

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ASWAN AREA, EGYPT

LOCATION: Aswan, with its High Dam, is located on the Nile River in Upper (southern) Egypt. It is situated at the former site of the classical First Cataract of the journey up the Nile. That cataract is now submerged by the waters of Lake Nasser. The landscape is largely one of rocky desert, with little vegetation, except along the river. Elevations in the Aswan area are close to 200 meters above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:50	11:21	12:00	12:43	13:18	13:36	13:29	12:59	12:19	11:37	11:01	10:41
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	9:37	10:02	10:22	10:32	11:11	12:06	12:05	11:36	9:57	10:09	9:59	9:20
AREA OF BLUE SKY	91%	92%	90%	93%	93%	99%	97%	97%	97%	96%	94%	91%
LOW FOR MONTH	5°	6°	9°	13°	17°	21°	23°	23°	20°	17°	11°	7°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	9°	11°	14°	19°	23°	25°	26°	26°	24°	21°	16°	11°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	23°	26°	30°	35°	39°	42°	41°	41°	39°	37°	30°	25°
HIGH FOR MONTH	31°	33°	39°	43°	45°	45°	45°	45°	44°	42°	36°	32°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 32°C	1%	3%	26%	64%	93%	99%	99%	98%	96%	73%	12%	1%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	25%	19%	15%	13%	12%	13%	14%	16%	17%	18%	24%	28%
DRY DAYS	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
5-DAY RAINFALL (MM)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: For all intents and purposes, Aswan is rainless. Sensitive instruments out at the airport may record very slight traces of precipitation several times a year, but these amounts don't even wet the ground. Periods of several decades have passed without real rain. This is one of the driest places on Earth. As one elderly resident put it, "I've seen rain, but I should like my son and my grandson to see it too." The clear skies and the high sun angles combine to create extremely intense solar radiation. Because of the low humidity, the *sensible* temperatures (the ones you actually feel) are from 1° to 8°C **cooler** than the ones in the table or on the thermometers. On the other hand, stepping from the shade into the direct sunshine can **add** up to 11°C to the sensible temperatures.