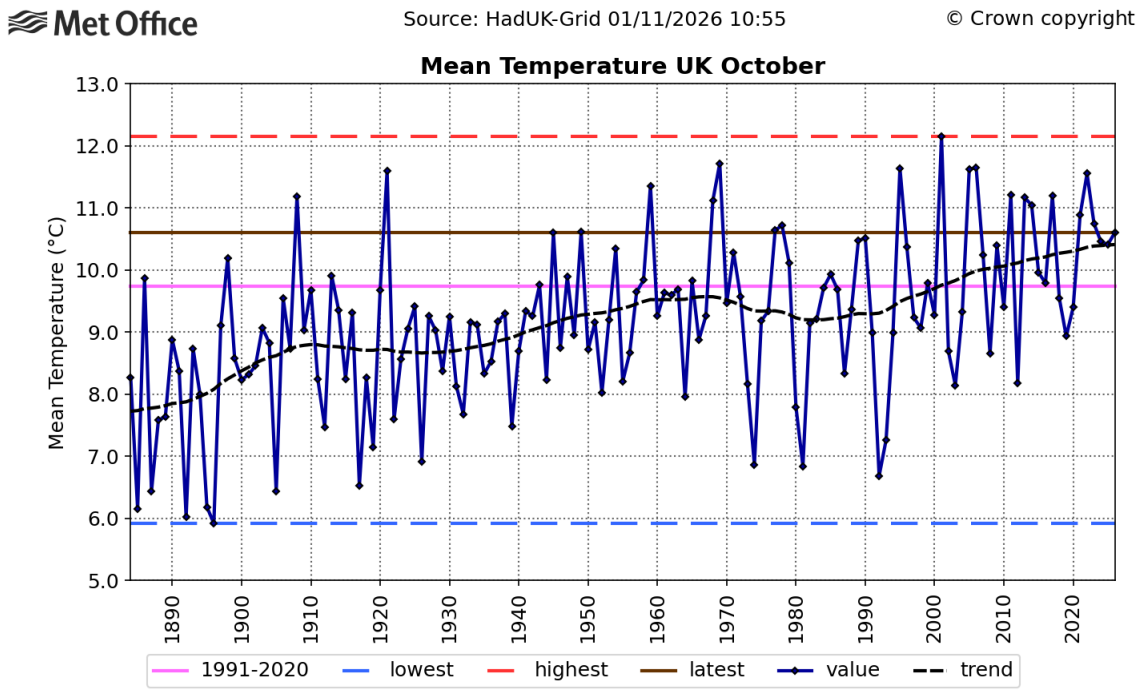
Region	Sunshine (hours)	% of 1991-2020 Average	Rank - sunniest	Rank - dullest	Series length (yrs)
UK	111.6	121	5	113	117
England	127.1	124	9	109	117
Wales	110.8	121	15	103	117
Scotland	87.6	117	14	104	117
Northern Ireland	101.3	119	13	105	117

Windspeed

Region	Windspeed (knots)	1991-2020 Anomaly (knots)	Rank - windiest	Rank - calmest	Series length (yrs)
UK	10.0	0.7	20	39	58
England	8.6	0.3	23	36	58
Wales	10.7	0.6	22	37	58
Scotland	12.3	1.5	20	39	58
Northern Ireland	9.2	0.7	22	37	58

Monthly time-series

These charts show time-series for the UK for October for monthly mean temperature (from 1884), monthly rainfall (from 1836) and monthly sunshine (from 1919). The brown line shows the latest (2026) value. The hatched black line is a smoothing filter which shows the long-term trend. The tables below show statistics for the latest year, latest 10 years 2017-2026, the most recent 30-year climate reference period 1991-2020 and the 30-year baseline climate reference period 1961-1990.

