

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO TARABOLUS (TRIPOLI) AND TRIPOLITANIA, LIBYA

LOCATION: Tripolitania is the northwestern of the three historic provinces of Libya—the others being Cyrenaica in the northeast and Fezzan in the center. Tarabolus (better know to non-Arabs as Tripoli) is the capital of both Tripolitania and the nation. The city is situated on the Mediterranean coast, on the shores of a small and not very well protected harbor. Elevations are close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:15	11:00	11:58	12:59	13:51	14:17	14:06	13:23	12:25	11:24	10:31	10:02
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:01	7:11	7:46	8:49	9:44	10:46	12:26	11:45	9:36	7:40	6:44	5:50
AREA OF BLUE SKY	53%	60%	60%	62%	62%	74%	91%	90%	79%	62%	59%	52%
LOW FOR MONTH	39°	40°	42°	46°	51°	58°	63°	66°	62°	56°	47°	41°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	46°	48°	51°	56°	61°	67°	71°	72°	70°	64°	56°	49°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	62°	64°	68°	73°	78°	84°	87°	88°	86°	81°	73°	65°
HIGH FOR MONTH	73°	78°	87°	96°	100°	106°	103°	101°	101°	96°	86°	76°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	1%	3%	11%	23%	34%	40%	44%	30%	15%	3%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	57%	55%	55%	54%	54%	55%	56%	56%	58%	56%	55%	58%
NEARBY WATERS	61°	60°	60°	61°	65°	72°	76°	79°	77°	76°	72°	64°
DRY DAYS	66%	76%	86%	93%	94%	98%	99%	99%	95%	84%	78%	67%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	82%	88%	93%	97%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	91%	87%	81%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.45	0.29	0.15	0.08	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.24	0.35	0.52
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	6%	5%	3%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	4%	8%	6%	6%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	6%	7%	6%	6%	8%	14%	12%	8%	7%	6%	3%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine occurs on 73% of the year's daylight hours. This ranges from a "low" of 58% in December, to a high of 88% in July. The expected low temperature for the year will be around 38° at some windless cool-season sunrise, and the high will be near 109° —probably during one of the *ghiblis*. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be a few degrees higher than actual ones, because of the humidity. The summer alternation of land and sea breezes is the most distinctive local phenomena, and one much praised by the local people. Temperatures are much higher a short distance out of town, with the world's highest shade temperature (136°F) was recorded one September day at Aziza, some 25 miles to the south. The *ghibli* is a hot, dry wind from the southern desert that can drop humidities and raise both temperatures and tempers to excessive heights. It can blow at any time of year, but is most common in the spring and early summer. It frequently carries dust and sand, and lasts for days at a time. It has to be experienced to be appreciated.