

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO COLUSA AND THE LOWER SACRAMENTO RIVER AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: The town of Colusa is the seat of Colusa County in north-central California. Colusa is situated on the west bank of what is one of the best fishing stretches of the lower Sacramento River. The *Colusa-Sacramento State Recreation Area* is adjacent to the town, and is a popular spot for both fishing and launching boats on the river. In the marshy area of the Colusa Basin to the west of town, between the river and I-5, are three national wildlife refuges. From north to south they are the *Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge*, the *Delevan National Wildlife Refuge*, and the *Colusa National Wildlife Refuge*. To the east of town, along Butte Creek is the *Grey Lodge Waterfowl Management Area and Wildlife Area*. Untold numbers of ducks and geese may be viewed from November through January. Elevations in the Colusa area are less than a hundred feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:45	10:42	11:56	13:13	14:19	14:53	14:39	13:43	12:30	11:13	10:05	9:29
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:22	6:43	7:44	9:40	11:03	12:37	13:05	12:16	10:27	8:50	6:34	4:11
AREA OF BLUE SKY	28%	38%	40%	48%	57%	71%	82%	81%	74%	64%	44%	30%
LOW FOR MONTH	29°	30°	31°	32°	37°	41°	42°	39°	37°	33°	29°	28°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	37°	40°	42°	46°	52°	57°	60°	57°	54°	48°	41°	37°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	53°	60°	65°	73°	81°	89°	95°	94°	88°	77°	64°	54°
HIGH FOR MONTH	62°	70°	77°	87°	96°	105°	110°	110°	105°	92°	76°	63°
FROSTY MORNINGS	29%	12%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	12%	28%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	2%	22%	52%	80%	73%	51%	12%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	58%	55%	45%	36%	32%	30%	30%	33%	38%	52%	68%
DRY DAYS	69%	70%	75%	87%	91%	97%	99%	99%	97%	90%	79%	73%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	79%	80%	85%	93%	97%	98%	99%	99%	98%	94%	85%	82%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.52	0.50	0.35	0.18	0.09	0.04	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.12	0.29	0.49
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	35%	16%	5%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	17%	34%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 72% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 44% in December, to a high of 89% in sunny July and August. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 26° at some calm and clear 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 due to relatively low afternoon temperatures. A foggy day in the table is one in which—at some time of day—an object a half-mile away is invisible due to the fog. Anything more transparent than that is considered merely haze or mist. Low cloud is simply fog that has lifted a few tens or hundreds of feet, and is now fog at some higher elevation. Under these conditions, the surface is now clear of fog—though cloudy and dank. The Colusa-Sacramento State Recreation Area is occasionally closed due to high water.