

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE RUINS OF LEPTIS MAGNA, LIBYA

LOCATION: The Roman ruins of Leptis Magna, probably the most impressive and best-preserved Roman ruins anyplace in the world (including Rome), are located on the Tripolitanian Coast of northwestern Libya. They are situated on the shores of the Mediterranean at the mouth of the Wadi Lepta, which provided a natural harbor in times past. The area of Leptis is unknown, since most of it is still covered by the sands. What has been uncovered is impressive. The nearest town is Al Khoms, a mile or so away.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:16	11:01	11:58	12:58	13:50	14:16	14:05	13:22	12:25	11:25	10:32	10:04
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:50	6:41	7:17	8:35	9:32	10:48	11:46	11:05	9:06	7:16	6:20	5:40
AREA OF BLUE SKY	51%	54%	55%	60%	60%	76%	86%	85%	75%	58%	55%	50%
LOW FOR MONTH	39°	39°	42°	46°	51°	57°	63°	65°	62°	56°	48°	39°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	47°	47°	51°	56°	60°	66°	70°	71°	70°	65°	57°	49°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	62°	64°	69°	74°	78°	84°	87°	88°	87°	82°	73°	66°
HIGH FOR MONTH	74°	79°	89°	99°	101°	107°	104°	103°	101°	97°	87°	79°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	2%	7%	16%	28%	30%	35%	25%	13%	2%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	60%	57%	57%	56%	56%	57%	58%	58%	59%	57%	57%	59%
NEARBY WATERS	61°	60°	61°	62°	65°	72°	77°	80°	77°	76°	71°	64°
DRY DAYS	69%	78%	86%	93%	95%	97%	99%	99%	94%	84%	79%	69%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	85%	89%	93%	97%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	91%	88%	85%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.35	0.25	0.15	0.07	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.24	0.31	0.37
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	4%	6%	5%	5%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	1%	3%	5%	4%	4%	7%	9%	9%	7%	5%	4%	2%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 68% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 56% in December, to a high of 84% in July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to ° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 109° on some summer afternoon when the sea breeze fails and the hot winds from the south blow. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 4° hotter than actual ones during the summer months, due to the humidity off the Mediterranean. These same conditions make winter afternoons feel up to 3° cooler than actual temperatures. The area enjoys a desert variation of the Mediterranean three-season year. There are only two weather seasons: summer (April through September) and winter (October through March). The “greening up” and blossoming of vegetation, however, makes spring a distinct season—even if in terms of weather it is simply a transition from winter to summer. Sandstorms off the desert to the south can occur at any time of year, but are most common in the spring and early summer. The hottest temperatures occur during these storms.