



Forecast for January, 2008 Belgium

Please note

At the present initial stage in application of Weather Action's forecasting technique to Europe

- we announce temperatures as "warm" or "cold" and not in degrees, which demands comparisons between the weather situation and local temperature statistics.
- there may be some variable time delays to weather developments so please bear this in mind when applying forecasts.
- We typically expect 1-2 weather periods in each monthly forecast to be wrong. Please note the confidence level for each. See instructions below.

We should be grateful to learn about your comments and your wishes. Please communicate them to the international representative of Weather Action Mr. Magnus Hagelstam +358-41-5453803 or magnus.hagelstam@kolumbus.fi or www.weatheraction.com.

The weather of the month in general terms

After a mixed and increasingly cold start, January will be an icy blast, the coldest and windiest part colder and windier than 1987, more like 1740.

Weather description for each weather period

1st-7th January

Weather

Mostly dry but some rainshowers later turning to sleet or snow. Foggy.
Confidence level C=65%.

General Development

An active deep low pressures attack the British Isles and France from the Atlantic, but the jet stream is increasingly pushed South or is blocked as a high pressure builds up generally (with fluctuations) over the British Isles, over the sea Northeast of the British Isles and over Europe. A variable, quite deep low pressure often stays over Finland and the Baltic countries.

Special notes: The timing of the temperature drop and snowfall is uncertain as the jetstream is shifting. Fronts are especially active 3rd-4th and 6th-7th.

Solar effects:

3-4.1 Enhanced frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

6-7.1 Top enhanced frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

8th – 10th January

Weather

Thick fog. Low cloud. Dry. Cold. Snow. Very light winds.
Confidence level B=75%

General Development

A low pressure over the Baltic countries sinks South and fills as a high pressure from the Arctic rapidly builds over the Nordic countries and extends East. A high pressure over Scotland and the North Sea transfers eastwards partly while two low pressures West of France move East and fill.

Special notes: Slacker than during the previous period. Changing pressure in Scandinavia. Probably rapid and widespread fog.
Solar effects: Solar factors quiet, slow down of frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

11th – 14th January

Weather

Dry. Cold. Foggy.
Confidence level AB=80%.

General development

Weather slack and foggy.

Low pressures West of France and Spain fill out somewhat outside the Bay of Biscay. A high pressure builds up over the North Sea or the British Isles. Polar low activity North of Scandinavia. A complex low pressure over Italy, Greece and Turkey.

Special notes: Slack and foggy. Polar low pressures possible. The jet stream has effects a long way to the South.

Solar effects: Solar factors quiet, slow down of frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

15th – 21st January

Weather

Heavy snow. Strong, at times gale force winds, easterly turning northeasterly and becoming breezy. Exceptionally cold, at times not above -5°C, later in the period even -20°C.
Confidence level A=85%.

General development

Weather Warning: VERY COLD AND STRONG EAST WIND over most of Europe. 10 degrees Celsius below normal in Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium. Force 7 or gale force 8 winds in parts of Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium.

A high pressure builds and expands over the Baltic as a low pressure develops over the Mediterranean between Spain and Italy and moves East. It possibly includes a merged polar low pressure.

Special notes: A supercold dipole weather pattern develops. It will be colder than in 1987.

Solar effects: Enhanced frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

22nd – 23rd January

Weather

Dry. Very cold. Sharp frosts. Bright with sunny afternoons. Freezing fog.
Confidence level A=85%.

General development

A high pressure over South Norway and one over Corsica both drift somewhat westward and fill. Another low pressure develops far out in the Atlantic. Winds drop dramatically within two days. The extreme cold remains.

Special notes: The weather systems are slacker than during the previous period.

Solar effects: Solar factors quiet, slow down of frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

24th – 27th January

Weather

Dry. Cold - very sharp frost. At times sunny.
Confidence level B=75%.

General development

A low pressure moves South from the Arctic over Scandinavia and Finland as a high pressure transfers West from Scandinavia to the British Isles. A low pressure moves East from the Atlantic towards Britain, France and Spain.

Special notes: Bright and light winds.

Solar effects: Solar factors quiet, slow down of frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

28th – 31st January

Weather

Mostly dry. Cold and foggy.

Confidence level B=75%.

General development

A low pressure drifts from the British Isles, probably North or West. A low pressure West of North Norway deepens. An active and quite powerful low pressure approaches France and Britain from the Southwest.

Special notes: Dry but sunless. Low cloud.

Solar effects: Enhanced frontal activity compared with traditional meteorology.

Advise for the users of this forecast

1. Find which are the most significant weather periods in each month which affect your activities and examine them one by one.

- **DON'T use the general forecast summary headline as if it were the full forecast for each weather period!**

2. For each important weather period **note its confidence level**. If it is NOT an 'A' then proceed with more caution than otherwise.

3. Clarify what will be **the consequences if you act on the forecast and it goes wrong**.

For an 'A' forecast there is a 15% chance of it going wrong. If the cost of forecast failure is too high be wary of acting on it.

4. For 'C' level forecasts the most likely alternative scenario is sometimes also issued. This may not affect you, for instance if you are affected mainly by the precipitation and the forecast and the alternative both predict rain but with different temperatures.

5. Customers may consult Weather Action for clarification on alternative scenarios, confidences and risks (no extra charge).

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