

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO HEALDSBURG AND THE RUSSIAN RIVER WINE DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Healdsburg is located a dozen miles north of Santa Rosa along US-101 in Sonoma County in northwestern California. The town is situated on the banks of the Russian River, surrounded by vineyards. The town has a very pleasant central plaza. Elevations are around a hundred feet above sea level. Nearby wineries include Simi Winery, Clos du Bois, Korbel, Geyser Peak, Chateau Souverain, and about eighty more. Many have guided tours and tasting rooms. Some have no visitor facilities and some are by appointment only. Lists and maps are available in Healdsburg.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:49	10:44	11:56	13:11	14:16	14:50	14:35	13:41	12:29	11:14	10:08	9:32
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:01	6:56	8:22	10:13	11:37	13:10	13:14	12:20	11:08	9:26	7:05	4:56
AREA OF BLUE SKY	36%	43%	47%	54%	63%	75%	84%	83%	80%	71%	52%	39%
LOW FOR MONTH	22°	26°	28°	32°	36°	42°	44°	43°	40°	34°	27°	23°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	37°	40°	42°	44°	48°	51°	52°	52°	50°	47°	42°	38°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	57°	63°	67°	72°	78°	85°	89°	88°	86°	78°	67°	58°
HIGH FOR MONTH	71°	76°	82°	87°	97°	102°	103°	101°	101°	95°	82°	72°
FROSTY MORNINGS	24%	11%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	21%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	2%	13%	29%	44%	42%	34%	12%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	56%	49%	46%	40%	37%	38%	37%	37%	43%	58%	67%
DRY DAYS	62%	62%	69%	79%	88%	97%	99%	99%	94%	85%	72%	67%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	69%	70%	77%	87%	94%	97%	99%	99%	97%	90%	77%	73%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.46	1.29	0.89	0.43	0.20	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.08	0.33	0.84	1.21
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	43%	30%	20%	12%	7%	6%	4%	12%	14%	20%	36%	41%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 76% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a “low” of 51% in January, to a high of 91% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 21° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 104° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and calm airs tend to make the high temperatures higher and the low ones lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 3° cooler than actual ones, due to the low humidity. The area has the kind of hot, sunny, and dry summers and mild, humid and rainy winters that wine grapes seem to thrive on. Summer days are sunny and hot—occasionally very hot. Summer nights are mild—occasionally cool—and humid. Winter days are always above freezing, generally mild to cool, often foggy, and frequently rainy. Winter nights will drop below freezing about one night in five, and the ground does not remain frozen through the winter. Winter fogs are common, and usually form in the valley bottoms on clear nights when the upper slopes remain fog-free. They usually (but not always) burn off before noon of the next day. Fog is rare under rainy or stormy conditions. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition, but can offer some of the most delightful weather of the year.