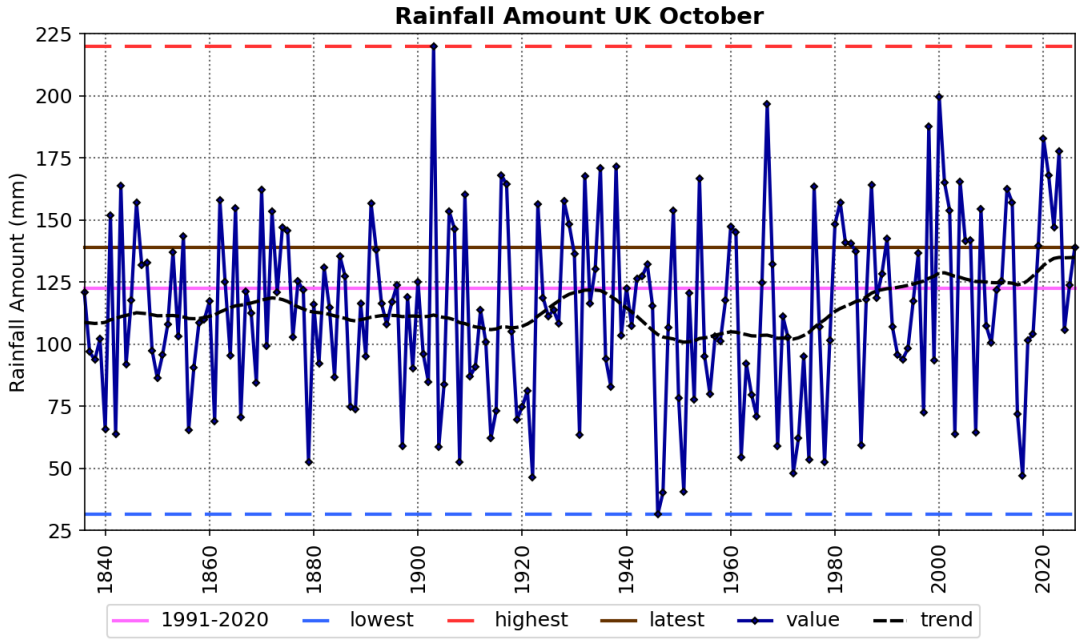


Period	1961-1990	1991-2020	2017-2026	2026
Meantemp (°C)	9.4	9.7	10.4	10.6

Met Office

Source: HadUK-Grid 01/11/2026 10:55

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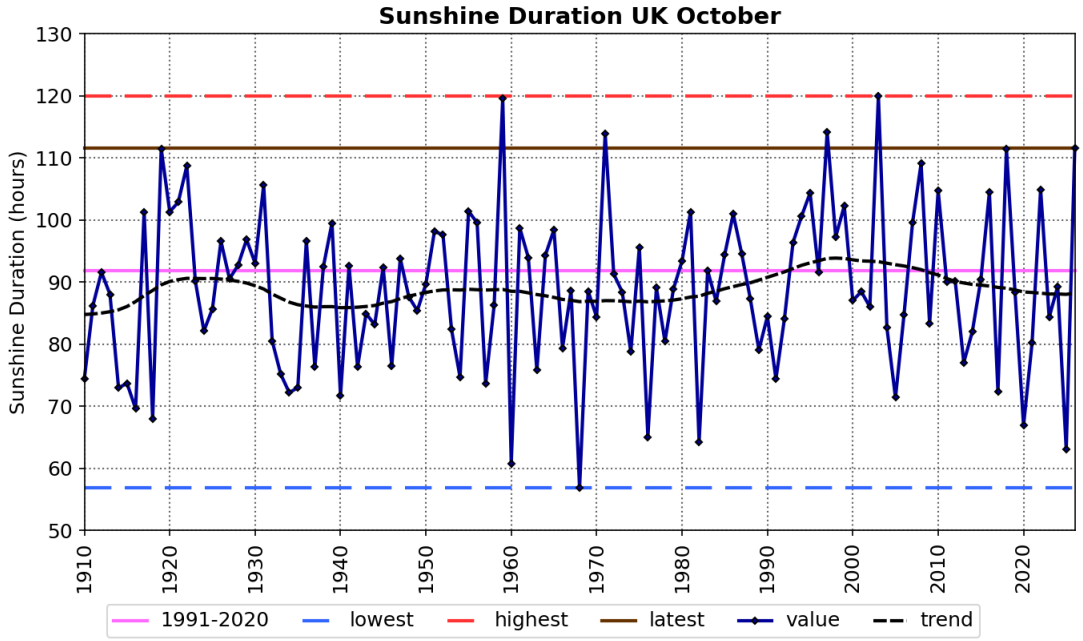


Period	1961-1990	1991-2020	2017-2026	2026
Rainfall (mm)	110.2	122.5	138.9	138.9

Met Office

Source: HadUK-Grid 01/11/2026 10:55

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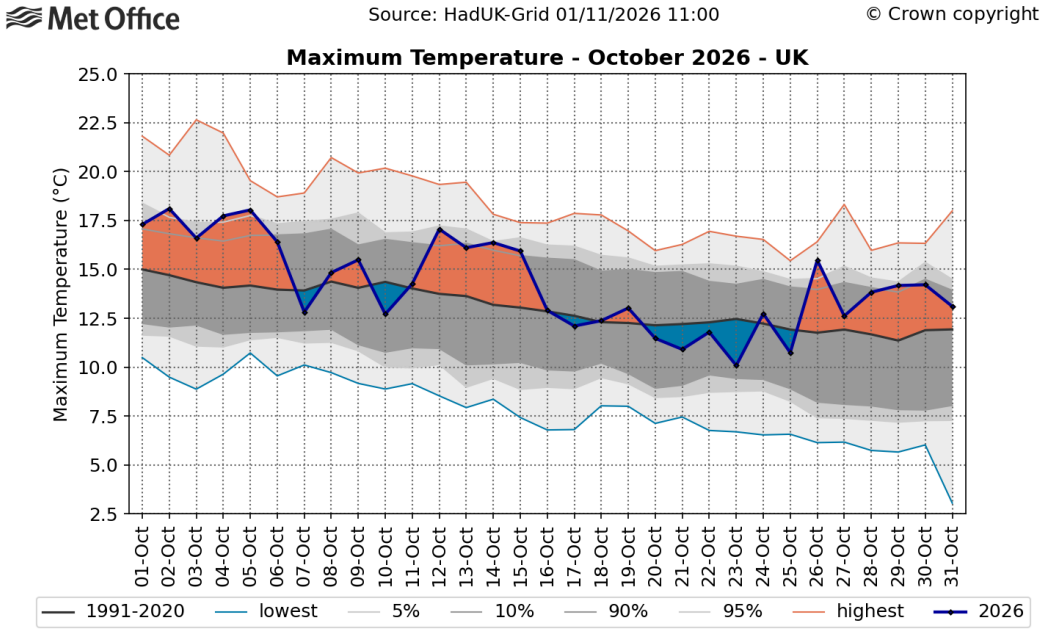


