

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CLEAR LAKE AREA, CALIFORNIA

DESCRIPTION: Clear Lake is located in Lake County in northwestern California. The lake is some sixty crow-flight miles north of the San Francisco Bay area. The lake is the second-largest natural lake in the state—after Lake Tahoe, which must be shared with Nevada. Clear Lake is famous for its trophy bass-fishing. The county seat, Lakeport, is situated on the western shore of the “upper lake”. Clear Lake (town) and its satellite communities are situated on the “lower lake”. Elevations at the shoreline are around 1,350 feet above sea level. *Clear Lake State Park* is on the lakeshore, and *Anderson Marsh State Historic Park* is southeast of Clear Lake town. To the north lie the forested mountains of *Mendocino National Forest*, with its *Snow Mountain Wilderness*.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:46	10:43	11:56	13:13	14:18	14:52	14:38	13:42	12:30	11:13	10:06	9:29
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:35	6:58	7:43	9:32	10:44	12:17	12:42	11:59	10:12	8:49	6:50	4:22
AREA OF BLUE SKY	30%	40%	40%	48%	56%	69%	80%	79%	72%	63%	45%	31%
LOW FOR MONTH	15°	19°	22°	26°	30°	39°	44°	43°	36°	29°	22°	17°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	32°	34°	36°	39°	43°	49°	53°	52°	48°	42°	37°	33°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	53°	58°	62°	69°	78°	86°	94°	93°	87°	75°	61°	54°
HIGH FOR MONTH	68°	72°	78°	85°	99°	105°	110°	108°	104°	93°	76°	68°
FROSTY MORNINGS	63%	46%	31%	14%	2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%	33%	53%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	12%	38%	79%	73%	46%	5%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	59%	50%	43%	38%	34%	31%	25%	26%	28%	35%	50%	56%
DRY DAYS	65%	64%	71%	80%	87%	97%	99%	97%	97%	84%	70%	68%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	73%	74%	79%	87%	94%	97%	99%	99%	98%	91%	78%	75%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.01	0.91	0.58	0.31	0.13	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.26	0.58	0.86
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	37%	26%	17%	5%	0%	0%	0%	2%	4%	15%	37%	39%

CLIMATE: Bright sunshine is likely on 71% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 46% in cloudy December, to a high of 87% in sunny July and August. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 13° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 112° 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 4° cooler than actual ones during the warmer months due to low humidity. Water temperatures average around 61° for the year as a whole, which is also the mean air temperature for the year. As a general rule in lakes of this size, the water temperature curve will be much more moderate than the mean air temperature one, and will lag behind it by a month to six weeks. Water temperatures on any given day depend on the warming the lake has got from the sun, how deep the water is, and whether the winds are onshore or offshore. Shallow waters tend to be warmer than deep ones, and onshore winds pile up the warmer surface waters close to shore. Offshore winds tend to blow the warmer surface waters away from shore, allowing the cooler subsurface waters to move up to the surface.