

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO KIGOMA AND LAKE TANGANYIKA, TANZANIA

LOCATION: Kigoma is located in western Tanzania, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. It is the terminus of the railway from Dar Es-Salaam, and is also a major port of call for the Lake Tanganyika steamer. Elevations are around 2,900 feet above sea level. Kigoma serves as a base of operations for trips to the market town of Ujiji and to the chimpanzee sanctuary of Gombe Stream National Park.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	12:23	12:16	12:09	12:01	11:54	11:51	11:52	11:58	12:05	12:13	12:20	12:24
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:58	5:36	5:42	6:31	8:17	9:33	9:59	9:11	8:05	6:57	5:12	4:47
AREA OF BLUE SKY	26%	30%	32%	38%	59%	74%	77%	74%	65%	52%	34%	25%
LOW FOR MONTH	63°	63°	63°	64°	63°	59°	59°	60°	63°	64°	63°	63°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	67°	67°	67°	67°	67°	64°	63°	65°	67°	69°	67°	67°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	80°	81°	81°	81°	83°	83°	83°	84°	86°	84°	80°	79°
HIGH FOR MONTH	85°	85°	87°	86°	87°	86°	87°	89°	90°	91°	86°	85°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	73%	73%	73%	73%	65%	55%	51%	52%	57%	63%	73%	75%
DRY DAYS	55%	57%	48%	45%	76%	97%	98%	97%	92%	76%	43%	42%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	72%	72%	66%	66%	87%	99%	99%	99%	97%	86%	66%	66%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.77	0.84	0.97	0.94	0.32	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.10	0.34	0.90	0.93
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	60%	57%	59%	47%	32%	11%	6%	5%	16%	31%	60%	58%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine occurs on 58% of the year's daylight hours. This ranges from a low of 39% in December, to a high of 84% in July. The expected low temperature for the year will be around 58° at some windless dry-season sunrise, and the high will be near 91° on some sunny September or October afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones. During the rainy season, the rain usually falls as a series of heavy thundershowers, with many dry spells in between. It can fall any time of day, but the morning hours seem to be favored a bit. This comes about as the early morning breezes bring showers in off the lake. Because of Kigoma's proximity to the Equator, there is not much difference in temperatures from one month to the next. The conditions on any particular day can easily occur in any month of the year. There is not much local variation in weather from place to place along the lake shore. If you go up into the local hills, you can expect temperatures to drop about 1° for every 300 feet of increase in elevation.