

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE WHITEHORSE AREA, YUKON TERRITORY, CANADA

LOCATION: Whitehorse, the capital of the Yukon Territory, is located in the southwester portion of that territory. The town is situated on the west bank of the Yukon River, a bit south of Lake Leberge. Elevations are some 2,300 feet above sea level. Whitehorse sits at the junction of the Alaskan (Alcan) Highway connecting Canada and Alaska, and the Klondike Highway, connecting Skagway with Dawson City.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	6:38	9:00	11:45	14:37	17:19	19:00	18:15	15:48	13:00	10:11	7:30	5:51
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:29	3:23	5:13	7:47	8:28	9:01	8:11	7:28	4:39	3:01	1:34	0:49
AREA OF BLUE SKY	32%	33%	35%	30%	30%	29%	24%	29%	29%	29%	22%	27%
LOW FOR MONTH	-37 °	-33 °	-19 °	2 °	23 °	33 °	37 °	32 °	20 °	3 °	-18 °	-31 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	-9 °	-1 °	9 °	23 °	33 °	43 °	46 °	43 °	36 °	27 °	9 °	-3 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	7 °	17 °	29 °	42 °	55 °	64 °	68 °	65 °	54 °	40 °	21 °	11 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	33 °	38 °	43 °	54 °	73 °	80 °	80 °	78 °	69 °	54 °	41 °	34 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	97%	90%	47%	6%	0%	6%	29%	69%	96%	100%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	89%	75%	58%	44%	38%	40%	44%	47%	53%	62%	78%	88%
DRY DAYS	61%	67%	75%	81%	79%	69%	60%	63%	65%	66%	60%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	93%	94%	94%	96%	94%	85%	82%	83%	84%	89%	89%	92%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.06	0.09	0.19	0.24	0.24	0.20	0.14	0.14	0.12
LIKELY SNOWFALL	8.5"	6.3"	6.4"	3.9"	1.0"	0.3"	0.0"	0.3"	1.7"	6.6"	9.6"	9.3"
SNOWY DAYS	39%	33%	25%	17%	3%	0%	0%	0%	4%	29%	40%	39%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	7%	7%	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	13%	4%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	4%	7%	6%	7%	10%

COMMENTS: The area has a four-season year, with short mild summers and long very cold winters. Bright sunshine occurs on 41% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a low of 14% in December to a high of 47% in August. The low temperature for the year will be near -48° some windless winter sunrise, while the high will be around 85° some sunny summer afternoon. Although the attractions of the city itself are modest, there is a great deal to see in the surrounding area, and day trips from Whitehorse are the best way to see them. If you plan any backcountry excursions, Whitehorse is far and away the best place to stock up. Float trips down the Yukon are popular. It is eight days to Carmacks, and sixteen all the way to Dawson City. In doing this, of course, you are following in the wake of a good many of the Klondike Gold Rush adventurers. May through September is the season when the river is open.