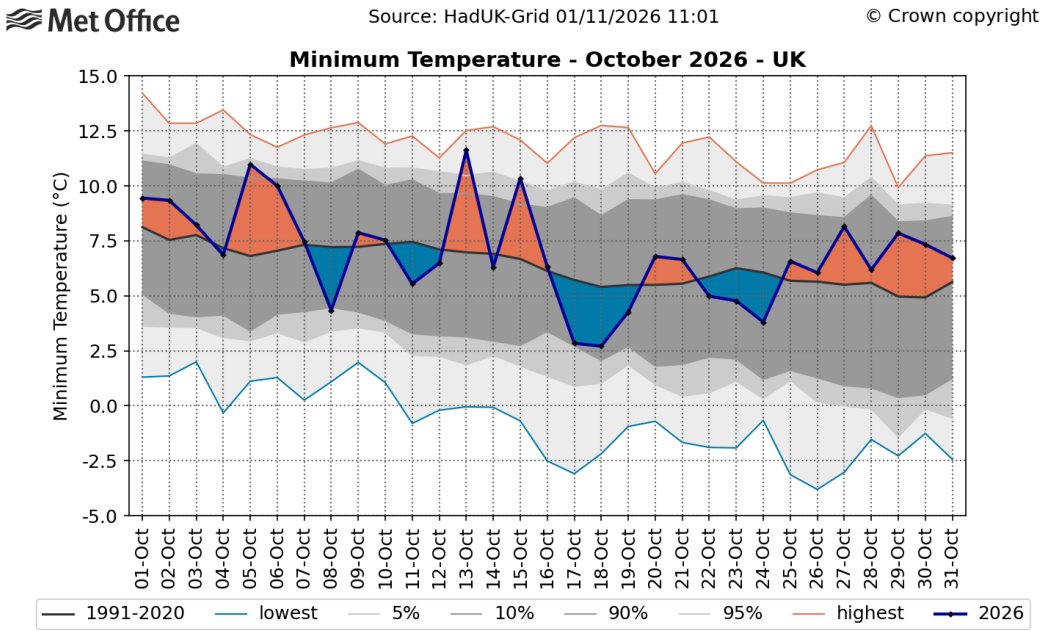
Period	1961-1990	1991-2020	2017-2026	2026
Sunshine (hours)	87.6	91.8	87.3	111.6

Daily time-series

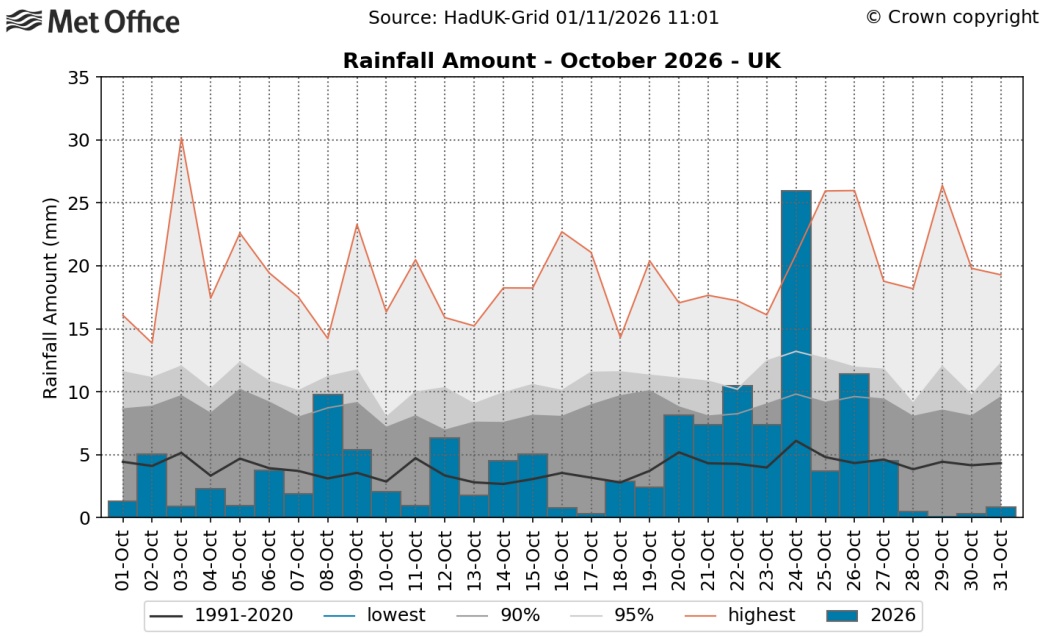
These charts show time-series of UK area-average daily maximum and daily minimum temperature and daily rainfall for each day of October 2026. The areas shaded in grey show the highest and lowest values in the daily temperature series (from 1960) and daily rainfall series (from 1891) together with percentiles and the 1991-2020 long term averages for each day. The rainfall accumulation chart shows the daily rainfall series as an accumulation through the month.

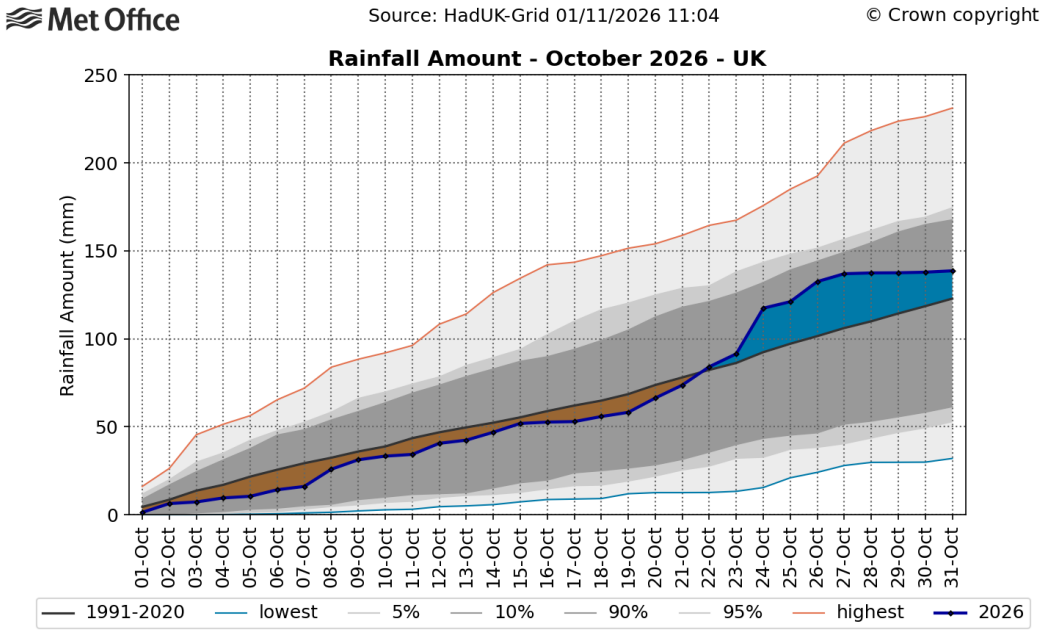
Daily maximum and daily minimum temperature





