

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO BOURG-SAINT-MAURICE AND THE SAVOY, FRANCE

LOCATION: Bourg-Saint Maurice (known locally simply as "Bourg") is located in southeastern France, in the *department* of Savoie. The town is situated deep in the valley of the Isere River, at an elevation of about 2,800 feet above sea level. Mount Pourri, just south of town rises to more than 12,400 feet in elevation. Bourg is essentially a market town for the surrounding region, but offers access to the ski resort of Les Arcs by *funiculaire* in about seven minutes.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:09	10:21	11:53	13:30	14:54	15:38	15:20	14:08	12:36	11:00	9:34	8:47
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:35	3:49	5:12	6:04	6:47	7:43	8:33	7:47	5:50	4:02	2:33	2:21
AREA OF BLUE SKY	37%	44%	44%	43%	41%	46%	55%	53%	51%	42%	35%	36%
LOW FOR MONTH	10 °	12 °	18 °	27 °	35 °	40 °	45 °	45 °	39 °	31 °	20 °	13 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	24 °	26 °	31 °	37 °	43 °	49 °	53 °	52 °	48 °	40 °	32 °	26 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	39 °	43 °	50 °	56 °	65 °	71 °	76 °	75 °	70 °	60 °	48 °	40 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	48 °	56 °	63 °	71 °	75 °	82 °	89 °	85 °	80 °	71 °	60 °	52 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	87%	80%	55%	24%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	52%	80%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	66%	59%	51%	48%	52%	51%	47%	50%	56%	61%	65%	67%
DRY DAYS	59%	59%	59%	59%	53%	50%	59%	56%	64%	65%	61%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	79%	78%	77%	78%	75%	73%	78%	76%	80%	79%	78%	78%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.51	0.58	0.52	0.48	0.46	0.53	0.50	0.55	0.44	0.56	0.52	0.64
LIKELY SNOWFALL	27.3"	25.5"	17.9"	10.1"	1.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	3.7"	14.5"	29.4"
SNOWY DAYS	36%	32%	23%	14%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	18%	29%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	1%	1%	8%	19%	22%	19%	7%	1%	0%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	13%	12%	7%	6%	6%	6%	5%	6%	9%	14%	15%	14%

COMMENTS: The area has an upland version of the standard mid-latitude four-season climate. Its elevation leads to temperatures that are about 10°F cooler than they might otherwise be. The annual snowfall totals more than 100 inches in town, and much more on the slopes above. Summers are moderately sunny, mild to warm, with occasional hot days. Winters are long and cold and cloudy. Snow is a characteristic of the winter months, and most of that season's precipitation comes in that form. Within the town, the ground is frequently snow-covered for extensive periods, but not necessarily for the whole winter. Higher up the slopes, the snow is heavier, comes earlier and stays later, and covers the ground well into the spring. Elevation and--to a lesser degree--slope orientation rule local climates. You can expect daytime temperatures to drop an average of 1°F for each 300'-increase in elevation--and vice versa going downhill. As in all mountains, the direction that the slope faces makes a tremendous difference in how much sunshine and precipitation the slope gets.