The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russia Reports Hottest July on Record

August 31, 2026

People seen cooling off during warm weather in Moscow in July 2026. **Vasily Kuzmichenok / Moskva News Agency**

Russia experienced its hottest July on record this summer, the country's national meteorological service, Rosgidromet, said Monday.

Nationwide average temperatures in July surpassed the previous record set in 2010, when the average temperature exceeded the norm by 7.8 degrees Celsius.

"July was the hottest in our country for the entire period of instrumental observations since 1891," Rosgidromet chief Yury Simonov said at a press conference.

He did not say how much warmer on average this year's record-setting July was, according to the Interfax news agency.

Simonov noted that regional temperatures exceeded seasonal norms by 4 C in northern Siberia, the southern Urals and the Far East republic of Sakha.

Related article: Fires, Floods and Foul Air: In Siberia's Tyumen Region, Weather Disasters Turn Biblical

Simonov attributed the historic heat to a stationary high-pressure system that trapped warm air over northern Russia and prevented cooler air with rain from moving in from the west.

"This is a very strong anomaly for such northern parts of the country," Simonov said.

While vast parts of Russia sweltered, Simonov said residents of Moscow largely saw cooler weather as the capital recorded an average summer temperature of just 0.9 C above the norm.

Russia is warming 2.5 times faster than the rest of the world, fueling more extreme weather events across the country.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/08/31/russia-reports-hottest-july-on-record-a93609