

Heat wave warms frigid Baltic Sea waters

23 July 2010



People take a dip in the frigid waters of the Baltic Sea in February, 2010, but a heat wave searing the Baltic region has warmed the sea to temperatures usually seen in more tropical climates, experts said Friday.

A heat wave searing the Baltic region has warmed the usually frigid waters of the Baltic Sea to temperatures usually seen in more tropical climates, experts said Friday.

"The highest sea temperature recorded recently along the Polish Baltic coast was 24 degrees Celsius (75.2 Fahrenheit) at the Pucka Bay," Alicja Kanska, a [meteorologist](#) with the Polish meteorological and hydrological institute in the Polish Baltic port city of Gdynia told AFP.

"The water is definitely warmer than usual -- it's rare that Baltic [water temperatures](#) rise to this level," she said, adding that summertime temperatures in Baltic waters average 20 degrees Celsius.

"Rarely have we had such sustained tropical air masses bringing average daytime temperatures of 33-34 degrees Celsius over the region of the Polish Baltic for a week as is now the case," Gdynia meteorologist Marcin Czeczotka told AFP Friday.

This week's highs are still shy of the record 36.3 degrees recorded in 1992 along Poland's Baltic coast, he said.

Polish beach lovers will be disappointed at the weekend, says Czeczotka, as a cold front is expected to bring rain to the Polish coast and see temperatures plunge to around 20 degrees Celsius for several days before returning to average Polish summertime daytime temperatures of around 20 degrees.

Some 700 kilometres (400 miles) to the north of Gdynia, Baltic waters in Estonia have also warmed to a rare temperatures.

"The Baltic [Sea temperature](#) is well above the average and today on Friday at Narva-Joesuu beach near the Estonian-Russian border it is as high as 26 degrees Celsius," Ivo Saaremaa from Estonian meteorological and hydrological institute told AFP.

(c) 2010 AFP

APA citation: Heat wave warms frigid Baltic Sea waters (2010, July 23) retrieved 25 October 2021 from <https://phys.org/news/2010-07-frigid-baltic-sea.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.