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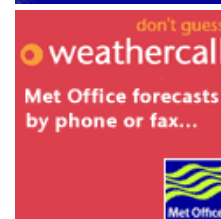
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[Scientific interest sites](#)
[EA Floodline](#)
[Directgov](#)
[Freedom of Information](#)

Contact

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[Questions answered](#)

The hottest weather of the summer is on its way this weekend

15 June 2000

Release number 416

Met. Office forecasters are still predicting the hottest weekend of the year for England and Wales with inland temperatures perhaps as high as 30°C(86°F) in a few spots by Sunday. The last time thermometers touched 30°C was on the 11th September 1999.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be warmer, but it will be more cloudy at times, and some Irish Sea coasts may stay a little cooler.

Winds from the continent will bring the hotter weather, but at the same time some parts of Eastern Europe will cool down to bring welcome relief from a recent heatwave there.

Ewen McCallum, Head of Forecasting at The Met. Office said: "After a rather cloudy and cool start it looks like summer is under way. We remain confident that many parts of Southern Britain will enjoy the fine weekend first promised earlier in the week."

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