

Advance prediction Autumn 2025 (September to November)



Photo credits due to Trevor Eldridge

Species of the Season: Squirrels

*“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.”
Albert Camus*

Welcome to the Autumn 2025 website entry.

At Indigenous UK Weather Towers, we work with nature's rhythm rather than the calendar's. Our Autumn runs from around 10th September to 20th November — a timeframe that better reflects how the seasonal shift truly unfolds.

The Wind Days: Natural Weather Markers

Several traditional wind days guide our seasonal forecasting:

- Michaelmas (29th September) – Sets the predominant wind direction until the next such wind day,
- St Thomas' Day (21st December).
- St Martin's Day (11th November) – Offers the most accurate wind forecast for winter. Wind direction on this day typically holds through to Candlemas (2nd February), and often right up to St Benedict's Day (21st March).

This year, we anticipate winds from the southeast (initially), and then easterly quadrant, bringing colder air and a much sharper seasonal drop than usual.

Key Autumn Markers

- St Luke's Little Summer is expected to arrive a few days early this year, around 15th October, and will last for about five days. Expect dry, calm days with cold, frosty nights.

- Around 28th October, St Jude will likely usher in a notable storm, acting as the seasonal pivot.
- From early November, conditions will shift quickly to colder, possibly wintry weather. Snow in the north is a definite possibility but isn't ruled out anywhere in the UK.

Last year's early cold (November 2024) offered a preview — and for those of us watching the signs in nature, it's no surprise at all.

Notes from Nature



 Photo credit: Sharon Conway, Singleton (near Chichester)

As of July 2025, Summer has been warm and predominantly dry for the very vast majority. While I appreciate some regions have seen more rain than others, many farmers, growers, and livestock owners have faced a deeply stressful season due to excessive heat and water shortages. Some brooks and streams may take months — if not years — to recover, if they do at all.

But in the way that nature always balances itself, we've seen a spectacular bounty of fruit and nuts this year — a harvest some four weeks ahead of the norm. By the time August rains arrive, most will already be safely gathered in, with the remainder coming in during the Indian Summer.

What Nature Has Prepared

- Roadside plants have struggled with the drought, and species like hogweed were looking spent by the end of June, falling well short of their usual height.
- Yet some plants have compensated impressively. Teasels, in particular, are thriving — with their dramatic cupped leaves trapping and storing rainwater in their leaf axils. These natural reservoirs can sustain the plant, deter pests, and even support pollinators and birds. A remarkable example of botanical resilience.
- Berry crops are rich: common and midland hawthorn, rowan, elder, holly, yew, spindle, and maple are all heavily laden. Blackberries are plentiful, though still in need of some rain to fatten fully.
- Lords-and-ladies are also cropping up in abundance — yet another winter food source.

- Seed-bearing trees like sycamore, hornbeam, ash, and alder are heavy with seed.
- Nut trees — chestnuts, hazels, beech — are producing superb crops.
- Oaks are carrying a massive crop of acorns — a classic harbinger of a long, hard winter.
- Once again, galls galore – always a clear signal that snow will follow later in the season.

Nature seems to be preparing not only for resident species but also for incoming birds from Arctic and northern European regions — fieldfares, redwings, starlings, bramblings, and jays from the near continent. Robins too are migrating inward to feast on our rowan berries. Take note of when the first Robins begin to stake territory in your garden – another quiet signal from nature. Oh, and check how thick the skins of English onions are this year too!

Nature has not only stocked its shelves — it's done so early, generously, and with unmistakable intent. All signs point to a long, cold, and memorable winter ahead.

Forecast Highlights for Autumn

- Given the dry summer, nature will compensate, and we expect more rainfall than usual during autumn.
- It will stay mild (ish) through to mid-October, during St Luke's Little Summer, but after St Jude's storm (around 28th October), temperatures will drop fast.
- Early November may bring snow in the north, though it won't persist. The rest of the month will be a mix of wet spells, and storms.

Flood Watch: Natural Disaster Risk

- The start of October could bring flash flooding to coastal and low-lying areas.
- If we avoid that, we still face flood risks around early November and again in early December, due to perigee, full moon, and high tides coinciding.
- This alignment significantly increases the chance of natural disruption, so please take sensible precautions.
- To have three consecutive months pointing toward flash flooding is concerning – but forewarned is forearmed.

Key Wind Dates to Watch

- Michaelmas (29th September) – Determines the dominant wind pattern through to 21st December.
- St Martin's Day (11th November) – A nearly 100% reliable indicator of winter wind direction through to February and most likely March.
- We expect this year's wind to come from the eastern segment, suggesting a raw, cold easterly flow from the Urals across Europe — especially affecting eastern parts of the UK.

