

Bahrain swelters through ninth hottest May on record since 1902

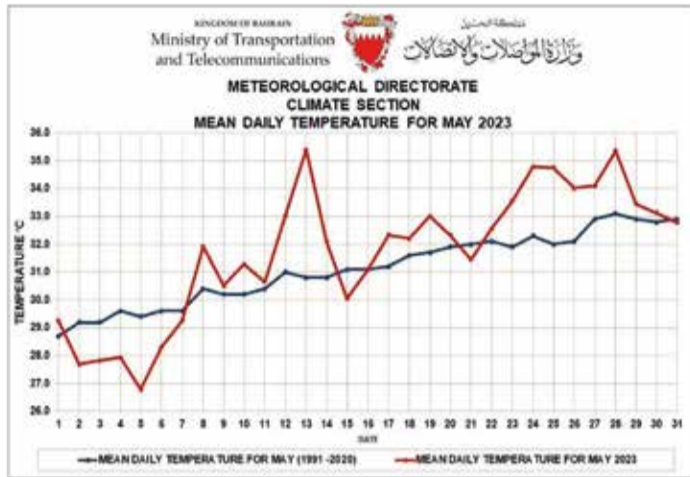
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Bahrain endured scorching temperatures and limited rainfall during May this year, which was the ninth hottest May on record since 1902, according to the latest meteorological data.

The blistering heat reached a peak of 46.0°C at Bahrain International Circuit on May 13th, while the highest temperature recorded on the same day at Bahrain International Airport was 43.6°C. These findings came in a report by the Meteorological Directorate Climate section under the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications.

The month witnessed fluctuating temperature extremes, with the lowest temperature of 19.8°C recorded on May 6th at Durrat Al Bahrain. Meanwhile, the lowest temperature at Bahrain International Airport was 23.1°C, documented on May 7th.

Overall, the mean monthly temperature for May stood at 31.7°C, surpassing the long-term average by 0.6°C. It is worth noting that May 2021 holds the



Meteorological Data says May 2023 was warmer than normal in temperatures with above average wind speed.

record for the highest mean monthly temperature at 33.5°C. As for the mean maximum temperature, it was 0.2°C below the long-term normal at 35.9°C, with May 2021 still holding the highest maximum temperature record of 38.9°C.

The mean minimum temperature for the month settled at 28.3°C - the seventh highest mean minimum temperature for May since 1946. The peak mean

monthly minimum temperature of 29.1°C was recorded in 2012.

Regarding relative humidity, May's mean relative humidity stood at 42%, while the mean maximum relative humidity was 62% and the mean minimum relative humidity was 25%. The highest relative humidity of 79% was observed on May 22nd, while the lowest relative humidity of 10% occurred on May 13th.



Workers work on the construction site of the Golden Gate towers at Bahrain Bay in Manama on March 25, 2023

Rain remained scarce throughout the month, with only trace amounts recorded on May 18th, 19th, and 20th at Bahrain International Airport. The highest monthly rainfall

ever recorded in May at Bahrain International Airport was 12.7 mm back in 1907. Durrat Al Bahrain received a total of 3.8 mm of precipitation during May 2022, while Sitra Island recorded a mere 0.2 mm on May 20th.

Sunshine was abundant, totaling 340.2 hours for the month of May. The highest recorded total hours of solar brightness in May were 370.4 hours, documented in 2021. The average wind speed in May remained at 9 knots, with northwestern winds dominating the majority of the month, accounting for 38% of the wind patterns.

Additionally, Bahrain encountered a dust storm on May 31st, adding to the challenging weather conditions faced by the kingdom during the month.



The current recognised highest recorded air temperature on Earth stands at 56.7 °C (134.1 °F), documented on July 10, 1913, at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, United States. For almost ninety years, a previous record measured in Libya held the title until it was invalidated in 2012 due to evidence suggesting an inaccurate reading. This revelation has prompted doubts regarding the authenticity of the 1913 record in Death Valley, with various meteorological experts raising concerns about potential irregularities.

Expats, Bahrainis flocking to Turkiye for summer vacations, say travel agents

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

Expatriates and Bahrainis are increasingly choosing Turkiye as their favourite summer vacation destination this year, according to Travel agents.

They told *The Daily Tribune* that instead of flying back to their home countries, this year, more and more expatriates are flying to Turkey for their vacation.

Besides, Turkiye has also become the favourite vacation spot for Bahrainis too, confirm travel agents.

They further said: While there have been several inquiries from expats regarding the cost of flights to their re-



Representative picture



Bahrain has two seasons: an extremely hot summer and a relatively mild winter. During the summer months, from April to October, afternoon temperatures average 40 °C (104 °F) and can reach 46 °C (114.8 °F) during May, June and July.

spective home countries like India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, the responses have been minimal.

Haris, co-founder of Travel Knit, stated that more Indian expats are now selecting destinations such as Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Dubai, and Europe for their summer getaways.

On the other hand, Bahrainis are showing a greater interest in visiting Thailand, Malaysia, Greece, Bosnia, and Egypt.

Haris also mentioned that prices may be relatively high due to the approaching Eid holidays when many people plan to travel, but airlines are expected to offer lower prices soon.

NPRA issues 22,000 e-passports

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Bahrainis have rapidly embraced e-passports, as revealed by recent data, with authorities here issuing 22,000 digital passports in just two months since its launch.

The Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs (NPRA) introduced this service in March of this year. The NPRA ensures that the e-passport service meets international standards for technology and security.

For applicants with more

than four names in their previous passports, there have been 261 requests to correct the name section of the e-passport, as the service only accommodates a maximum of four names.

The NPRA urges citizens seeking to update their names to submit requests at any of the service centers in the Security Complex in Muharraq or Isa Town.

Prior appointment through the MAWAIED app or the website www.npra.gov.bh is mandatory.

Men face trial for issuing fake identity cards

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Three individuals are currently facing legal proceedings for forging electronic records to issue fraudulent identity cards to foreign nationals.

One of the suspects remains at large, while the other two are currently in the dock facing charges.

The Chief of the Cybercrime Prosecution revealed that the suspects, operating as a group, allegedly issued a total of 17 fake identity cards.

These cards were accompanied by forged declarations and provided false addresses.

The case has been referred to the fourth criminal court by the Public Prosecution, and the trial is set to commence on Tuesday.

The suspects will face charges related to identity fraud and

forgery.

The investigation leading to the arrest of the suspects was initiated after a video clip, posted online by one of the individuals involved, showcased their ability to renew identity cards.

The authorities conducted a thorough inquiry, which uncovered evidence suggesting that the suspects had accepted payments in exchange for issuing identity cards with fake addresses and forged signatures.

According to court documents, two of the suspects collaborated with the third individual, who is employed in a clearance office, to fabricate the necessary documents.

The forged declarations were then entered into the government's electronic system, with the suspects signing and endorsing them using authorised signatures.

Bikers booked for traffic disruption in Janabiya

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Police yesterday booked several bikers for disrupting traffic and endangering the lives of other road users.

The men found themselves in trouble after reportedly engaging in stunts on the bustling streets of Janabiya.

The Interior Ministry confirmed the incident via a tweet, stating that the riders paraded through Janabiya's streets, obstructing traffic and putting the lives of fellow road users at risk.

In an official statement, the General Traffic Department sternly warned against such reckless behaviour on public roads.

The department emphasised its zero-tolerance policy towards activities that violate the



The two-wheelers seized by police on display before the Directorate of Operations and Traffic Control

law and infringe upon the rights of others. Furthermore, the authority announced its intention to take legal action against the offenders.