

A Science Service Feature

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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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SHORE WEATHER

If you are going to the seashore this summer one element in your choice is likely to be the weather. If you wish to escape hot weather the coast of Maine should stand high on your list. But if you enjoy balmy sea-breezes, do not like chilly, foggy weather, and are ready for sea-bathing, the coast of New Jersey should make a stronger appeal.

In comparing shore places from a climatic standpoint, perhaps the most important point to consider is the wind in relation to water. From what direction does the wind come off the water, and from how wide a stretch of water for each wind direction? What are the frequencies and average temperatures of winds from the different directions? What are the average water temperatures on the bathing beaches and how do these vary with the winds? How frequent are fogs, thunderstorms, strong winds, bright sunny days, overcast days, and rainy days?

Places which the hot south to west winds can reach only across 5 miles or more of cool water have an advantage over those with land in these directions. In this respect, south Jersey has some advantage over north Jersey, the south shore of Long Island, especially the eastern two thirds, a decided advantage over the north shore. The coasts of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the south shore and tip of Cape Cod, also Block Island, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket, Nantasket, Nahant, Gloucester, and the coast from Casco Bay eastward, cannot have so much hot weather as the other less favored ones. Similarly, islands, and north and east shores of the great Lakes are better than south and west shores in hot weather.

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