

World Weather Information Service & Severe Weather Information Centre

The "World Weather Information Service"
Website: <http://worldweather.wmo.int>
will relieve your anxiety.

The "Severe Weather Information Centre"
Website: <http://severe.worldweather.wmo.int>
will provide the answers you need.

The Hong Kong Observatory has designed and is operating these two weather-related websites on behalf of the World Meteorological Organization of the United Nations.

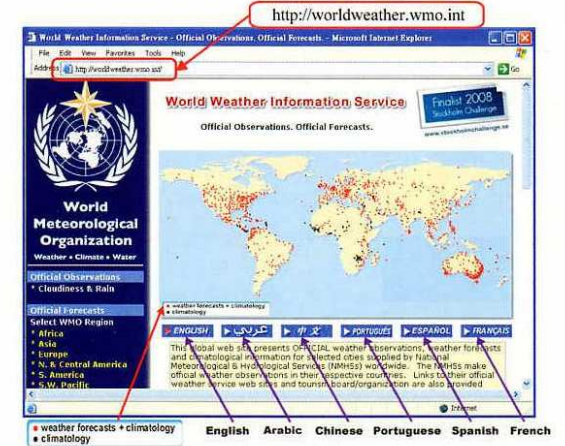


World city weather forecast and climate information

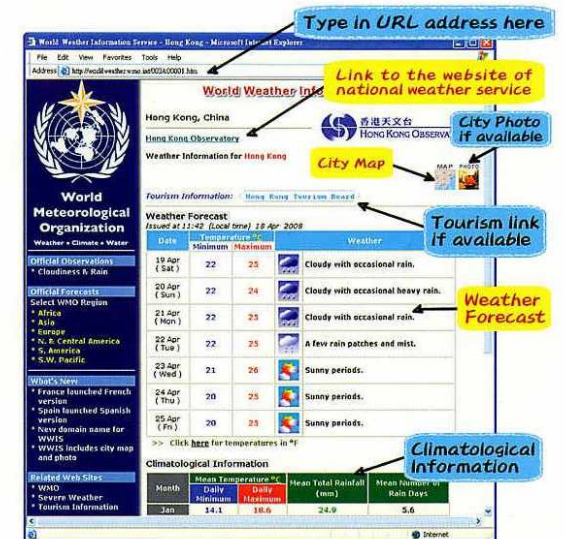
The "World Weather Information Service" website provides official weather forecasts, climate data and weather observations for cities around the world. Information in the website originates from national weather services worldwide. These official weather services operate standardised national weather observing networks and follow rigorous forecasting procedures. Their weather forecasts are authoritative and reliable, which cannot be matched by those from unofficial sources. For example, it is rather common to find temperature forecasts for a place from various unofficial websites differing from one another by several degrees or even as much as ten degrees. The reasons for such discrepancies are that these forecasts may not be provided by the official weather services and that the owners of the websites also may not have the essential local forecasting experience.

Global Forecast Coverage

The city forecasts provided by the "World Weather Information Service" now cover all parts of the world. It has the English, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish and French versions.



Using the "World Weather Information Service" is easy. All you need to do is to key in <http://worldweather.wmo.int> at the URL address input box in your web browser.



At the "World Weather Information Service" front page, you can select the continent of interest, and then the country and city. The weather forecasts and climate data of the selected city will be displayed. If the city you need cannot be found in the selection list, you can try clicking the link of the national weather service website of the country of interest on the same page and continue your search from there. In addition, links for tourism information are provided to facilitate users.

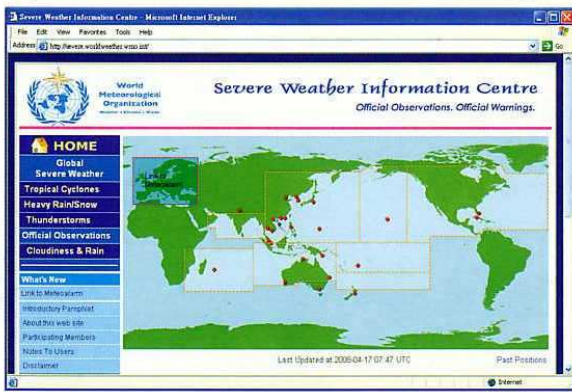


Annoyed by not knowing what the weather is like at your travel destinations?

Frustrated by not knowing where to find out what the weather is doing around the world?

Severe Weather

In addition to daily weather forecasts, severe weather is another common concern. Among the various types of severe weather phenomena, tropical cyclones have attracted most attention due to their enormous size and ability to destroy. The Hong Kong Observatory has developed the "Severe Weather Information Centre" website for the World Meteorological Organization of the United Nations. The website provides tropical cyclone information originated from official weather services in different regions of the world. Whenever a tropical cyclone develops, a tropical cyclone symbol will show up on the front page of this website with both position and strength indications. Furthermore, users can make use of the links provided in this website to find more information about these tropical cyclones such as forecast tracks and warnings issued.



Apart from tropical cyclones, the website also provides official observation data for heavy rain (including snow), thunderstorm, cloudiness & rain. More severe weather types will be included in the future.

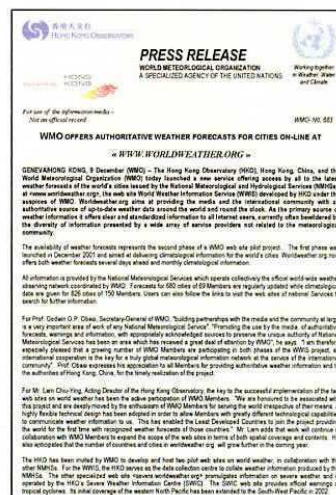


Special feature of these websites

Apart from providing weather information, these two websites also furnish links to the official weather services all over the world. One may treat this website as a portal of the meteorological community, which enables official weather websites and information on official weather services worldwide to be accessed with ease.



International Status



The WMO and the international meteorological community compliment the Hong Kong Observatory on its work in designing and running these two websites. The websites have increased the visibility of developing countries in the international weather service arena. The experience gained will also be used to help developing countries, including the least developed countries, to build up their Internet-based weather services. The

contribution of Hong Kong, China to the global weather service is now widely recognized.