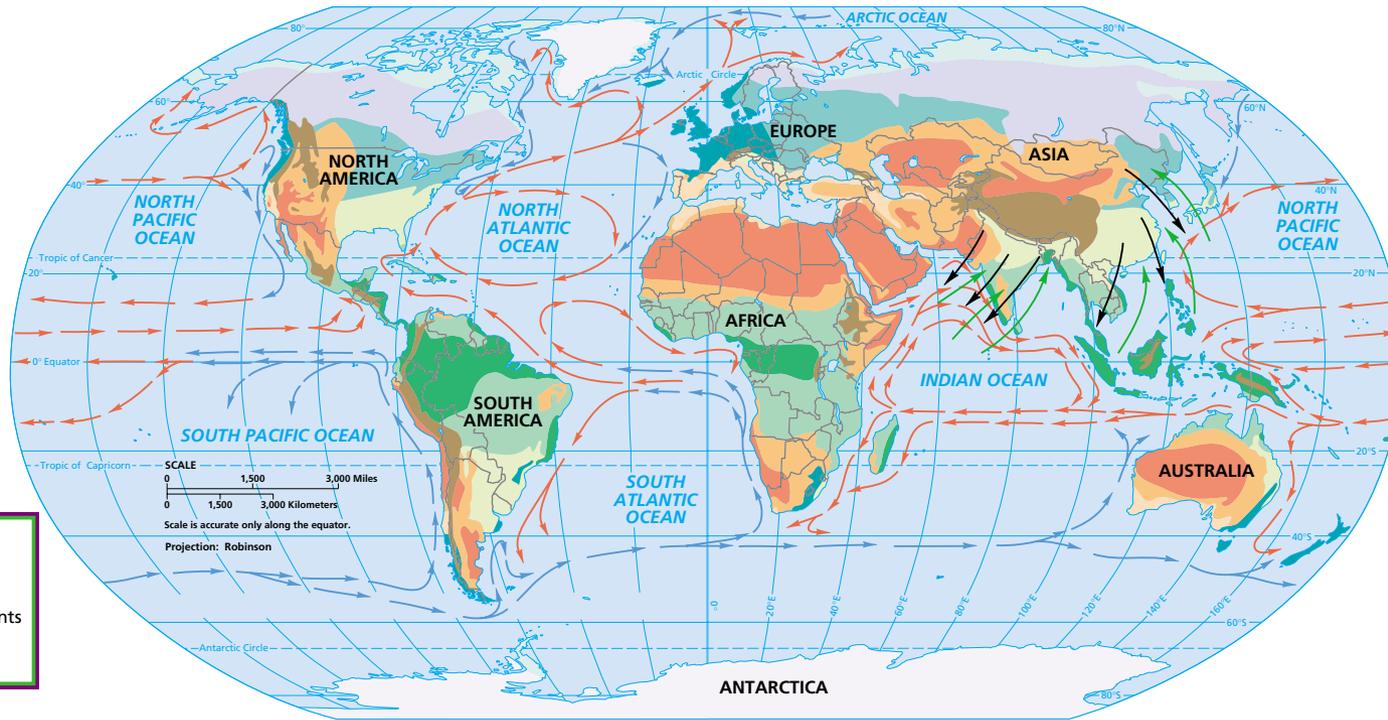


World Climate Regions



Monsoon Air Flow
 — Wet monsoon
 — Dry monsoon

Major World Ocean Currents
 — Cool currents
 — Warm currents

SCALE
 0 1,500 3,000 Miles
 0 1,500 3,000 Kilometers
 Scale is accurate only along the equator.
 Projection: Robinson

