

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO CORDOVA AND THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST, ALASKA

LOCATION: The fishing town of Cordova is located on the shores of the Gulf of Alaska in the central portion of Alaska's south coast. It lies about fifty miles southeast of Valdez, and about 150 miles east-southeast of Anchorage. There are no road connections with the rest of Alaska, so access is essentially by air or by sea. Elevations within the community are close to sea level, but rise to more than 8,000 feet in the icy Chugach Mountains just northeast of town.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	6:41	9:02	11:45	14:35	17:16	18:56	18:12	15:46	12:59	10:11	7:32	5:54
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:18	3:37	5:36	6:57	7:03	7:06	5:36	5:36	4:10	3:10	2:14	1:32
AREA OF BLUE SKY	28%	27%	29%	26%	20%	18%	16%	20%	19%	22%	23%	23%
LOW FOR MONTH	-4°	-1°	5°	17°	28°	35°	39°	37°	31°	22°	9°	0°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	17°	20°	22°	30°	37°	43°	47°	47°	41°	34°	26°	20°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	31°	35°	38°	45°	52°	58°	61°	61°	56°	47°	38°	33°
HIGH FOR MONTH	44°	45°	47°	54°	63°	71°	73°	72°	67°	57°	48°	44°
FROSTY MORNINGS	92%	88%	90%	76%	30%	3%	0%	0%	17%	50%	72%	85%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	81%	77%	73%	70%	72%	75%	79%	78%	76%	75%	83%	84%
SEA TEMPERATURES	40°	39°	40°	40°	43°	49°	53°	54°	53°	49°	46°	42°
DRY DAYS	44%	41%	46%	46%	42%	48%	44%	41%	37%	29%	40%	41%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	67%	60%	67%	63%	61%	64%	61%	57%	49%	44%	56%	57%
TOTAL PRECIPITATION	7.8"	8.4"	7.3"	7.5"	7.5"	5.3"	7.9"	11.3"	16.7"	18.2"	12.1"	10.3"
LIKELY SNOWFALL	23.0"	23.2"	25.5"	13.2"	1.5"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	3.0"	10.4"	28.0"
SNOWY DAYS	16%	16%	19%	9%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	16%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	8%	6%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	6%	3%	0%	1%	5%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 36% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 26% in December, to a high of 48% in March and April. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -11°, and the highest should be near 76°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones. Since there is no road access, Cordova is not overrun with motorhomes and other RV's as is much of the rest of Alaska. Moreover, since the cruise ships generally bypass it, it is not swarming with day-trippers, either. Cordova is actually quite an attractive town, and there is much to do there for hikers, campers, hunters, fishermen, birders, and those who just want to get away from it all in scenic splendor. For the truly hardy, the Iceworm Festival is celebrated in February.