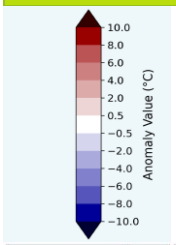
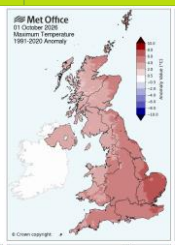
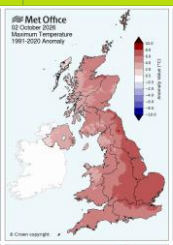
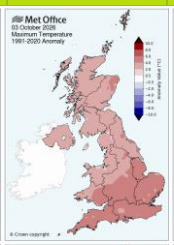
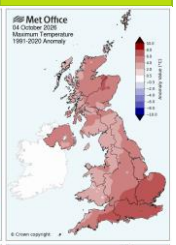
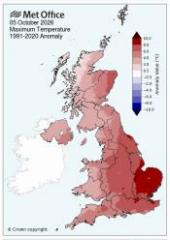
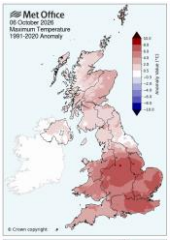
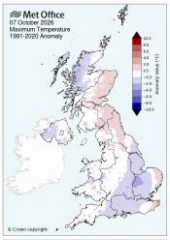
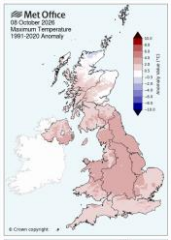
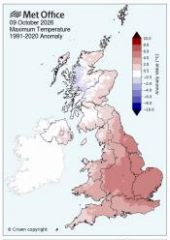
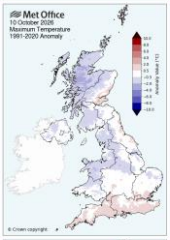
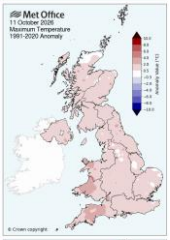
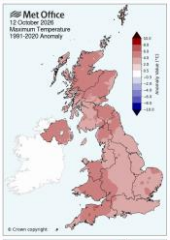
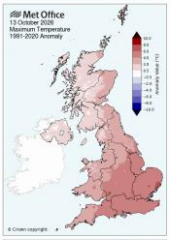
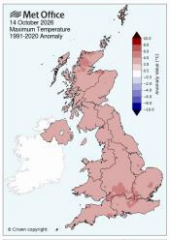
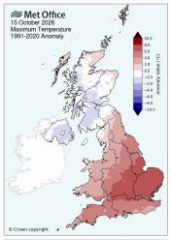
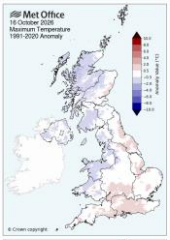
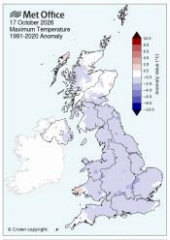
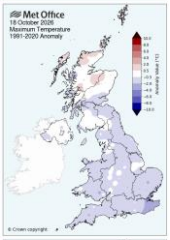
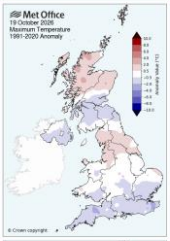
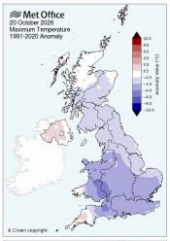
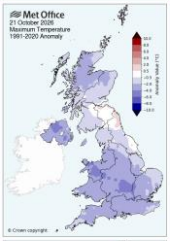
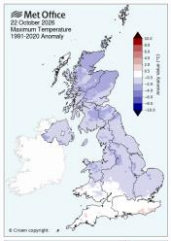
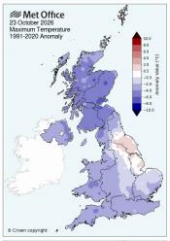
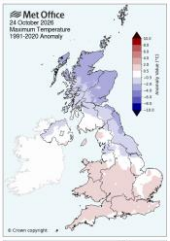
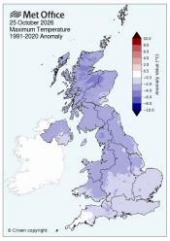
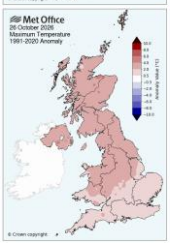
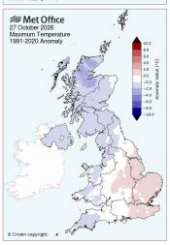
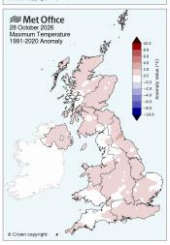
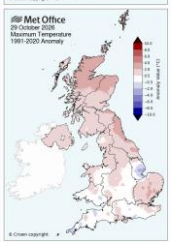
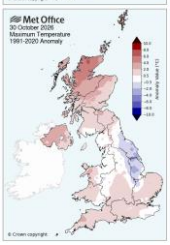
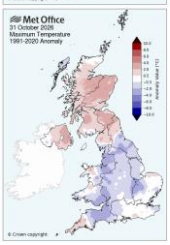
Daily rainfall and rainfall accumulation





