

Moscow's Sweltering Summer Breaks Heat Records

June 22, 2021



Moscow recorded its hottest June 22 in 142 years Tuesday when the temperature hit 31.9 degrees Celsius. **Sergei Vedyashkin / Moskva News Agency**

Russia's capital has experienced record-breaking temperatures throughout the month of June and is bracing for an all-time high in the next few days, according to meteorological data cited by the state-run TASS and Interfax news agencies.

Moscow recorded its [hottest June 22](#) in 142 years Tuesday when the temperature hit 31.9 degrees Celsius. The day before, the city saw its hottest [June 21](#) in 65 years when thermometers rose to 31.1 C.

The temperature in Moscow is likely to climb to 36 C in the next few days, beating the all-time record of 34.7 C set in 1901, Evgeni Tishkovets from the Phobos meteorological center [said](#) Sunday.

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Other places in Russia are also experiencing extreme heat conditions.

St. Petersburg has just [had](#) three record-breaking hot days in a row, after [experiencing](#) other weather anomalies in May. The temperature on Monday rose to 30.7 C — 0.3 C higher than it was on the previously record-hot June 21 in 2006. Tuesday is likely to be another record-breaking day for the city, local meteorologist Alexander Kolesov told TASS.

Similar temperatures have even been [recorded](#) in the Arctic. On Saturday it was 31.1 C in Tyumyati in the republic of Sakha, which is 4,100 kilometers from Moscow and inside the polar circle. Siberia's Kotelny Island — one of the northernmost pieces of land on Earth experiences a record-breaking temperature of 17.6 C on the same day.

The heatwave will break in Moscow next week, Tishkovets said.

Long-term, however, scorching summers are likely to become more common in Russia, as the country is [heating up](#) 2.5 times faster than the rest of the world.

The frequency of extreme weather events around the world has [doubled](#) over the past 20 years and the same dynamic is true for Russia, the head of Russia's Hydrometeorological Research Center Roman Vilfand [told](#) the Ura.ru news website in June 2020.

Last year extreme heat caused record-breaking wildfires in Siberia, and experts have [warned](#) of a repeat this year. By the end of the 21st century, Moscow and St. Petersburg might be surrounded by temperate deserts instead of temperate forests, scientists at Aalto University [predicted](#) in a recent study.

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