



Climate change and your tourism business

What can you do to adapt?

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You need to plan - to minimise risks and maximise opportunities.

Q. What does climate change mean?

A. For the south of England, it means more extreme events such as hotter drier summers, warmer wetter winters, more heavy downpours and storms in winter and rising sea levels. The timings of our seasons are also changing.

Q. What are the likely impacts on your business?

A. In a warmer climate, you could see more visitors over a longer season, but also more water shortages in summer. There is also a greater risk of flooding and storm damage.

Q. How can your tourism business adapt to climate change?

A. It depends where you are and the nature of your business. For example:

- Look for new opportunities in a warmer climate: e.g. for using outdoor space or facilities for events.
- Make sure you are prepared in case of floods. See Environment Agency flood maps at **www.environment-agency.gov.uk** or call **0845 9881 188**.
- Ensure your premises will be comfortable in hotter summers - without relying on air conditioning.
- Ensure your roof and guttering can cope with heavier downpours and more gales.
- Manage your grounds for changing conditions and make space for wildlife to adapt.

Contact your regional climate change partnership for practical guidance, including a free checklist.

In the South West, see www.oursouthwest.com/climate or phone 01392 442125.

In the South East, see www.climatesoutheast.org.uk or phone 01483 470171.