

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO ADDIS ABABA AND THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, ETHIOPIA

LOCATION: Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, is located in the central highlands. The city is situated near the headwaters of the Ak'ak'i River. Elevations are around 8,850 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:39	11:50	12:05	12:20	12:33	12:40	12:37	12:26	12:11	11:56	11:43	11:36
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:22	7:53	6:50	6:33	6:44	5:39	3:40	3:40	4:54	7:22	8:38	8:43
AREA OF BLUE SKY	63%	52%	43%	39%	39%	33%	20%	21%	30%	51%	67%	68%
LOW FOR MONTH	36°	40°	42°	45°	45°	45°	46°	46°	44°	39°	36°	34°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	46°	49°	51°	52°	52°	51°	52°	52°	51°	47°	45°	44°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	72°	74°	75°	75°	75°	72°	67°	68°	69°	72°	72°	71°
HIGH FOR MONTH	79°	80°	81°	81°	83°	81°	76°	75°	75°	79°	77°	77°
FROSTY MORNINGS	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	36%	41%	41%	46%	43%	56%	69%	69%	63%	42%	38%	33%
DRY DAYS	92%	82%	72%	64%	68%	33%	11%	12%	30%	86%	93%	95%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	96%	90%	84%	79%	81%	62%	41%	42%	55%	93%	97%	98%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.11	0.28	0.44	0.57	0.57	0.87	1.72	1.81	1.23	0.16	0.08	0.06
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	9%	15%	16%	14%	32%	39%	39%	30%	7%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	4%	4%	5%	4%	1%	1%	2%

COMMENTS: The area has a upland version of the wet-and-dry tropics. The length of the daylight period does not vary significantly from one month to another, and the temperature range is less than ten degrees. Because of the elevation, afternoon temperatures range from mild to warm--almost never hot. Nighttime temperatures range from cool to chilly--and in some years drop below freezing. The highland year is divided into five seasons, based almost entirely on rainfall patterns. The dominant season is the *krempt*, the season of the "long rains". This usually runs from late June through early September. The *tsedia* makes up the rest of the month of September, and is a tailing-off season for rainfall. The *bega* is the dry season, and runs from October through February. It is the nicest time of year. The *belgh* is the season of the "small rains", and runs from March through May. *Makar* is the transition period between the small rains and the long rains, and is pretty much the month of June. Much of the rain is associated with a lengthy afternoon thunderstorms--often lasting as much as seven hours. Long periods of drizzle are common in August and September. These are often referred to as *egnege bilia*, which means "never stops".