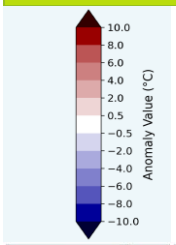
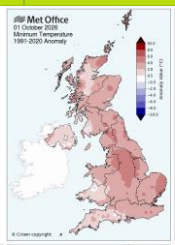
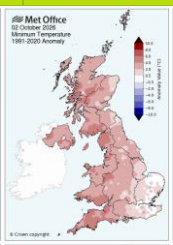
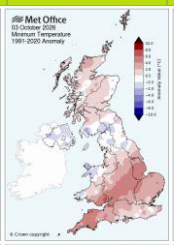
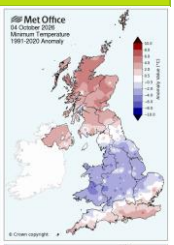
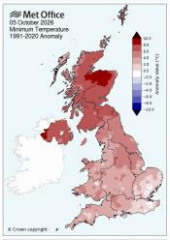
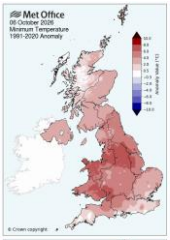
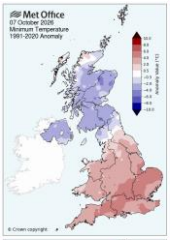
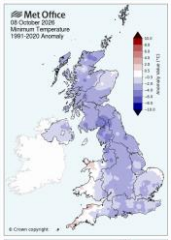
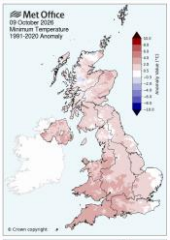
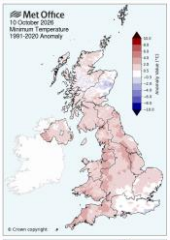
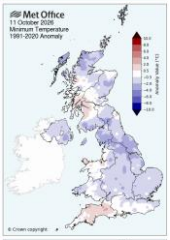
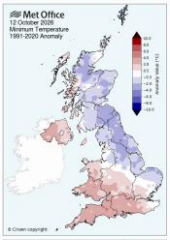
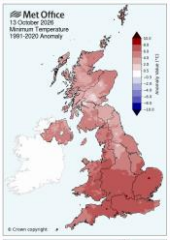
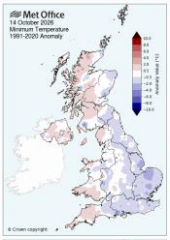
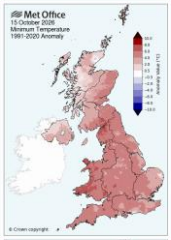
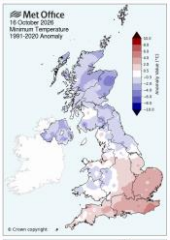
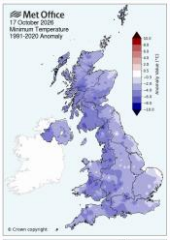
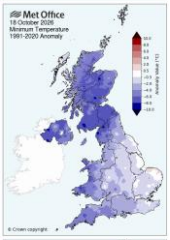
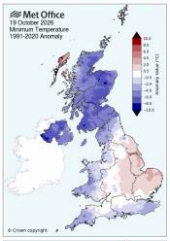
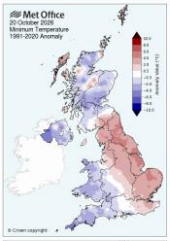
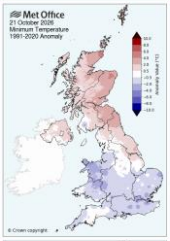
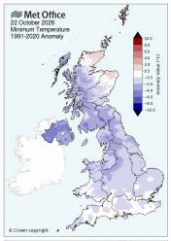
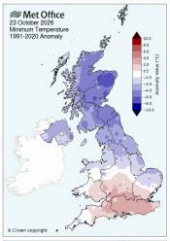
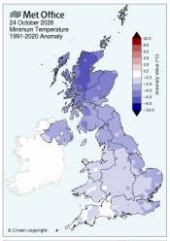
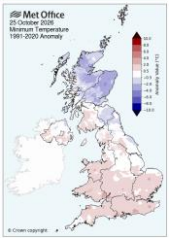
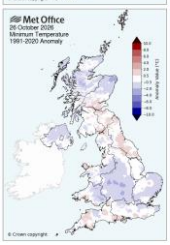
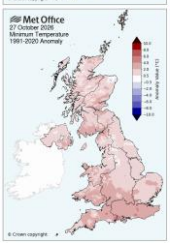
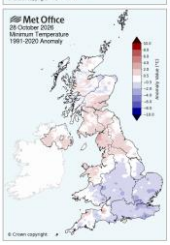
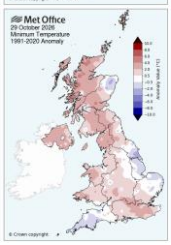
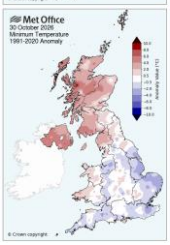
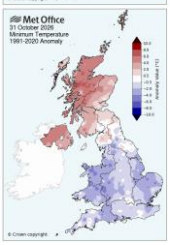
Daily maximum temperature maps - calendar view

These maps show daily maximum temperatures for each day of October 2026 as anomalies relative to the October 1991-2020 long term average. The daily maximum temperature is the maximum from 0900UTC on the day in question to 0900UTC the following day. Normally, the maximum occurs in the early afternoon.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						
						
						
						
						

