

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE COTSWOLD HILLS, ENGLAND

LOCATION: The Cotswold Hills are a range of low limestone hills running in a southwest to northeast direction from Bath up to Chipping Camden. Most of the hills are in Gloucestershire, but an eastward extension (Chipping Norton) can be found in Oxfordshire. The area is famous for its lovely rural landscapes interspersed with attractive villages. This is excellent walking country, especially the Cotswold Way. Elevations range from close to sea level to several hundred feet higher. The summary applies primarily to the many villages in the area. The summits of the Hills will be just a touch cooler and wetter.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:23	9:55	11:51	13:51	15:38	16:36	16:11	14:39	12:44	10:44	8:55	7:54
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:44	2:36	3:53	5:27	6:18	6:50	6:07	5:55	4:35	3:17	2:02	1:34
AREA OF BLUE SKY	31%	31%	35%	38%	39%	38%	38%	39%	41%	37%	34%	31%
LOW FOR MONTH	22 °	23 °	26 °	31 °	36 °	43 °	47 °	46 °	40 °	33 °	28 °	25 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	33 °	33 °	34 °	39 °	43 °	49 °	53 °	51 °	48 °	42 °	37 °	34 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	41 °	43 °	47 °	53 °	59 °	65 °	68 °	67 °	62 °	54 °	47 °	43 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	53 °	55 °	61 °	67 °	74 °	80 °	81 °	81 °	75 °	67 °	59 °	55 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	29%	33%	16%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	12%	22%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	80%	74%	68%	61%	61%	62%	61%	62%	66%	72%	79%	82%
DRY DAYS	50%	58%	62%	62%	63%	64%	62%	59%	59%	55%	50%	50%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	78%	81%	81%	81%	81%	81%	80%	78%	79%	75%	74%	75%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.42	0.40	0.37	0.32	0.33	0.39	0.42	0.49	0.36	0.55	0.50	0.55
LIKELY SNOWFALL	3.8"	3.1"	1.7"	0.7"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.5"	2.2"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	11%	10%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	1%	2%	5%	6%	6%	6%	3%	1%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	13%	13%	11%	7%	8%	6%	6%	8%	11%	14%	13%	13%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 34% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 20% in December, to a high of 40% from May through August. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 19°, and the highest should be near 85°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be about three degrees cooler than actual ones during the summer months, and essentially the same as actual ones the rest of the year. The Cotswolds have a standard mid-latitude four-season year. Summer temperatures are generally mild, occasionally warm, rarely ever hot. The skies are more cloudy than not, and rain is always a possibility. Hiking costumes run more to woolen pants and sweaters than to shorts and T-shirts. Winter afternoons are short, quite cloudy, chilly to cold, windy and raw. Rain or snow (or a mixture of the two) falls on about half the days.