

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE MELBOURNE AREA (VICTORIA), AUSTRALIA

LOCATION: Melbourne is the capital of the state of Victoria, which occupies the southeast corner of the continent. The city lies at the mouth of the Yarra River, on the north shore of Port Phillip Bay, an inlet off of Bass Strait. The city itself lies close to sea level, with the foothills of the Great Dividing Range rising to the north.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	14:28	13:32	12:22	11:09	10:08	9:36	9:49	10:41	11:50	13:03	14:08	14:44
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:08	7:58	6:35	5:11	4:09	3:32	3:35	4:47	5:36	6:10	7:02	7:32
AREA OF BLUE SKY	50%	51%	46%	42%	38%	35%	38%	39%	40%	40%	41%	44%
LOW FOR MONTH	48°	48°	44°	41°	37°	34°	32°	34°	36°	38°	42°	46°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	57°	57°	55°	51°	47°	44°	42°	43°	46°	48°	51°	54°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	77°	77°	74°	68°	62°	56°	55°	58°	62°	66°	70°	74°
HIGH FOR MONTH	101°	99°	94°	84°	73°	64°	63°	68°	75°	84°	92°	98°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	12%	10%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	7%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	48%	50%	51%	56%	62%	67%	65%	60%	56%	53%	52%	51%
NEARBY WATERS	63°	64°	64°	61°	58°	56°	55°	54°	55°	56°	58°	61°
DRY DAYS	71%	71%	71%	57%	55%	47%	45%	45%	50%	55%	57%	65%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	86%	86%	85%	77%	78%	74%	76%	76%	74%	76%	78%	83%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.30	0.35	0.35	0.40	0.34	0.35	0.32	0.31	0.38	0.43	0.40	0.37
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	5%	6%	5%	3%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	5%	6%	5%
FOGGY DAYS	1%	1%	3%	6%	14%	16%	15%	8%	3%	1%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: Melbourne has an indistinct four-season year. Vegetation and crop growth is continuous throughout the year, slowing somewhat during the cooler months. Spring (September through mid-November) brings longer days and renewed vigor to the vegetation. Summer (late November through March) is warm rather than hot. Autumn (April and May) brings the first spells of cooler weather. Winter (June through August) is cool rather than cold, with rare frosty mornings. All of the seasons are strongly influenced by winds from the sea. A welcome phenomenon of the summer season is the "cool change" which often follows periods of prolonged hot weather. This is a sudden shift in the wind from the northeast to the south, which is followed by a rapid drop in air temperatures. The "southerly busters" are similar in nature, but more extreme. Winds are higher, temperature drops are greater, and they are often accompanied by "roll clouds" and thunderstorms.