

# Siberian blast sweeps across Europe

A Siberian weather system dubbed the “Beast from the East” is bringing snow, strong winds and the coldest temperatures for years to many regions across Europe, with the freeze expected to continue

Minimum temperature  
Celsius

Forecast  
for March 2

Siberia

Reykjavik

500km  
300 miles

-20°

-10°

Dublin

London

ATLANTIC  
OCEAN

Paris

Lisbon

Madrid

Rome

Berlin

Vienna

Belgrade

Warsaw

Stockholm

Oslo

Helsinki

Moscow

Kiev

Berlin

Athens

Ankara

0°

10°

20°

**POLAR VORTEX:** Large area of cold air that circles above North (and South) Pole

**1** Rapid warming of stratosphere – layer of air that extends from about 10km to 50km above ground level – occurs over Arctic

**2** Polar vortex weakened by temperature rise, splits into two or more vortices

**3** Wintry air from Siberia forced eastwards, plunging Europe into freezing conditions

