

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO RIYADH AND THE JEBAL TUWAYQ, SAUDI ARABIA

LOCATION: Riyadh is the center of Saudi government, and the ancestral city of the Saud family. The city is located roughly in the center of the country, and is situated on a rocky escarpment (Jebal Tuwayq) that stretches for hundreds of miles in an arc across the desert. Riyadh has an elevation of about 2,000 feet above sea level. Many trees have been planted in the city, but the surrounding landscape is rocky and treeless.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:48	11:19	12:00	12:44	13:20	13:39	13:31	13:00	12:19	11:36	10:59	10:39
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:37	9:10	8:56	9:21	10:50	13:12	12:29	11:56	11:47	10:42	9:20	8:12
AREA OF BLUE SKY	75%	76%	68%	67%	77%	96%	91%	90%	95%	90%	81%	71%
LOW FOR MONTH	36 °	40 °	46 °	56 °	67 °	74 °	76 °	76 °	70 °	60 °	49 °	39 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	44 °	47 °	55 °	62 °	72 °	77 °	79 °	79 °	73 °	64 °	55 °	46 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	73 °	77 °	86 °	94 °	103 °	108 °	110 °	110 °	105 °	96 °	84 °	75 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	82 °	87 °	95 °	102 °	109 °	112 °	113 °	112 °	109 °	101 °	91 °	83 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	3%	20%	60%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	82%	10%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	34%	28%	26%	21%	15%	11%	10%	10%	11%	15%	24%	36%
DRY DAYS	89%	89%	79%	76%	90%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	95%	88%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	96%	96%	90%	88%	96%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	96%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.08	0.07	0.19	0.20	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.06
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	3%	5%	6%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
FOGGY DAYS	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%

COMMENTS: Almost every year will have one or more frosty mornings somewhere in the Riyadh area, but the frost is extremely spotty. Some places in the city proper will get none at all over a period of years. January is the most likely month for below-freezing temperatures to occur. Similarly, snow flurries have been reported, but it is extremely unlikely that you will ever see one here. There is no wet season. Riyadh's sparse rainfall is most likely during the cooler months, but is extremely variable from year to year as to the time of occurrence and the amount. If you get rained on, do as the Beduin do, and consider it as a blessing! Blowing sand and dust are a fact of Riyadh life. About half the days will have enough dust in the air to restrict visibility somewhat. Some days, particularly from March through June, can be downright hellish!