

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ESSAOUIRA AREA, MOROCCO

LOCATION: The wind-surfing center of Essaouira (pronounced ESS'-uh-weer'-uh) is located on Morocco's Atlantic coast, just west of Marrakech. The city is situated on a small cape at the head of miles of magnificent beach. Known as Mogodor under Portuguese rule, the city's settlement dates back to the 15th century. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:21	11:03	11:58	12:56	13:45	14:10	14:00	13:19	12:24	11:26	10:36	10:09
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:39	7:26	7:58	8:54	9:20	9:47	9:50	9:30	8:35	7:38	6:37	6:22
AREA OF BLUE SKY	70%	64%	64%	64%	65%	68%	73%	73%	69%	68%	63%	67%
LOW FOR MONTH	45 °	46 °	49 °	52 °	55 °	59 °	61 °	61 °	60 °	56 °	52 °	47 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	51 °	52 °	55 °	57 °	59 °	62 °	63 °	63 °	63 °	61 °	57 °	53 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	64 °	64 °	66 °	66 °	68 °	69 °	70 °	71 °	72 °	71 °	68 °	65 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	71 °	72 °	76 °	75 °	76 °	76 °	79 °	81 °	82 °	81 °	78 °	72 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	74%	76%	77%	80%	81%	84%	85%	85%	83%	81%	77%	76%
NEARBY WATERS	60 °	59 °	60 °	61 °	64 °	66 °	69 °	71 °	70 °	68 °	64 °	63 °
DRY DAYS	75%	75%	75%	80%	90%	97%	99%	99%	96%	86%	76%	74%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	87%	88%	88%	90%	95%	99%	99%	99%	99%	93%	86%	87%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.34	0.27	0.24	0.18	0.11	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.17	0.39	0.36
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%	6%	6%	8%	4%	2%	1%

COMMENTS: This part of the coast has a semi-desert version of the Mediterranean three-season year, with its winter rain and summer drought. The winter rain, however is not that much of a much. Summer afternoons are very sunny, very humid (the wind is off the sea), and mild to warm (that sea is fairly cool). Hot days are fairly rare. Most summers get no rain at all. Winter is a rainy (somewhat) season, not a cold one. It starts with the first serious rain of late October or early November, and tapers off imperceptibly into spring sometime in March. Spring, similarly, grades imperceptibly into summer. Since the native woody plants are evergreen and frost is unknown, there is no "fall". The strong, steady winds off the Atlantic Ocean have made this area a Mecca for wind-surfers.