

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE YELLOWKNIFE AREA, NORTHWEST TERRITORY

LOCATION: The Yellowknife area is located in the south-central portion of the Territory. It includes the northern and eastern portions of Great Slave Lake and the drainage areas that flow into that part of the lake. Yellowknife is the Territorial capital, and its largest city. Other communities include Dettah, Discovery, Edzo, Fort Reliance, Lac la Martre, Lutselk'e, Rae, Rae Lakes, Snare Lakes, Snare River, and What Ti. Except during the spring break-up and the fall freeze-up, the area is served by the year-around spur road off the Mackenzie Highway at Fort Providence. Elevations of the major communities are all less than 1,000 feet above sea level. Most have some sort of air service.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	6:07	8:45	11:44	14:49	17:49	19:48	18:55	16:07	13:04	10:02	7:06	5:12
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:36	3:37	5:43	8:23	10:18	11:45	11:03	8:52	4:52	2:16	1:31	0:46
AREA OF BLUE SKY	43%	48%	48%	45%	42%	42%	43%	41%	36%	24%	29%	42%
LOW FOR MONTH	-46°	-43°	-35°	-17°	15°	34°	44°	38°	26°	4°	-26°	-40°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	-26°	-22°	-12°	10°	31°	46°	53°	50°	39°	25°	-1°	-18°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	-11°	-4°	10°	30°	49°	64°	69°	65°	50°	35°	13°	-4°
HIGH FOR MONTH	17°	21°	34°	50°	68°	78°	81°	78°	65°	51°	34°	19°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	100%	94%	49%	3%	0%	0%	20%	79%	100%	100%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	73%	71%	66%	62%	52%	48%	50%	57%	67%	81%	82%	75%
DRY DAYS	66%	66%	73%	80%	82%	77%	69%	68%	68%	60%	53%	59%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	94%	94%	95%	95%	92%	90%	86%	85%	86%	83%	87%	93%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.09	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.11	0.13	0.22	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.11
LIKELY SNOWFALL	7.5"	6.5"	5.4"	3.9"	1.4"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	1.2"	7.6"	12.2"	7.8"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	34%	34%	27%	20%	11%	1%	0%	1%	9%	40%	47%	41%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	5%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	6%	7%	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	2%	6%	12%	11%	7%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 47% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 15% in December, to a high of 59% in June. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -48°, and the highest should be near 83°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be cooler than actual ones during the warmer months. Freeze-up of the area's smaller lakes and streams usually starts around the middle of October, with break-up coming sometime about the first of May. The deeper waters of Great Slave Lake won't freeze up completely until late November or early December. The ground is usually frozen and snow-covered from late October through the first few days in May.