

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE LAKE BERRYESSA AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Lake Berryessa is located in Napa County in northwestern California. The lake was created in 1957 by the construction of Monticello Dam on Putah Creek, a tributary of the Sacramento River. The lake is some 26 miles long and up to 3 miles wide. It has an estimated 165 miles of shoreline, but the eastern shoreline has restricted access. Situated in the eastern portion of the Coastal Ranges, the lake is bounded on its west by the Cedar Roughs, and on the east by Blue Ridge and Rocky Ridge, whose eastern slopes are part of the Sacramento Valley. Elevations along the lake shore are about 475 feet above sea level. The ridges on either side rise to over 2,500 feet in elevation.

	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	14:49	14:35	13:41	12:29	11:14	10:08	9:32
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:15	7:06	8:37	10:34	12:10	13:32	13:39	12:41	11:12	9:28	7:04	4:59
AREA OF BLUE SKY	37%	43%	47%	55%	65%	77%	86%	84%	80%	70%	50%	38%
LOW FOR MONTH	21°	24°	28°	32°	38°	45°	50°	48°	43°	36°	28°	21°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	36°	38°	41°	43°	49°	54°	57°	56°	54°	48°	41°	36°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	55°	60°	64°	70°	79°	87°	93°	92°	88°	78°	64°	56°
HIGH FOR MONTH	68°	73°	78°	85°	97°	104°	107°	105°	102°	94°	78°	69°
FROSTY MORNINGS	35%	18%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	30%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	16%	41%	70%	65%	47%	12%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	60%	57%	49%	45%	38%	33%	31%	31%	34%	38%	50%	58%
DRY DAYS	65%	66%	69%	83%	90%	97%	99%	99%	95%	89%	73%	69%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	73%	74%	79%	91%	94%	99%	99%	99%	97%	94%	83%	78%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.92	1.00	0.72	0.22	0.12	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.20	0.58	0.79
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	44%	32%	25%	16%	9%	9%	9%	13%	17%	23%	42%	42%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 78% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a “low” of 52% in December, to a high of 94% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 19° at some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 108° 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 the low afternoon humidity. Lake water temperatures vary from under 50° in late winter to over 70° in late summer. Shallow areas with onshore winds may reach even higher temperatures. Summer afternoons are very sunny, hot to very hot, and have low humidity. Winter afternoons are still fairly sunny, chilly to mild, and occasionally rainy. The afternoon humidity will vary with the kind of weather that day is having. Spring and autumn are essentially seasons of transition, with spells of warm dry weather and spells of chilly wet weather chasing one another across the calendar?