

# Global warming

## Climate in Iceland

Considerably is known of climate change in Iceland after people started living here. After relatively mild climate to begin with, it starts to get rather cold in the 14.th century and stays like that until in the end of the 19.th century. This era has often been called “the little ice age”.

On this era the glaciers got bigger on Iceland and were at its biggest form at the end because of this so called “little ice age”. Then the glacier tongues from the glacier Vatnajökull reached the open lowland. The glacier Breiðarmerkurjökull reached so far it almost touched sea, only 200 meters of land separated the Breiðarmerkurs glacier tongue from the sea. The last one hundred years outlets of the glaciers have been retreating steadily. Also the glaciers have retreated a lot and so their cubic measure has gotten lot smaller.



Now days it is said that the glacier Vatnajökull rarefy's about one-meter average each year.

## Possible climate changes in Iceland in the near future.

Many assume that Global warming is a fact which we have to respond to. Studies show that climate in the world has changed the last 100 years. Many people agree that the nature isn't the only one who is changing, but human actions and their pollution in the last century is well noticeable.

It is rather hard to predict on the climate effect on Iceland and around the country on next few years. It is among other things because that Iceland is an island in the North-Atlantic where natural changes are lot more noticeable, even from year to year.



Cold ocean streams from the north and the hot Gulf Stream from the south converge around the country. Where the stream mingles it makes a good condition for the reduces levitation to grow. These areas are also important as growing facility for several fish species.

Experts say that it is possible that global warming can create imbalance in the ocean streams and there for change condition in the sea.

Thereby it is thought that northern ocean streams get predominant and leads to less prolificacy in the sea. On the other hand if the influence of the Gulf Stream increases could it lead to more prolificacy?

Increasing glacier melting in the world leads to higher sea level; it is even thought that the increase of the sea level could go up by 50cm before the next turn of the century. That leads to more burden on coasts and it is possible that land elimination will increase. Than the seawater will go higher up on the land when low pressure system blows over. On the other hand a part of the land is still rising since last glacial span. This increase is up to two centimetres per year like by the glacier lagoon Jökulsárlón and one centimeter in Hornarfjörður.

Glacier melting leads also to changing of the land. The flow of the glacial rivers will increase, what then can affect water conditions and utilization of water power. It is also said that glacier burst will be more common. Somebody noticed that relatively little heat changes would change the size of the glacier. There for 1°C heat change of a medium year can affect the glacier size whether it grows or decrease. The last decade glaciers in southeast corner of Iceland is decreasing very fast. But in fact, it does matter whether the glacier tongues lies straight on land or crawl forth to a lagoon. Glaciers which lie on land decreases much faster.



Beneath Vatnajökull is a hot spot, and there for much volcanism. The hot spot beneath Vatnajökull is considered to be one of the most active in the world today.

It is thought that global warming can in many ways lead to something good. In Iceland for example can warmer climate change vegetation and can increase harvest both in hay yield and grain farming. In that case animal species can increase here in Iceland. The same is for several vermin which have been kept at bay when cold winters have been in the country. The cooties louse is a exemplar of this.

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