Nov 2026

Indigenous UK Weather Forecast

Welcome to November edition of Indigenous weather.

Lesley is poorly with tonsilitis so I (David Andrews), have completed November's website. Please note Lesley will upload the winter forecast as soon as possible after November 11th – a vital wind day.

October 2026 saw a notable transition into more unsettled autumn weather across the UK, although temperatures remained consistently above the seasonal average throughout much of the month. The UK recorded a mean temperature of 10.6°C, approximately 0.9°C above the 1991-2020 average, continuing the trend of warmer-than-average conditions experienced throughout much of 2026. The warmest conditions were generally experienced across southern and eastern England, where daytime temperatures regularly exceeded seasonal norms, with a monthly high of 24.3°C recorded in Suffolk on 5 October.

Weather conditions during the first half of the month were dominated by a succession of Atlantic frontal systems, bringing frequent spells of rain interspersed with brief periods of settled weather. Although some locations experienced dry and bright intervals, these were generally short-lived, resulting in a month characterised by rapidly changing conditions. The first snowfall of the season was recorded on higher ground in Scotland during the first week of October, highlighting the increasingly autumnal nature of the weather pattern.

The second half of the month was influenced by the arrival of Storm Austen and Storm Boelo, these were the first named storms of the 2026/27 storm season. Both storms brought periods of heavy rainfall and strong winds across large parts of the UK, with wind gusts exceeding 80mph in some coastal areas of Scotland and reaching 85mph on the Isle of Wight. Rainfall associated with these systems was particularly intense, contributing to 24 October becoming provisionally the joint sixth-wettest day on record for the UK.

Overall rainfall for October reached 138.9mm, representing 113% of the long-term average and making the month wetter than normal across all four nations of the UK. Northern Scotland experienced the most significant rainfall totals, while England, Wales and Northern Ireland also recorded above-average precipitation. Despite this, some areas of southern England remained under drought restrictions following the prolonged period of dry weather experienced during spring, summer and early autumn.

Despite the unsettled and often wet conditions, sunshine levels have been notably above average across the country. The UK recorded approximately 121% of its average October sunshine, making it one of the sunniest Octobers on record. This combination of above-average temperatures, significant rainfall and enhanced sunshine was unusual and resulted in a month that was simultaneously warmer, wetter and brighter than climatological norm

The expert collated notes for November read as follows: “Starting the month with storms from the 5th onwards abundant rain westwards from the Atlantic bringing continuous depressions to the north or just north of the UK. Temperatures however can be milder than average, and frosts are rare. The persistent SW winds check the autumn fall of temperatures from the end of October, however, at first there is often some early snow in the extreme north. In general, the weather for the month is dull and cheerless. There is an important wind day on (though not an acknowledged quarter/wind day) on 11th November- St Martin’s Day – that also gives two to three days of fine settled, albeit cold at night, daytime weather known as St Martin’s little summer. The wind direction on this day gives the weather for the next three months, with a near 100% reliability, and will remain for the rest of winter. There is one major caveat here, in that if this wind comes from the NW, then for certain, a severe winter will ensue. Mid-November tends to be more settled, often cold, with frosts at night, with night fogs developing in or near towns – or known frost/fog hollows – that are slow to clear during daytime. There is a dry period from 15-21st November, with the peak period being 18-20th November. The last week of November ushers yet more stormy weather that extends well into December and one of the most regular of all stormy periods of bad weather. This period has two peaks of intensity, the first around the 25th November and the second around 9th December. North westerly or even northerly winds are prevalent, bringing a fall in temperature as well as increased rainfall - which, if cold enough, will fall as snow. However, the strength of the winds prevents prolonged frosts. There is an important wind day (Though not a quarter/wind day) in November, this being the 11th November – St Martin’s day -a period of three days or so fine dry weather – known at St Martin’s little summer - though possibly frost overnight. Where the wind blows on this day it remains the same direction until at least 2nd February – Candlemass – and most times up to 21st March. This is always 100% correct.”

NOVEMBER 2026

Last Quarter Moon = 1st @ 20:28 = Snow, else cold rain

New Moon = 9th @ 07:02 = Stormy

1st Quarter Moon = 17th @ 06:48 = Cold and High Winds

Full Moon = 24th @ 14:53 = Fair & Mild

DoP – St Martin: November 11th

Taurids Meteor Shower: 4th & 5th

Highest Spring Tides 24th – 28th

APOGEE: 13th @ 17:51

PERIGEE: 25th @ 20:59

Met Office Notes: 15th – 21st = Quiet Period/ 1st – 13th & 24th – 30th = Stormy period

BUCHAN NOTES: Cold Period: 6th – 13th

FULL MOON THIS MONTH IS CALLED FOG MOON

November will start off on a chilly note, those up North may even have a little snow crop up, although it won't last. The remaining weeks of November will change between cool and stormy quite regularly, and I suspect November will be a windy month in general. From 24th – 28th we have a full supermoon, perigee, and highest tides, so I suspect this indicates a really nasty storm around then with possible flooding in flood prone areas, although the month may end on a fair note.

