

The weather in Iceland 2007

A short statement from the Icelandic Meteorological Office



Christmas in Svarfaðardalur, North-Iceland 2007. Photo: Sveinn Brynjólfsson.

The year 2007 continued the spell of warm years which has been dominating in Iceland since the turn of the century. In the South and West it was among the 10 warmest recorded, but in the Northeast and East it was among the 15 warmest. Multi-station temperature measurements go back to the early 1870s.

In Reykjavik only May had slightly below normal temperatures (1961-1990) and in 7 of the months the temperature was more than 1.5°C above the normal. April and July were particularly warm and April registered the highest temperature ever measured in April in Iceland, 23.0°C at the Ásbyrgi station in the Northeast. June was also warm and an unusual dry spell began in the South and West on the 10th with only a few mm of precipitation falling until the end of July. The vegetation suffered in some places and water supplies on individual farms were threatened. Teigarhorn in the Southeast recorded the driest summer (June to August) since the start of observations in 1873. The summer was rather dull in the Northeast.

The dry spell ended everywhere by 20 August and an equally unusual wet spell set in. The remaining part of the year was the wettest ever registered in the South and West and the year as a whole was the second wettest on record in this area. The precipitation totals in the North and East were close to the average.

December was very stormy and recurrent fierce wind-storms caused some material damages and interrupted air and land communication on several occasions.

Except for a two-week period in January, the snow cover in 2007 was very light compared to the long-term mean (1961-1990).