

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO BERN AND THE BERNESE MITTELLAND, SWITZERLAND

LOCATION: Bern, the capital of both Switzerland and the canton of Bern, is located in the west-central part of the country. The city surrounds a tight bend in the Aare River. Elevations are just under 2,000 feet above sea level. The Bernese Mittelland is the scenic region surrounding the city, one of Alpine foothills.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:00	10:16	11:53	13:34	15:02	15:50	15:30	14:14	12:37	10:57	9:26	8:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:00	3:28	4:42	5:39	6:50	7:44	8:28	7:58	6:05	4:05	2:08	1:31
AREA OF BLUE SKY	26%	33%	35%	37%	39%	42%	46%	47%	44%	31%	21%	20%
LOW FOR MONTH	12 °	14 °	21 °	30 °	35 °	44 °	47 °	46 °	40 °	31 °	24 °	15 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	26 °	27 °	33 °	39 °	46 °	53 °	56 °	55 °	50 °	42 °	34 °	28 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	35 °	40 °	48 °	56 °	64 °	70 °	74 °	73 °	66 °	55 °	44 °	37 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	48 °	53 °	62 °	71 °	78 °	83 °	86 °	86 °	78 °	69 °	57 °	50 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	78%	68%	40%	8%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	32%	71%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	78%	69%	62%	56%	56%	56%	56%	58%	64%	71%	78%	81%
DRY DAYS	64%	63%	63%	54%	52%	53%	58%	60%	62%	61%	60%	63%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	84%	83%	81%	75%	74%	72%	74%	75%	77%	78%	78%	82%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.33	0.36	0.41	0.48	0.60	0.75	0.72	0.71	0.61	0.53	0.45	0.39
LIKELY SNOWFALL	11.7"	10.5"	13.0"	5.1"	1.5"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	2.2"	6.4"	11.5"
SNOWY DAYS	20%	19%	19%	8%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	9%	18%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	1%	4%	11%	16%	17%	13%	5%	1%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	35%	38%	31%	32%	31%	27%	26%	32%	35%	40%	38%	39%

COMMENTS: The region has the standard European four-season year. Precipitation is abundant in all months, with a distinct summer maximum. Summer afternoons are long, sunny, humid, and warm rather than hot. Summer nights are short, damp, and cool. The mornings can be quite foggy. Much of the summer rain comes as afternoon thundershowers. Winter afternoons are short, fairly cloudy, quite humid, and cold. About one day in three or four never makes it above the freezing point. Much (but not all) of the winter precipitation comes as snow. The ground is not usually snow-covered all winter, but in some years it may be snow-covered for weeks at a time. During the November through January period, about two days out of five will have no direct sunshine. In late winter, this drops down to only one day in five. Spring and autumn are seasons in which warm spells and cold spells alternate, while the local vegetation undergoes obvious changes.