



Weather chart for 1200 GMT on 18 July 1955

## Daily weather extremes

**Highest Maximum Temperature:**  
23.9 °C at Bristol (Gloucestershire)

**Lowest Maximum Temperature:**  
14.4 °C at Leuchars (Fife)

**Lowest Minimum Temperature:**  
4.4 °C at Stornoway Airport (Isle of Lewis)

**Lowest Grass Minimum Temperature:**  
0.0 °C at Stornoway Airport (Isle of Lewis)

**Most Rainfall:**  
279.4 mm at Winterborne St. Martin (Martinstown)  
(Dorset)

**Most Sunshine:**  
13.4 hours at Tiree (Argyll)

## General summary

For much of Scotland and Northern Ireland it was a dry night with clear spells. However, low cloud plagued eastern coastal counties with the odd spot of drizzle possible at times. England and Wales had a much cloudier night and although essentially dry across northern England and North Wales, southern areas saw localised thunderstorms which were heavy at times.

Scotland and Northern Ireland, apart from misty low cloud and outbreaks of drizzle down the east coast, had a fine day with good spells of sunshine especially across western areas. England and Wales were much cloudier and although dry across northern areas, southern counties of both England and Wales saw outbreaks of rain, locally heavy with thunder. The rain slowly died away during the evening although some heavier bursts were still possible along the south coast. Scotland and Northern Ireland had a fine evening although low cloud and drizzle continued to plague the east coast from time to time.

Temperatures were about average generally in a light east or north-easterly breeze across most areas. However, winds across the far northwest of Scotland were light and from the west or southwest.

## Significant weather event

Severe thunderstorms occurred across southern England and South Wales with some remarkable falls of rain in a very small period of time.

At Dorchester (South Court Avenue), more than 3 inches of rain fell in 3 hours; Litton Cheney, 4.48 inches fell in 2¾ hours; Upway 6.55 inches in 6½ hours. At Martinstown where the fall of 11 inches in a day was recorded, it is believed that 7.5 inches fell in about 5 hours. At Neath (Glamorgan), 3.32 inches fell in 2 hours.

## 24-hour rainfall totals

(0900 GMT – 0900 GMT)

	Rainfall	
	(mm)	(in.)
Winterborne St. Martin (Martinstown) (Dorset):	279.4	11.00
Upway, Friar Waddon Pumping Station (Dorset):	241.3	9.50
Upway, Higher Well (Dorset):	228.6	9.00
Upway, Elwell (Dorset):	211.1	8.31
Wynford House (Dorset):	200.7	7.90
Dorchester, Queens Avenue (Dorset):	190.5	7.50
Litton Cheney, Primary School (Dorset):	185.9	7.32
Dorchester, Waterworks (Dorset):	182.9	7.20
Weymouth, Westham (Dorset):	181.6	7.15

## Daily weather statistics

	London	Edinburgh	Cardiff	Belfast
Maximum Temperature/°C:	21.1	20.6	22.2	20.0
Minimum Temperature/°C:	17.2	11.1	17.8	6.1
Rainfall Amount/mm:	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sunshine Amount/hours:	0.1	5.0	0.2	12.6