

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO TOURS AND THE LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE

LOCATION: Tours is located in the Loire River valley of west-central France. The Old City is situated on the south bank of the river, but today's city spans both banks. Elevations are some 300 feet above sea level. The city is an excellent and relatively inexpensive base of operations for exploring the many chateaus of the Loire Valley. It also has the best restaurants in the region.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:57	10:14	11:53	13:36	15:05	15:53	15:33	14:16	12:38	10:56	9:24	8:33
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:09	3:04	5:08	6:30	6:55	7:38	7:38	7:01	5:49	4:09	2:09	1:43
AREA OF BLUE SKY	24%	28%	34%	38%	36%	37%	41%	40%	40%	34%	24%	22%
LOW FOR MONTH	20 °	21 °	27 °	32 °	37 °	44 °	48 °	48 °	43 °	32 °	27 °	21 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	34 °	35 °	38 °	42 °	47 °	53 °	56 °	56 °	52 °	46 °	39 °	36 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	44 °	47 °	54 °	59 °	66 °	72 °	76 °	76 °	70 °	61 °	51 °	45 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	55 °	58 °	68 °	74 °	80 °	87 °	92 °	89 °	84 °	74 °	63 °	57 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	39%	38%	22%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	20%	33%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	6%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	79%	72%	63%	56%	56%	57%	53%	56%	62%	67%	78%	85%
DRY DAYS	49%	50%	55%	58%	56%	62%	66%	61%	59%	58%	48%	49%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	79%	79%	79%	79%	78%	81%	83%	81%	79%	78%	74%	77%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.37	0.36	0.33	0.33	0.39	0.35	0.31	0.33	0.33	0.42	0.44	0.43
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SNOWY DAYS	7%	8%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	2%	3%	9%	10%	8%	8%	5%	2%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	22%	18%	9%	6%	7%	5%	4%	7%	14%	21%	25%	23%

COMMENTS: The area has a four-season year with warm summers and chilly winters. Precipitation is light, but well-distributed throughout the year. There is a slight maximum in late autumn and early winter. Summer afternoons are long, more cloudy than sunny, and warm rather than hot. There will be hot days and cool days, depending upon which frontal system happens to be passing through. Summer nights are generally cool, and a light jacket or sweater will feel comfortable. Winter afternoons are short and quite cloudy. One day in three will offer no glimpse of the sun at all. Afternoon temperatures are generally chilly, occasionally mild, sometimes cold. Two out of five mornings start out below freezing, and some half-dozen days a year will not see temperatures rise above that point. Snow flurries and snowfalls are common during the cold spells, but far less common than winter rains. As a result, they do not remain on the ground for long in the city. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition in terms of weather, with alternating warm spells and cold spells.