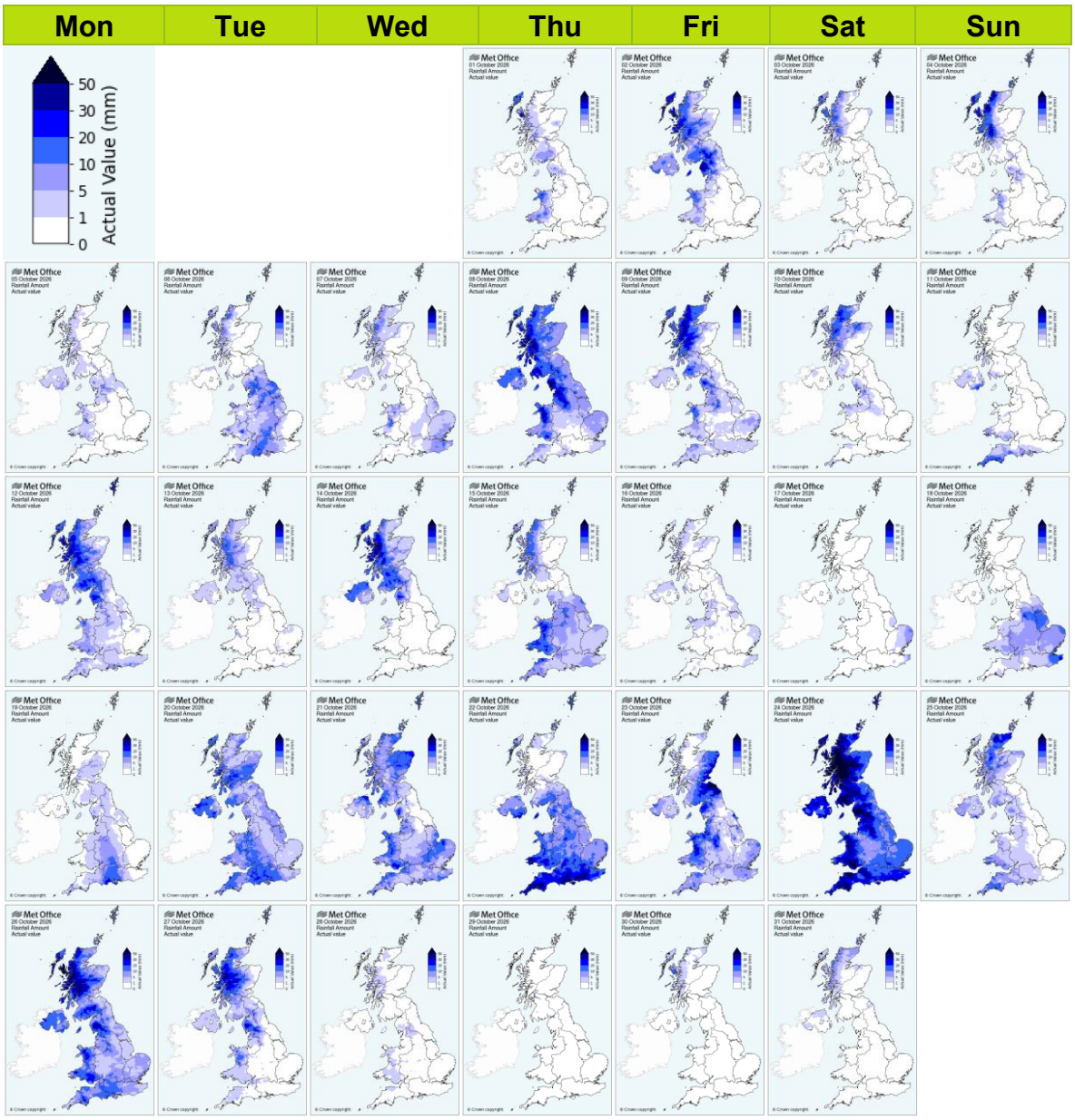
Daily minimum temperature maps - calendar view

These maps show daily minimum temperatures for each day of October 2026 as anomalies relative to the October 1991-2020 long term average. The daily minimum temperature is the minimum from 0900UTC the previous day to 0900UTC on the day in question. Normally, the minimum occurs in the early morning.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						
						
						
						
						

Daily rainfall maps - calendar view

These maps show daily rainfall for each day of October 2026 as daily totals. The daily rainfall is the total from 0900UTC on the day in question to 0900UTC the following day.

