

Devon Island

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Devon Island Latest News

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About Devon Island

- It is located in the **Canadian arctic archipelago**, within the zone classified as the **High Arctic**.
- It is the **world's largest uninhabited island**.
- **Ellesmere Island** lies to the **north of Devon Island** and **Baffin Bay** lies to its east.
- Although completely devoid of human settlements, a **few species reside on the island**.
- The **short growing season** of only about **40 to 55 days** and the **low temperatures (2° to 8°C in summer)** discourage the growth of plants here.
- **Winters are extremely harsh** with temperatures being as **low as -50 °C**.
- The **limited solar energy input** is also one of the factors influencing the existence of life on this island.
- **Little precipitation** is also received on Devon Island.

- The “out-of-the-world-like” **landscape** here is **cold, dry, and rocky**. **Snow and ice blanket** the island’s ice cap for the **entire year**.
- **Astronauts preparing for Mars missions** do **pay occasional visits** to Devon Island **to get used to extraterrestrial conditions**.
- **NASA uses Devon Island to study Mars**, primarily because it’s **barren, and its freezing, polar desert conditions** allow researchers to **test next-generation rovers**.
- It is **home to a 14-mile-wide Haughton Crater**. It was formed when a meteorite struck millions of years ago, leaving behind terrain that resembles the surface of Mars.

Source: TOI

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/devon-island/>

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