The name comes from the Roman word Novem, meaning nine, because it was the ninth month of the Roman calendar.

The Black month. Drab foggy depressing weather.

The month when the sun loses its power. The first month of the winter quarter.

The weather St Martins Day (11th) will foretell the weather for 3 months AND where the wind blows on the 10th it will remain for the winter.

REINFORCED by wind at NW on Martinmas and severe winter to come.
The above sayings and observations need heeding for they often add up to a very accurate picture.

Any time of St Martins Day expect a short spell of fine weather 'St Martins Summer', lasting three days and a bit.

11th - Leaves on trees and grape vines this day indicate a hard winter (proven).

Flowers in bloom indicate a hard winter.

As November, so the following March. [no real proof of this]

St Clements (23rd) is the first day of winter, and is said to give the weather for February.

If new moon on 13th and full moon on the 28th - look for a change in the weather.

Expect both rain and frost after the 1st.

If ice in November will bear a duck, then the rest of winter is slush and muck.

If late October and early November be warm and rainy, then January and February shall be frosty and cold.

If leaves not fall by Martinmas then a cruel winter's on its way.

Sybil of months and worshipper of winds I love thee, rude and boisterous as thou art.

November cold, Christmas warm. – wistful

1st	All Saints	On November 1st if weather be clear, 'tis the end of sowing you'll do this year, weather will deteriorate thereafter with rain or frost.
2nd	All Souls Day	If wind SE it will stay until Candlemass (2/2) and winter will be mild with little snow
10th	Martinmas Eve	Where the wind blows on Martinmas Eve, there 'twill be for the rest of winter.
11th	St Martin	DoP. The weather is said (reliably) to foretell the weather for three months (2/2) and so for the rest of winter. The onset of winter. Martinmas day. A SW wind on this day ensures a mild and snow free winter.
13th	Apogee @17:51	
21st		As this day, so winter

23rd	St Clement	St Clement gives the winter - a fairly accurate quote.
25th	Perigee @ 20:59 St Catherine	St Catherine As St Catherine, foul or fair, so 'twill be next Februair. Laurel tree flowers about this time.

Nature in November

November marks the transition from autumn into early winter across the UK. Most deciduous trees will have shed the majority of their leaves, creating large accumulations of leaf litter and exposing woodland structures that are hidden during the growing season. Late autumn colours may still be visible on species such as beech and oak during the early part of the month, particularly following mild weather.

Wildlife activity typically changes significantly during November. Many migratory bird species, including fieldfares and redwings, arrive from northern Europe to spend the winter in the UK, while resident birds become increasingly visible as vegetation dies back. Hedgehogs, dormice and bats begin or continue hibernation periods, depending on local temperatures, and squirrel activity often increases as they gather and cache food supplies for winter.

In wetlands and coastal areas, increasing numbers of overwintering wildfowl and wading birds can be observed. Woodland areas may show evidence of increased deer activity during the rutting season, whilst foxes become more active and visible as breeding season approaches.

Vegetation growth generally slows considerably due to lower temperatures and reduced daylight hours, although grass growth may continue during periods of mild weather. Fungi and mushrooms are often at their most abundant during November, particularly following wet conditions, making them a notable feature within woodland and grassland habitats.

Overall, November is characterised by falling leaf cover, reduced daylight, declining temperatures and increased wildlife adaptations to winter conditions, providing clear indicators of the seasonal transition into the colder months ahead.

November Nature Walk Checklist How many can you find?

Trees & Plants

☐ Autumn colours remaining
☐ Fallen leaves
☐ Holly berries
☐ Hawthorn berries
☐ Ivy berries/flowers
☐ Moss
☐ Lichen

Fungi

☐ Fly agaric mushroom
☐ Bracket fungus
☐ Mushroom on a log
☐ Woodland toadstool

Birds

☐ Robin
☐ Blackbird
☐ Blue Tit
☐ Great Tit
☐ Magpie
☐ Crow/Rook
☐ Woodpigeon
☐ Redwing
☐ Fieldfare
☐ Woodpecker
☐ Duck/Goose/Swan

Mammals & Signs

☐ Squirrel
☐ Rabbit/Hare
☐ Deer
☐ Deer tracks

☐ Fox
☐ Animal footprints
☐ Animal burrow

Minibeasts

☐ Spider web
☐ Frosty spider web
☐ Beetle
☐ Woodlouse
☐ Snail
☐ Earthworm

Signs of Winter

☐ Frost
☐ Fog/Mist
☐ Bare branches
☐ Acorns
☐ Pine cone
☐ Birdsong
☐ Fallen log

Bonus Finds

☐ Owl pellet
☐ Starling flock
☐ Squirrel burying food
☐ Something new!

Total spotted: ____ / 39

Challenge: Can you find at least 20 items?

Let us know how you got on and share your photos on our facebook page.