

Latitude and Climate - A Summary of a Logical System (with a few logical complications)

The earth has four basic types of climate with three major complications:




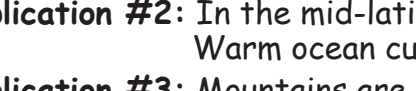
The Equatorial Rainy Belt. Hot and rainy weather near the equator.

The Tropical Hot Deserts. Hot and dry weather near the Tropic lines.

The Polar Cold Deserts. Cold and dry weather near the poles.

The Midlatitude Frontal Areas. Variable weather caused by moving airmasses and fronts.

Complication #1: These major climate belts shift north in summer and south in winter.

		January	July
COLD and DRY 	80°-90°N	Dark, cold, and dry	Cool and usually cloudy
	60°-75°N	Dark, cold, usually dry	Sometimes warm and rainy
	40°-55°N	Cold/warm dry/snowy	Hot/warm dry/rainy
	30°-35°N	Cool and sometimes rainy	Hot and dry
HOT and DRY 	20°-25°N	Hot and dry	Hot and dry
	10°-15°N	Hot and dry	Hot and rainy
	5°N-5°S	Hot and rainy	Hot and rainy
HOT and DRY 	10°-15°S	Hot and rainy	Hot and dry
	20°-25°S	Hot and dry	Hot and dry
	30°-35°S	Hot and dry	Cool and sometimes rainy
COLD and DRY 	40°-55°S	Hot/warm dry/rainy	Cool/warm rainy/snowy
	60°-75°S	Cool and sometimes rainy	Cold and usually dry
	80°-90°S	Cool and usually cloudy	Dark, cold, and dry

Complication #2: In the mid-latitudes (roughly 20 to 50), cold ocean currents make west coasts cooler and drier. Warm ocean currents make east coasts warmer and sometimes rainy, with occasional hurricanes.

Complication #3: Mountains are cooler than you'd expect at that latitude; areas between/behind mountains are drier.

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COLD and DRY



HOT and DRY



HOT and DRY



COLD and DRY

80°-90°N. Dark, cold, and dry in January, cool and cloudy in July.

60°-75°N. Dark, cold, dry in January, sometimes warm and rainy in July.

40°-55°N. Cold/warm dry/snowy in January, hot/warm dry/rainy in July.

30°-35°N. Cool and sometimes rainy in January, hot and dry in July.

20°-25°N. Hot and dry in January, hot and dry in July.

10°-15°N. Hot and dry in January, hot and rainy in July.

5°N-0°-5°S. Hot and rainy in January, hot and rainy in July.

10°-15°S. Hot and rainy in January, hot and dry in July.

20°-25°S. Hot and dry in January, hot and dry in July.

30°-35°S. Hot and dry in January, cool and sometimes rainy in July.

40°-55°S. Hot/warm dry/rainy in January, cool/warm rainy/snowy in July.

60°-75°S. Cool and sometimes rainy in January, cold and dry in July.

80°-90°S. Cool and cloudy in January, dark, cold, and dry in July.

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