

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CALGARY AREA, ALBERTA, CANADA

LOCATION: Calgary is located in southwestern Alberta. The city is situated on the flat, open expanse of the Great Plains. The foothills of the Rocky Mountains are just visible to the west on a clear day. The city sits mostly on the south bank of the Bow River, near its junction with the Elbow River (*calgary* means “clear running water in Gaelic, *not* in one of the local Indian languages). Elevations in town are some 3,500 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:28	9:58	11:51	13:49	15:32	16:29	16:05	14:36	12:43	10:46	9:00	8:01
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:32	4:41	5:14	6:33	7:59	8:22	10:06	8:39	6:22	5:23	4:00	3:14
AREA OF BLUE SKY	44%	43%	40%	38%	36%	36%	52%	48%	44%	46%	45%	46%
LOW FOR MONTH	-25°	-23°	-12°	11°	24°	33°	38°	35°	24°	12°	-8°	-18°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	3°	7°	15°	27°	37°	44°	48°	46°	38°	30°	17°	9°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	24°	28°	36°	52°	62°	68°	75°	73°	64°	54°	38°	29°
HIGH FOR MONTH	50°	53°	59°	73°	81°	85°	90°	88°	83°	77°	62°	52°
FROSTY MORNINGS	96%	97%	95%	76%	23%	1%	0%	0%	18%	60%	93%	97%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	66%	65%	61%	47%	45%	48%	47%	46%	49%	53%	63%	66%
DRY DAYS	71%	68%	68%	70%	65%	55%	63%	65%	72%	81%	77%	74%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	95%	93%	91%	86%	82%	75%	81%	82%	86%	91%	92%	95%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.09	0.11	0.13	0.17	0.34	0.54	0.40	0.36	0.26	0.12	0.10	0.08
LIKELY SNOWFALL	5.9"	6.4"	8.3"	7.4"	3.8"	0.2"	0.0"	0.0"	2.8"	4.5"	6.6"	5.8"
SNOWY DAYS	24%	25%	28%	19%	5%	2%	0%	0%	5%	11%	19%	21%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	21%	26%	17%	5%	0%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	9%	9%	9%	7%	4%	5%	3%	4%	4%	6%	11%	8%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 50% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 40% in December, to a high of 63% in July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -30°, and the highest should be near 92°. Sensible summer afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be a few degrees cooler than actual ones. Calgary has a distinct continental climate, only slightly modified by the mountains to the west. This is illustrated by the extremes of temperature from season to season. Precipitation is slight, with a distinct summer maximum. From late October through early April, most precipitation comes in the form of snow. Blizzards are a fact of life during the winter months, and canny highway travelers carry emergency supplies just in case they have to sit one out miles from any kind of assistance. The Calgary Stampede is a ten-day festival in July. It features what many consider to be the world's biggest and roughest rodeo events. Accommodations are often booked a year in advance. Latecomers are out of luck.