

# World Climate Regions



**Applying Map Skills**

1. Which climate covers most of the southeastern United States?
2. Which climate is most common in countries directly on the Equator?

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## Mid-Latitude Climates

Mid-latitude, or moderate, climates are found in the middle latitudes of the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. They extend from about 23½° to 60° both north and south of the Equator. Most of the world's people—probably including you—live within these two bands around the earth. The climate zones found here are called mid-latitude because they are in the middle of both the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere. The mid-latitude climates are neither as close to the Equator as the tropical climates nor as close to the Poles as the high latitude climates.

The mid-latitude region includes more and different climate zones than other regions. This variety results from a mix of air masses. As you remember from Section 2, warm air comes from the Tropics. Cool air comes from the polar regions. In most mid-latitude climates, the temperature changes with the seasons. Sometimes the climate zones in this region are called temperate climates.

**Marine West Coast Climate** Coastal areas that receive winds from the ocean usually have a mild **marine west coast climate**. If you lived in one of these areas, your winters would be rainy and mild, and your summers would be cool. Most areas with this climate—such as