

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO FLORENCE AND THE TUSCAN HILL COUNTRY, ITALY

LOCATION: Florence is located in the northwestern part of the Italian peninsula, about 120 miles north of Rome. The city is situated on the banks of the River Arno, and the surrounding landscape is a hilly one. Florence is the capital and glory of Tuscany, which more or less corresponds to the ancient Etruria, home of the Etruscans. Elevations down by the river are about 250 feet above sea level, but range up to 6,000 feet at the summits of the Etruscan Apennines.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:20	10:28	11:54	13:25	14:43	15:24	15:07	14:00	12:34	11:04	9:44	9:00
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:38	4:26	5:03	6:36	8:12	9:08	10:29	9:14	7:27	5:52	3:43	3:04
AREA OF BLUE SKY	44%	46%	43%	42%	48%	58%	70%	74%	62%	47%	43%	38%
LOW FOR MONTH	22 °	24 °	29 °	36 °	43 °	50 °	55 °	54 °	48 °	40 °	30 °	25 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	35 °	37 °	41 °	46 °	53 °	59 °	64 °	63 °	58 °	51 °	43 °	37 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	49 °	52 °	59 °	66 °	74 °	82 °	88 °	87 °	79 °	69 °	58 °	50 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	60 °	64 °	69 °	76 °	84 °	92 °	96 °	98 °	89 °	80 °	69 °	62 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	31%	24%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	22%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	9%	47%	41%	4%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	70%	65%	60%	57%	55%	52%	45%	47%	53%	62%	73%	75%
DRY DAYS	70%	65%	65%	60%	62%	68%	85%	84%	76%	61%	62%	64%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	85%	82%	81%	78%	79%	82%	92%	90%	85%	77%	76%	81%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.37	0.42	0.46	0.48	0.46	0.43	0.22	0.33	0.51	0.61	0.68	0.49
SNOWY DAYS	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	1%	3%	5%	5%	5%	6%	6%	3%	3%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	26%	19%	14%	12%	9%	7%	7%	7%	11%	22%	26%	30%

COMMENTS: Florence and much of Tuscany have the typical Mediterranean three-season year. Spring (March through mid-May) brings an increase in the intensity of sunshine and days that are longer than the nights. The landscape is alive with blossoms. Summer (mid-May through the first heavy rains of September) is the season of long, hot, sunny, and dry days giving way to mild nights. The weather is at its best, and the crowds of tourists at their densest. Winter (mid-September through February) is the wettest time of year, with short cloudy days and frequent frosts. Afternoons are not all that cold, however, and crops like wheat and barley continue to thrive, to be harvested in early summer. Snow flurries will occur on three or four days during the winter, but snow on the ground past noon of the next day is rare. The table is for the Florence city center. In the Tuscan hills, it will be up to ten degrees cooler and quite a bit breezier. The city itself, in midsummer, is virtually windless. Canny visitors stay at nearby hilltop resorts and inns, and make day-trips to Florence itself.