Looking Ahead

Because this forecast is published well in advance of Michaelmas, we urge all readers to check the October 2025 website update, which will confirm the actual wind direction observed on 29th September — a crucial detail that can influence everything that follows.

The October update will be published as soon as feasibly possible after September 29th. Please make sure to read it — the accuracy of our autumn and winter forecast depends heavily on this.

In terms of the winter, an early head up...

Full details will follow in our winter advance forecast, but here's what we can share so far — because we don't want to leave you hanging.

December is shaping up to be a very cold month, with the potential for extended frost, biting winds, and snow potential. January may bring a short-lived lull, but don't be fooled — February is expected to be brutally cold, with the kind of deep winter chill we haven't seen in years.

In June 2025, we experienced two notable heat waves: the first from June 17th – 22nd, with highs exceeding 30c, and a second from June 27th – July 2nd, when temperatures climbed even higher in places. Nature has a way of evening things out — and that intense early summer heat signals a bitterly cold February.

We're flagging winter 2025/26 as cold, long, and harsh, with snowfall for all. We currently anticipate February 2026 to echo the brutal cold of December 2010 — and we will start seeing the first signs of that pattern setting up as early as November.

So — get the wood in. Dust off your jumpers, hats and scarves. This is not a drill. This winter *will* be one to remember.

 Also coming soon: Our Michaelmas Country Signs episode, will be filmed on 30th September and released on YouTube shortly after. This will include further commentary from David on what autumn — and winter — may hold. You can find us at: <https://youtube.com/@indigenoussukweather>

A Final Thought for Autumn

I've always found something quietly magical about autumn — a season that wraps the world in colour, scent, and softness. As the leaves shift from green to flame, there's a deep sense of movement and meaning in the air. Mornings arrive with a crisp breath, and afternoons glow with golden light that feels both fleeting and eternal.

This is the season for slow walks beneath copper trees, for warm bowls of something spiced, for gathering — whether it's fruit, memories, or a moment of peace.

Autumn 2025 feels like a call to re-root: to savour the ordinary wonders, the hush between storms, and the quiet rhythm of the Earth preparing to rest. It's harvest time — not just of crops, but of reflection, gratitude, and gentle letting go.

Wishing you a grounded, glowing, and richly rewarding autumn.

Lesley & Dave

SEPTEMBER 2025

The expert collated notes for September read as follows: “September often opens with another period of dry fine benign weather, and between the end of August and 7th September average barometric pressure rises quite distinctly in most parts of the country. Sometimes predominantly dry weather lasts until around the 18th of September. But 17th to 25th September, which includes the period of the autumn equinox, is generally stormy, the peak being the 20th. Winds during this period tend to blow from the north-west and bring sharp falls of temperature, possibly leading to an early frost in sheltered areas protected from the prevailing winds. The last part of summer is known as ‘old wives’ summer,’ when nearly every country in Europe recognizes the likelihood of a period of dry fine and warm weather. It is not as common in Britain as on the continent. The 29th, Michaelmas, is the quarter day that sets the predominant wind direction up until 21st December (St Thomas’) the next such wind day.”

To summarise: September looks mixed, but we’re likely to settle into a fine, dry rhythm as the month progresses. The full moon on the 7th may offer fair weather through to mid-month. Expect frequent showers around 14th, followed by a return to settled, dry conditions with a true touch of autumn in the air. This year’s ‘old wives’ summer’ may arrive right on time – a final nod to warmth before deeper changes of autumn take hold.

Lunar phases and folklore remain important tools in indigenous weather forecasting – here’s how they align this September:

SEPTEMBER 2025

Full Moon = 7th @ 19:08 = Fair if winds NW (unlikely)

Last Quarter Moon = 14th @ 11:32 = Frequent showers

New Moon = 21st @ 20:54 = Rain if wind S or SW

1st Quarter Moon = 30th @ 00:53 = Fair

DoP: 29th St Michael (Michael Mass) + Quarter Day (Vital Wind Day)

Autumnal Equinox 22nd

Highest Spring Tides 7th – 10th

APOGEE: 26th @ 10:46 PERIGEE: 10th @ 12:58

Partial Lunar Eclipse: 7th / Partial Solar Eclipse: 21st

Met Office Notes: 1st – 17th – Quiet Period

BUCHAN NOTES: None

THE FULL MOON ON THE 7th IS THE TRADITIONAL HARVEST MOON, CLOSELY TIED TO ANCIENT AGRICULTURAL RYTHMS.

