SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE BEIJING AREA, CHINA

LOCATION: Beijing (previously Peking), the capital of China, is located in the northeastern part of that country. The city is situated in fairly flat countryside between the coastal plain and the interior hills. Beijing is served by an extensive canal system, connecting to the Wenhu River. Elevations are everywhere within a few hundred feet of sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:42	10:40	11:55	13:15	14:22	14:58	14:43	13:46	12:30	11:12	10:02	9:24
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:34	7:01	7:43	8:12	9:06	9:03	7:14	7:20	7:58	7:32	6:26	6:09
AREA OF BLUE SKY	71%	63%	54%	50%	46%	41%	32%	39%	53%	61%	65%	71%
LOW FOR MONTH	5°	5 °	20°	35°	46°	57°	65°	61°	47°	34°	20°	10°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	15°	20°	31°	45°	56°	65°	71°	69°	58°	45°	32°	20°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	35°	39°	52°	67°	79°	86°	87°	85°	78°	66°	50°	37°
HIGH FOR MONTH	47°	53°	68°	82°	91°	97°	96°	95°	86°	78°	63°	51°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	97%	54%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	55%	97%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0 %	0 %	0 %	11%	35%	40%	20%	2 %	0 %	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	31%	31%	32%	32%	37%	44%	58%	61%	48%	45%	43%	37%
DRY DAYS	92%	90%	89%	86%	81%	71%	57%	62%	77%	87%	90%	95%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	99%	98%	97%	94%	91%	82%	63%	73%	87%	94%	96%	99%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.12	0.22	0.51	1.37	0.99	0.38	0.11	0.06	0.03
SNOWY DAYS	7%	12%	7%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4 %	6%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	2 %	8 %	21%	27%	20%	10%	2 %	0%	0 %
FOGGY DAYS	4 %	9%	5%	2%	1%	6%	6%	6%	4 %	5%	7%	8%

COMMENTS: Beijing has a standard mid-latitude four-season year. Spring runs from the last few days of March through late May. It features lengthening days, warming temperatures, and a gradual increase in rather light rains. Deciduous trees leaf out, and flowers bloom everywhere. Summer extends from late May through the middle of September. It is cloudy, hot, humid, and rainy. Autumn runs from mid-September until the ground freezes over in late November. It features a lessening of the daylight period, cooling temperatures, and an increase in the number of clear days. Deciduous trees drop their leaves and stand with bare branches. Winter runs from late November until almost the end of March. It is characterized by a high percentage of available sunshine, lots of clear days, quite cold mornings and cold afternoons, and very little precipitation. What does fall is usually snow flurries. The ground, however, is rarely snow-covered because winter precipitation is so light. For those who are warmly dressed, winter can be quite a pleasant season. The best weather, however, comes in the Spring and Autumn (May and October).