

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE MEDICINE HAT AREA, ALBERTA

LOCATION: The Medicine Hat area is located in the southeastern corner of Alberta, near the borders with Saskatchewan and Montana. The city sits on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River, at an elevation of around 2,140 feet above sea level. The surrounding countryside is open prairie grassland, now mostly under cultivation. A few miles to the southeast is the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park, on the Saskatchewan border. This is an island of forested hills in the midst of otherwise open prairie. The city gets its name from the headdress of a medicine man, supposedly lost somewhere in the area.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:37	10:03	11:51	13:45	15:24	16:18	15:55	14:30	12:41	10:49	9:07	8:11
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:05	4:22	4:58	6:54	8:31	9:11	11:05	9:37	6:33	5:32	3:36	2:44
AREA OF BLUE SKY	38%	39%	38%	40%	39%	40%	58%	53%	46%	47%	39%	38%
LOW FOR MONTH	-28°	-25°	-12°	14°	27°	38°	44°	39°	28°	15°	-8°	-21°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	2°	6°	17°	31°	42°	50°	55°	52°	43°	33°	19°	9°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	22°	26°	39°	57°	67°	75°	83°	81°	69°	58°	38°	28°
HIGH FOR MONTH	47°	49°	59°	78°	86°	92°	97°	95°	88°	79°	62°	51°
FROSTY MORNINGS	96%	95%	89%	56%	10%	1%	0%	0%	10%	47%	88%	95%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	19%	18%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	80%	78%	66%	46%	41%	46%	37%	39%	45%	54%	71%	79%
DRY DAYS	71%	75%	76%	77%	69%	65%	73%	76%	77%	82%	77%	74%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	93%	93%	92%	89%	85%	81%	87%	88%	88%	92%	91%	93%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.15	0.26	0.39	0.26	0.22	0.21	0.11	0.11	0.11
LIKELY SNOWFALL	7.4"	5.7"	6.0"	3.8"	0.5"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.9"	2.2"	5.9"	7.2"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	29%	21%	19%	13%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	20%	26%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	13%	19%	14%	2%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	4%	6%	4%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	7%	6%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 52% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 33% in December, to a high of 70% in July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -36°, and the highest should be near 99°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be very close to actual ones. The ground is generally frozen and snow-covered (but not continuously) from late October through early April. During this period, the afternoons will warm to above the freezing point about half the time, and below-zero temperatures will occur about one night in three.