

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CHICO AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: The city of Chico is located in Butte County, in north-central California. Chico is situated in the great Central Valley of California, on the banks of Big Chico Creek where it flows out of the foothills of the Sierra Nevadas. The Sacramento River is some five miles downstream. Chico is the home of *California State University at Chico*, and also of Bidwell Park (the state's largest municipal park stretches about ten miles upstream along the creek) and *Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park*. It was in Bidwell Park in 1937 that Errol Flynn said, "Welcome to Sherwood, Lady Marian", to Olivia DeHaviland. Elevations at the city center are around 200 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:43	10:41	11:56	13:14	14:21	14:56	14:41	13:45	12:30	11:12	10:03	9:26
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:48	6:29	8:08	10:20	11:58	13:18	14:04	13:00	11:19	9:02	6:14	4:37
AREA OF BLUE SKY	37%	41%	46%	54%	62%	76%	89%	86%	81%	67%	48%	37%
LOW FOR MONTH	26°	28°	29°	31°	35°	40°	42°	40°	37°	31°	28°	26°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	36°	39°	41°	45°	50°	56°	60°	58°	54°	47°	40°	36°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	54°	60°	66°	73°	81°	90°	96°	95°	90°	79°	65°	55°
HIGH FOR MONTH	63°	71°	78°	87°	97°	106°	114°	113°	107°	94°	77°	64°
FROSTY MORNINGS	39%	22%	11%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	15%	36%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	2%	21%	51%	85%	79%	53%	12%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	65%	57%	49%	40%	34%	28%	24%	25%	27%	36%	54%	66%
DRY DAYS	65%	64%	71%	80%	87%	93%	99%	97%	93%	87%	77%	68%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	74%	75%	81%	87%	94%	97%	99%	99%	97%	90%	83%	77%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.86	0.79	0.56	0.31	0.16	0.08	0.00	0.01	0.08	0.22	0.49	0.71
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%	2%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	21%	10%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	9%	20%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 76% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 49% in December and January, to a high of 96% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 25° at some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 115° 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 5° cooler than actual ones due to relatively low afternoon humidity. Summer afternoons are moderately long, very sunny, very hot, and very dry. Typically, no significant rain falls from June through September. Winter afternoons are moderately short, moderately sunny, usually cool or mild, and moderately humid (when it rains, moderately dry when it doesn't). Snow flurries are not uncommon, but snow on the ground is quite rare. Spring and autumn are essentially seasons of transition, when spells of summer-like weather alternate with spells of winter-like weather.