



These maps show the average precipitation around the world, and average high and low temperatures for places in the different climate zones.

The distance away from the equator and the poles is a major factor that determines the climate of an area. However, it is not the only factor. The climate of an area can also be affected by a large body of water, such as a Great Lake or an ocean.

Air temperature can change a lot and very quickly. However, the temperature of a large body of water takes a much longer time to change, even just a few degrees. That's why a lake such as Lake Ontario will be colder than the air above it in the summer, but warmer than the air above it in winter.