

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO DHARAMSALA AND THE KANGRA VALLEY, INDIA

LOCATION: The Kangra Valley is located in the state of Himachal Pradesh in northwestern India. The valley is bordered by the Dhauladhar range of the Himalayan system. Most of the sites of interest are located on ridge tops north of the valley. These include the settlements of Dharamsala and McLeod Ganj, near which the exiled Dalai Lama has his residence. Elevations vary, but are usually between 5,000 and 7,000 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:18	11:02	11:58	12:58	13:48	14:14	14:03	13:21	12:24	11:25	10:33	10:05
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:18	6:33	6:24	8:17	8:43	7:43	7:08	7:13	8:04	8:44	8:19	6:08
AREA OF BLUE SKY	45%	52%	52%	62%	68%	70%	48%	44%	67%	83%	77%	57%
LOW FOR MONTH	24 °	25 °	31 °	39 °	45 °	50 °	56 °	55 °	47 °	38 °	32 °	26 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	32 °	34 °	42 °	49 °	56 °	60 °	61 °	59 °	54 °	49 °	40 °	35 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	45 °	48 °	57 °	66 °	74 °	79 °	77 °	75 °	73 °	67 °	59 °	50 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	54 °	57 °	67 °	76 °	83 °	85 °	83 °	81 °	78 °	74 °	65 °	59 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	45%	31%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	13%	29%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	8%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	66%	64%	49%	42%	40%	53%	73%	76%	65%	51%	47%	59%
DRY DAYS	70%	73%	66%	73%	73%	66%	38%	40%	62%	84%	93%	82%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	84%	84%	81%	84%	85%	77%	49%	53%	75%	92%	96%	92%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.41	0.46	0.48	0.42	0.40	0.78	1.82	1.82	0.78	0.22	0.09	0.20
LIKELY SNOWFALL	11.6"	12.2"	3.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	3.6"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	9%	9%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	4%	7%	12%	19%	24%	23%	17%	11%	11%	8%	2%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	9%	12%	3%	0%	0%	10%	34%	42%	15%	1%	0%	4%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 61% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 51% in January and again in July, to a high of 79% in sunny November. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 22 ° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 87 ° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. Snowfall is extremely variable from place to place and from year to year. Elevation and—to a lesser degree—slope orientation rule local climates. You can expect daytime temperatures to drop an average of 1 °F for each 300'-increase in elevation—and *vice versa* going downhill. As in all mountains, the direction the slope is facing makes a difference in how much sunshine and how much rain the slope gets, and therefore in its temperature and humidity. Many mountain valleys that run east-west are divided into a "sunny side" (the south-facing slopes) and a "shady side" (the north-facing slopes), with consequent differences in vegetation and land use.