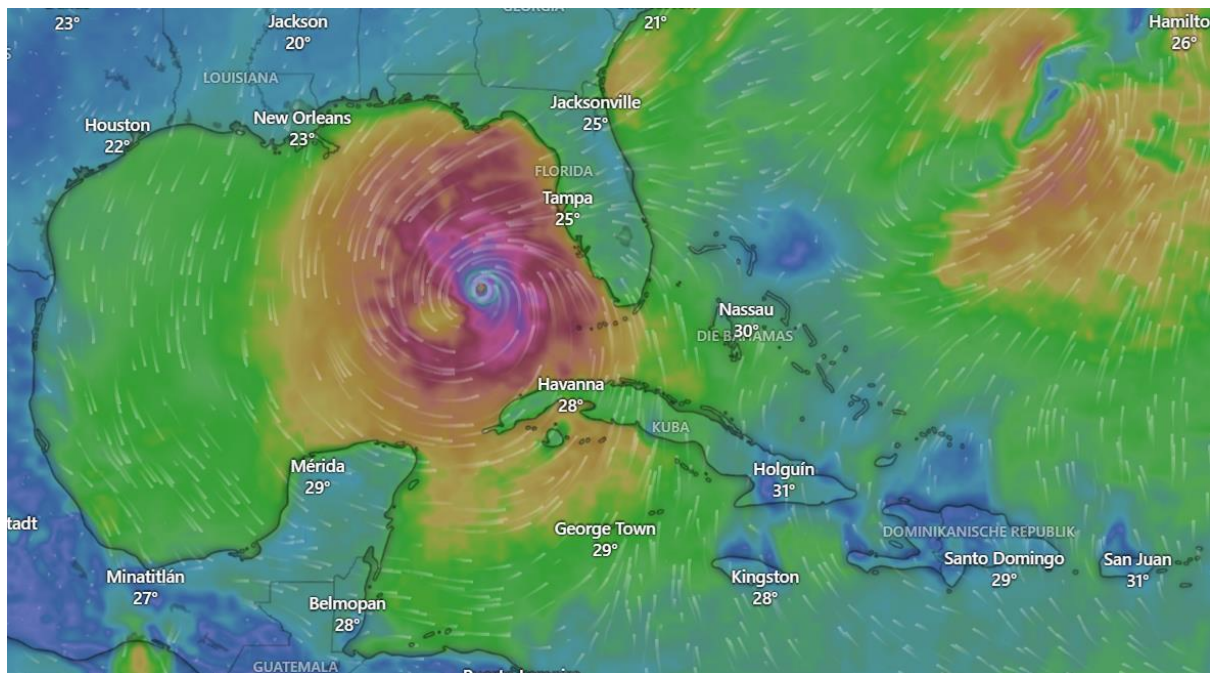


Hurricane Milton moves towards Florida



Hurricane Milton is moving towards central Florida (source: [Windy](#))

Hurricane Milton, which is currently raging in the Caribbean Sea with wind speeds of up to 270 kilometers per hour, has passed Cuba. Milton has now reached the highest category five on the [Saffir-Simpson scale](#) and is moving at 22 kilometers per hour towards the central west coast of the US state of Florida, where it is expected to make landfall on Wednesday night (local time). Heavy devastation is expected there.

Although the center of the storm is more than 300 kilometers from Cuba, its effects have already been felt on the island. As the *Cubadebate* news portal [reports](#), wind speeds of between 40 and 50 kilometers per hour were measured in the western part of Cuba, with peak values of up to 82 km/h in the municipality of La Palma (Pinar del Río province) and 72 km/h at Havana's Casablanca station. Strong winds from the south to southwest are expected to continue for the next few hours, particularly affecting the provinces of Pinar del Río to Mayabeque. Strong waves and moderate coastal flooding are expected, especially south of Pinar del Río and on the Isle of Youth. Strong and floodings waves are also expected on Havana's Malecón waterfront. Rain and thunderstorms are expected in the affected areas.

On Tuesday, preventive [protective measures were introduced](#) on the Isle of Youth.

Shipping traffic between the island and the main archipelago has been suspended until further notice. In particularly vulnerable areas, residents have been evacuated to more stable houses and port equipment has been made storm-proof. UNE electricity company employees removed overhanging branches from power lines to prevent damage from falling trees.

The Cuban meteorological institute (Insmet) announced that it would continue to monitor the development of Hurricane Milton closely in the coming hours and days. ([Cubaheute](#))