OCTOBER 2025

The expert collated notes for October read as follows: “The rainiest month of the year for most of England and Wales, but not for Scotland since December there is the wettest month. A pattern evolves now for the rest of these darker colder months through to the spring, of stormy at the start and end of each month but relatively quiet and fine in the middle. Stormy around the 5 -12th with a peak around the 8-9th. This windy period is associated with a succession of depressions moving west to east across the country and marks the risk of flooding in London from storm surges. The wettest days in this period being then 8th in the home counties and London and the 11th in Scotland, accompanied by a steady gentle fall in temperature. There is generally a period of 5 days to a week of fine dry settled weather around the 18th – St Luke’s day – known at St Luke’s little summer. It is also school half term time, whilst the days maybe, for the time of year pleasant and benign, the nights can be cold and frosty. This period around St Luke is also the true Indian Summer; this comes from the north American Indians folklore when this period is the last time for late harvesting/gathering/hunting before the onset of the winter; hence the name of the full moon as the ‘hunters or harvest moon.’ This moon is generally afforded the special honour, historically serving as an important feast day in both western Europe and among many native tribes. The St Luke’s summer period ends, always, with a storm on 28th (St Simon & St Jude’s day). BST this year ends on the 26th – the darker days and nights signalling the start of the dark winter months here in the UK. This St Luke’s period bring too, cold frosty nights, particularly in the Midlands and southern England, though days may be bright and sunny giving the allusion of warmer climes. The last week of October into the first week of November bring a prolonged period of stormy weather with average dates being 25th October to the 13th November; with a storm peak around 29th October. There is however a short period from 30th October to the 4-5th November followed by an intensity of further storms.

To summarise: October is likely to start off on a highly unsettled note, as a super full moon on the 7th coincides with perigee and very high spring tides. This combination significantly raises the risk of flash flooding between 7th – 9th, especially in low lying or coastal areas. Rains could be intense and prolonged, increasing pressure on both surface water and river systems.

Mid-month looks more promising. Between the 15th – 20th we expect a brief but noticeable St Luke’s Summer – a settled, mild spell with calmer weather, often accompanied by clear skies and a gentle autumnal warmth during the day. Night times are likely to turn cold and frosty.

The New Moon on 21st signals a return to wetter conditions, with widespread heavy rain expected. The Feast of St Jude on 28th traditionally heralds a storm, and this year marks a clear turning point into what looks set to be a long, cold winter.

OCTOBER 2025

Full Moon = 7th @ 04:47 = Rain

Last Quarter Moon = 13th @ 19:12 = Fair if NW wind (unlikely)

New Moon = 21st @ 13:25 = Very Rainy

Last Quarter Moon = 29th @ 16:20 = Fair

BST ends on 26th

Draconids Meteor Shower: 7th

Orionids Meteor Shower: 21st & 22nd

Highest Spring Tides 7th – 10th (Very high)!

APOGEE: 24th @ 00:29

PERIGEE: 8th @ 13:27

Met Office Notes: 16th – 19th = Quiet Period/ 24th – 31st = Stormy period

BUCHAN NOTES: None

OCTOBER'S FULL MOON ON THE 7th IS A SUPERMOON AT PERIGEE – CALLED THE FULL HUNTER'S MOON. IT WILL APPEAR LARGER AND WILL PULL STRONGER TIDES THAN USUAL.

NOVEMBER 2025

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 as 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.”

To summarise: November looks to be a notably colder month, with increased storm activity, the risk of flash flooding early on and the possibility of wintry precipitation around the full moon. This year the transition to winter will feel sudden and sharp – a true November in character.

The full moon on the 5th, paired with highest spring tides from the 5th – 8th, presents yet another serious risk of flash flooding, especially in low lying or coastal areas. The Taurids Meteor shower may be obscured by cloud cover, but the sky will have plenty of drama regardless. If temperatures drop enough, snow is possible – particularly on higher ground or during overnight hours. Otherwise, heavy rain is likely.

St Martin’s Day on 11th aligns with the last quarter moon, often a traditional turning point in weather lore. This year, it may bring a wet spell and reinforce the growing chill in the air.

From the new moon – 20th onwards – the pattern looks unsettled and stormy, with frequent bouts of wind and rain and little let – up. This continues through the first quarter on 28th, when storm conditions may peak.

Despite the turbulence, the month holds true to its colder than average outlook – with frost, sleet, and chill dominating between the showers. If this pattern persists, December could begin on a cold footing...

NOVEMBER 2025

Full Moon = 5th @ 13:19 = Snow if cold enough, else rain

Last Quarter Moon = 12th @ 05:28 = Rain

New Moon = 20th @ 06:47 = Stormy

1st Quarter Moon = 28th @ 06:48 = Stormy

DoP – St Martin: November 11th

Taurids Meteor Shower: 4th & 5th

Highest Spring Tides 5th – 8th

APOGEE: 20th @ 02:46

PERIGEE: 5th @ 22:16

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

BUCHAN NOTES: Cold Period: 6th – 13th

FULL MOON ON THE 5th IS CALLED FOG MOON