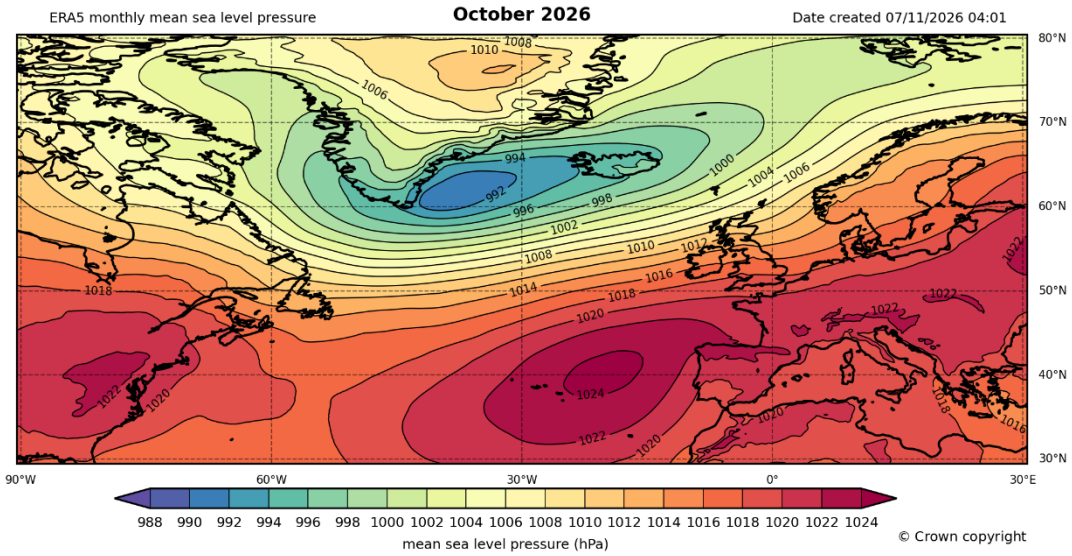


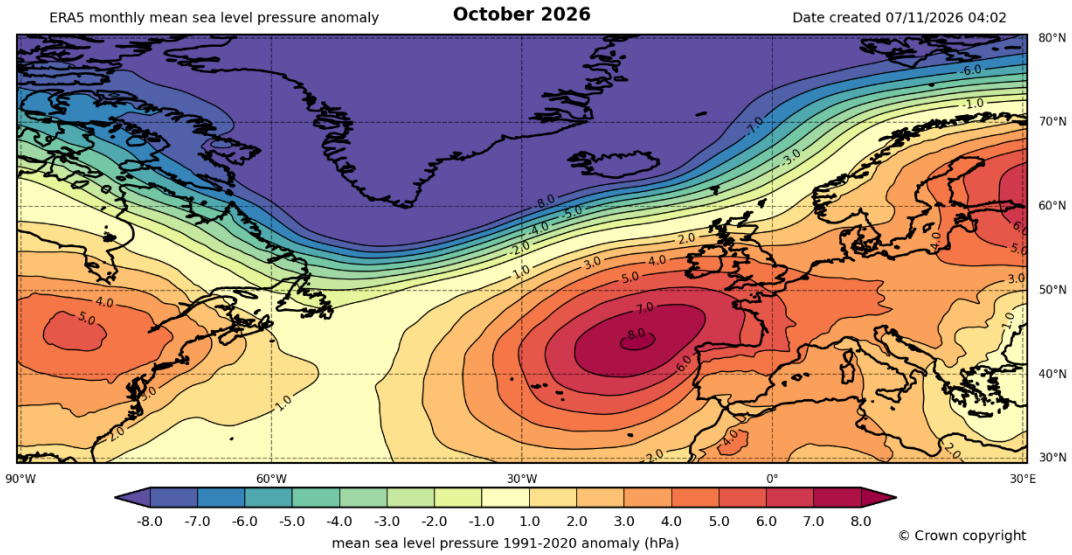
Monthly atmospheric circulation

Mean sea level pressure

These charts show the monthly mean sea level pressure for October 2026 for the UK and north Atlantic, based on the ERA5 reanalysis (Hersbach et al, 2019), both as actual values and as an anomaly relative to the October long term average. These charts provide an indication of the weather characteristics of the month overall i.e. whether the weather type has been generally settled (high pressure) or unsettled (low pressure) during the month.

October saw anomalously high pressure to the northwest of the Iberian peninsula and anomalously low pressure across Iceland and Greenland. The UK was situated in higher than average pressure, especially in the southwest.

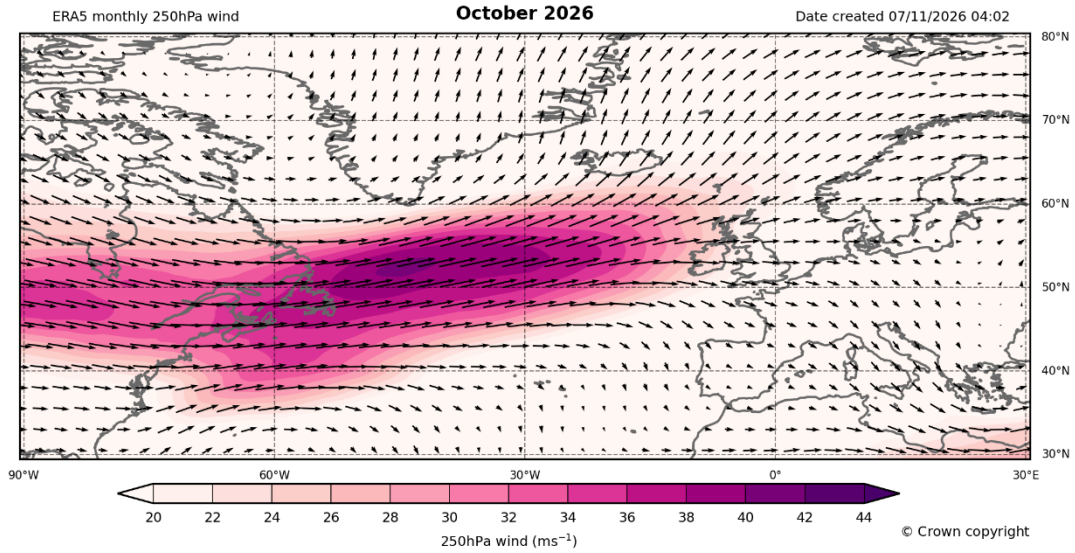


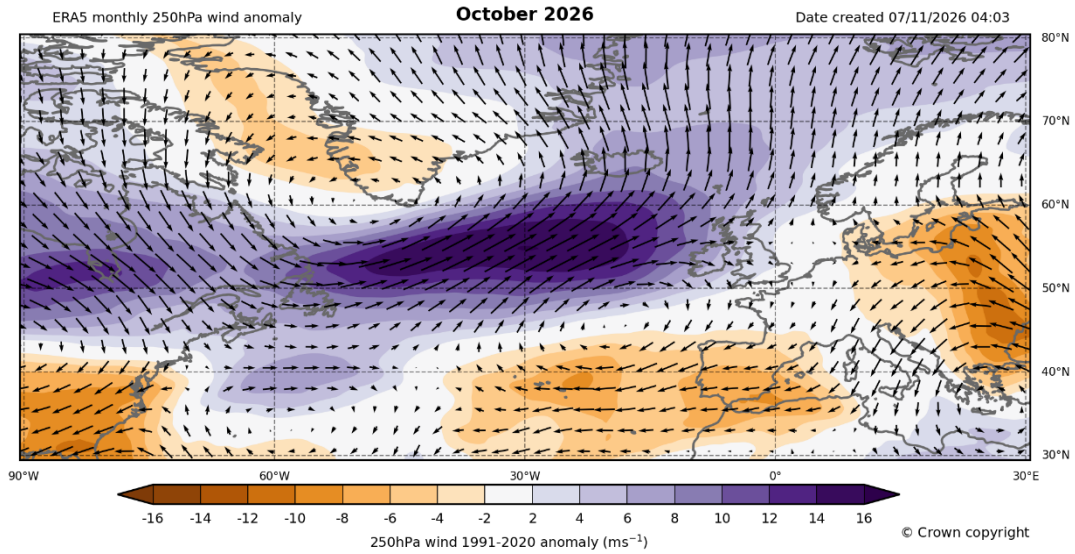


250hPa wind speed and direction

These charts show the monthly 250hPa wind speed and direction for October 2026 for the UK and north Atlantic, based on the ERA5 reanalysis (Hersbach et al, 2019), both as actual values and as an anomaly relative to the October long term average. This provides an indication of the mean strength and position of the jet stream compared to normal. The wind anomaly map shows shaded (scalar) wind speed anomalies with arrows as (vector) wind anomalies.

