

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO KAIROUAN AND THE GREAT MOSQUE, TUNISIA

LOCATION: Kairouan is located in the northeastern part of Tunisia, some distance inland from the Mediterranean coast at Sousse. The city is situated on a fertile plain, largely given over to fruit cultivation. Elevations are close to sea level. Kairouan is Tunisia's holiest city, and is considered by many Muslims to be the fourth holiest city in Islam (after Mecca, Medina, and Jerusalem). The Great Mosque and the *medina* (old, walled city) should not be missed.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:03	10:53	11:57	13:05	14:02	14:32	14:20	13:31	12:27	11:20	10:20	9:48
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:01	6:54	7:21	8:20	9:43	10:37	11:47	10:51	8:56	7:31	6:50	5:54
AREA OF BLUE SKY	53%	57%	56%	57%	61%	70%	82%	79%	69%	62%	61%	58%
LOW FOR MONTH	32 °	34 °	35 °	40 °	47 °	55 °	61 °	61 °	57 °	48 °	40 °	33 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	41 °	43 °	46 °	50 °	56 °	63 °	68 °	69 °	65 °	58 °	50 °	43 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	62 °	65 °	69 °	75 °	83 °	92 °	99 °	98 °	91 °	81 °	72 °	63 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	73 °	79 °	84 °	91 °	96 °	107 °	110 °	111 °	104 °	94 °	84 °	74 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	2%	14%	62%	94%	91%	52%	10%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	48%	43%	42%	40%	36%	30%	27%	31%	38%	46%	47%	49%
DRY DAYS	83%	83%	81%	83%	85%	91%	97%	93%	84%	83%	85%	85%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	92%	92%	90%	91%	93%	96%	99%	97%	92%	91%	92%	93%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.17	0.17	0.23	0.18	0.14	0.08	0.04	0.07	0.25	0.27	0.18	0.18
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	3%	4%	5%	4%	6%	10%	5%	11%	17%	14%	8%	5%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine occurs on 69 % of the year's daylight hours. This ranges from a "low" of 60% in December, to a high of 80% in August. The expected low temperature for the year will be around 30° at some windless cool-season sunrise, and the high will be near 113° on some blazing hot-season afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be a few degrees cooler than actual ones. Throughout North Africa, one of the most dramatic weather phenomena is the *sirocco*, a very hot, very dry, and often very dusty wind out of the Sahara. It is this wind that sets the record high temperatures in every month. It is most common and violent in the spring, but can occur at any time and with little warning. It can also blow for days at a time, completely destroying anyone's travel plans. When it's "got its back up", only fools venture out into it.