	Climate	Geographic Distribution	Major Weather Patterns	Vegetation
Tropical	TROPICAL HUMID	along equator; particularly equatorial South America, Congo Basin in Africa, Southeast Asia	warm and rainy year-round, with rain totaling anywhere from 65 to more than 450 in. (165–1,143 cm) annually; typical temperatures are 90°–95°F (32°–35°C) during the day and 65°–70°F (18°–21°C) at night	tropical rain forest
	TROPICAL WET AND DRY	between humid tropics and deserts; tropical regions of Africa, South and Central America, South and Southeast Asia, Australia	warm all year; distinct rainy and dry seasons; precipitation during the summer of at least 20 in. (51 cm); monsoon influences in some areas, such as South and Southeast Asia; summer temperatures average 90°F (32°C) during the day and 70°F (21°C) at night; typical winter temperatures are 75°–80°F (24°–27°C) during the day and 55°–60°F (13°–16°C) at night	tropical grassland with scattered trees
Dry	ARID	centered along 30° latitude; some middle-latitude deserts in interior of large continents and along western coasts; particularly Sahara in Africa, Southwest Asia, central and western Australia, southwestern North America	arid; precipitation of less than 10 in. (25 cm) annually; sunny and hot in the tropics and sunny with great temperature ranges in middle latitudes; typical summer temperatures for lower-latitude deserts are 110°–115°F (43°–46°C) during the day and 60°–65°F (16°–18°C) at night, while winter temperatures average 80°F (27°C) during the day and 45°F (7°C) at night; in middle latitudes the hottest month averages 70°F (21°C)	sparse drought-resistant plants; many barren, rocky, or sandy areas
	SEMIARID	generally bordering deserts and interiors of large continents; particularly northern and southern Africa, interior western North America, central and interior Asia and Australia, southern South America	semiarid; about 10–20 in. (25–51 cm) of precipitation annually; hot summers and cooler winters with wide temperature ranges similar to desert temperatures	grassland; few trees
Middle Latitudes	MEDITERRANEAN	west coasts in middle latitudes near cool ocean currents; particularly southern Europe, part of Southwest Asia, northwestern Africa, California, southwestern Australia, central Chile, southwestern South Africa	dry sunny warm summers and mild wetter winters; precipitation averages 14–35 in. (35–90 cm) annually; typical temperatures are 75°–80°F (24–27°C) on summer days; the average winter temperature is 50°F (10°C)	scrub woodland and grassland
	HUMID SUBTROPICAL	east coasts in middle latitudes; particularly southeastern United States, eastern Asia, central southern Europe, southeastern parts of South America, South Africa, and Australia	hot humid summers and mild humid winters; precipitation year-round; coastal areas are in the paths of hurricanes and typhoons; precipitation averages 40 in. (102 cm) annually; typical temperatures are 75°–90°F (24°–32°C) in summer and 45°–50°F (7°–10°C) in winter	mixed forest

	Climate	Geographic Distribution	Major Weather Patterns	Vegetation
Middle Latitudes	MARINE WEST COAST	west coasts in upper-middle latitudes; particularly northwestern Europe and North America, southwestern South America, central southern South Africa, southeastern Australia, New Zealand	cloudy mild summers and cool rainy winters; strong ocean influence; precipitation averages 20–98 in. (51–250 cm) annually; westerlies bring storms and rain; average temperature in hottest month is usually between 60°F and 70°F (16°–21°C); average temperature in coolest month usually is above 32°F (0°C)	temperate evergreen forest
	HUMID CONTINENTAL	east coasts and interiors of upper-middle latitude continents; particularly northeastern North America, northern and eastern Europe, northeastern Asia	four distinct seasons; long cold winters and short warm summers; precipitation amounts vary, usually 20–50 in. (51–127 cm) or more annually; average summer temperature is 75°F (24°C); average winter temperature is below freezing	mixed forest
High Latitudes	SUBARCTIC	higher latitudes of interior and east coasts of continents; particularly northern parts of North America, Europe, and Asia	extremes of temperature; long cold winters and short mild summers; low precipitation amounts all year; precipitation averages 5–15 in. (13–38 cm) in summer; temperatures in warmest month average 60°F (16°C) but can warm to 77°F (25°C); winter temperatures average below 0°F (–18°C)	northern evergreen forest
	TUNDRA	high-latitude coasts; particularly far northern parts of North America, Europe, and Asia, Antarctic Peninsula, subantarctic islands	cold all year; very long cold winters and very short cool summers; low precipitation amounts; precipitation average is 5–15 in. (13–38 cm) annually; warmest month averages less than 50°F (10°C); coolest month averages a little below 0°F (–18°C)	moor, lichens, low shrubs; permafrost bogs in summer
	ICECAP	polar regions; particularly Antarctica, Greenland, Arctic Basin islands	freezing cold; snow and ice year-round; precipitation averages less than 10 in. (25 cm) annually; average temperatures in warmest month do not reach higher than freezing	no vegetation
	HIGHLAND	high mountain regions, particularly western parts of North and South America, eastern parts of Asia and Africa, southern and central Europe and Asia	greatly varied temperatures and precipitation amounts over short distances as elevation changes; prevailing wind patterns can affect rainfall on windward and leeward sides of highland areas	forest to tundra vegetation, depending on elevation