The jetstream was shifted north in October, with anomalously strong flow over the northern Atlantic and anomalously weak flow over the Iberian peninsula and the Azores. The UK saw slightly stronger flow across the north of the country.





Weather diary

- **Very warm first week, cooler mid-month, then stormy towards the end**

A mobile Atlantic was the general trend for the month, with low pressure to the north and high to the south. The warm conditions from the end of September continued into the first week of October, especially for east and southeast England. Maxes continued to reach into the mid 20s Celsius. It was also rather mild overnight into the 5th with minima in some places not falling below 15deg C.

By the 7th, however, it turned much cooler everywhere thanks to a northerly airstream. Mid to high teens were recorded at best, and a large contrast between minima in the south ranging between 10 to 13deg C, while parts of the Grampians and Aberdeenshire froze with temperatures here falling to as low as minus 3deg C.

Rainfall was plentiful especially for western counties of England, Wales and Scotland, and over Northern Ireland pretty much everyday up to the 16th before an area of high pressure built over the UK. From the 17th to the 21st, the emphasis for the rain turned to southern England as a low over northern France extended its fronts over this region.

A particularly deep depression, with a central pressure measured as low as 931hPa, developed in the northwest Atlantic between the 13th and 15th bringing some very strong southwesterly winds to Northern Ireland and Scotland. Gusts in excess of 50mph were recorded over Northern Ireland and as high as 74mph in the Western Isles. It was rather mild, however, with minima over counties of England remained above 15deg Celsius on the 15th.

From the 22nd to the 25th, the UK experienced not one but two storms, Austen, which brought storm force winds to western and southern counties, and some persistent and heavy rain to most places, followed almost immediately by Boelo, which tracked over northern Scotland. Gusts from Austen reached over 50mph widely across southern and southwestern counties and Wales, with 75mph being recorded in the Isle of Scilly. Despite Boelo tracking to the north of Scotland, its effects were felt across all regions, with gusts generally over northern England and Scotland exceeding 70mph but the highest gusts hitting 85mph over the south coast of England. Another very deep depression came close to the UK on the 27th but wasn't officially named.

Once that low had cleared away into the northern Atlantic, the UK found itself back in a mobile westerly airstream with a sequence of depressions and their attendant fronts followed by transient ridges of high pressure. By the 29th, however, high pressure, centered over the near continent, began to extend its influence across the whole of the UK. Maximum

temperatures were around average and fog became a significant issue over most of England and Wales at the end of the month.

Notes

The Met Office National Meteorological Library and Archive holds a near-continuous record of monthly weather reports from 1884, and this report forms a continuation of that series. The purpose of each report is to provide an overview of the weather conditions across the UK for that month. The emphasis is mainly based on observations from the surface network of weather stations. Climate series based on from data from these stations are used to provide long term context.

This summary was produced on 11/11/2026 09:05. The statistics are a provisional assessment of the observational data available at the time of production. Ongoing data receipt and quality assurance processes may result in subsequent updates to the statistics presented.

If you have any questions or feedback about this product, spot any data errors or omissions, or wish to obtain further data, please contact the Met Office.

For historical monthly weather reports please visit the Library and Archive.

- The land-surface observations presented in this report are from the Met Office official weather station network which includes both automatic weather stations and manual climate stations operated by volunteer observers. Rainfall data are from the official registered rain-gauge network which includes rain-gauges operated by a number of key partners including the Environment Agency, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and Northern Ireland Water.
- The observations are carefully managed such that they conform to current best-practice observational standards as defined by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The observations also pass through a range of quality assurance procedures at the Met Office before application for climate monitoring.
- Daily and monthly maps, monthly statistics and monthly time-series are primarily based on the HadUK-Grid dataset of 1km resolution UK gridded climate data (Hollis et al, 2019). Monthly statistics from the monthly Central England temperature series 1659 (Manley, 1974) and England and Wales precipitation series from 1766 (Wigley et al, 1984) provide long term context.
- The monthly lightning activity map is based on data from the Met Office LEELA (Lightning Electromagnetic Emission Location by Arrival time difference) system. This is an automatic lightning location network comprising around ten lightning outstation sensors located across Europe.
- The monthly maps of mean sea level pressure and 250hPa wind speed and direction are based on the ERA5 reanalysis (Hersbach et al, 2019). ERA5 is the fifth

generation ECMWF reanalysis for the global climate and weather for the past 4 to 7 decades. Reanalysis combines model data with observations from across the world into a globally complete and consistent dataset using the laws of physics.

Hersbach, H., Bell, B., Berrisford, P., Biavati, G., Horányi, A., Muñoz Sabater, J., Nicolas, J., Peubey, C., Radu, R., Rozum, I., Schepers, D., Simmons, A., Soci, C., Dee, D., Thépaut, J-N. (2019): ERA5 monthly averaged data on single levels from 1959 to present. Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) Climate Data Store (CDS). https://doi.org/10.24381/cds.f17050d7

Hollis, D, McCarthy, MP, Kendon, M, Legg, T, Simpson, I. HadUK-Grid - A new UK dataset of gridded climate observations. Geosci Data J. 2019; 6: 151-159. https://doi.org/10.1002/gdj3.78

Manley, G. (1974), Central England temperatures: Monthly means 1659 to 1973. Q.J.R. Meteorol. Soc., 100: 389-405. https://doi.org/10.1002/qj.49710042511

Wigley, T.M.L., Lough, J.M. and Jones, P.D. (1984), Spatial patterns of precipitation in England and Wales and a revised, homogeneous England and Wales precipitation series. J. Climatol., 4: 1-25. https://doi.org/10.1002/joc.3370040102

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