

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO LAVA BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT, CALIFORNIA

**LOCATION:** **Lava Beds National Monument** is located in Siskiyou County in northeastern California. The Monument covers some 73 square miles of volcanic badlands. Hollow lava tube caves are one of the area's main attractions—many containing ice throughout the summer. The area is also noted as being the stronghold of Captain Jack and his people during the 1873 Modoc War. The HQ and campground are at Indian Wells. Elevations at the campground are around 4,475 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:32	10:35	11:55	13:19	14:32	15:10	14:54	13:52	12:32	11:08	9:54	9:13
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:10	5:26	6:17	7:55	9:36	10:34	12:57	11:14	10:15	7:42	4:32	3:39
AREA OF BLUE SKY	26%	37%	37%	42%	50%	59%	81%	74%	73%	58%	38%	31%
LOW FOR MONTH	2 °	9 °	15 °	22 °	28 °	34 °	41 °	40 °	34 °	25 °	14 °	6 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	23 °	25 °	28 °	31 °	38 °	44 °	51 °	51 °	45 °	36 °	28 °	23 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	41 °	45 °	49 °	56 °	65 °	74 °	84 °	83 °	76 °	64 °	49 °	40 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	53 °	57 °	64 °	70 °	80 °	87 °	93 °	93 °	89 °	78 °	62 °	53 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	90%	83%	76%	57%	25%	6%	0%	0%	6%	32%	72%	89%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	24%	24%	4%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	61%	52%	42%	41%	37%	29%	30%	33%	43%	61%	71%
DRY DAYS	71%	68%	68%	73%	74%	80%	90%	90%	90%	81%	70%	71%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	87%	86%	84%	87%	87%	90%	97%	97%	93%	90%	87%	87%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.26	0.29	0.29	0.18	0.21	0.19	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.19	0.26	0.29
LIKELY SNOWFALL	9.1"	8.1"	8.5"	3.7"	1.5"	0.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.3"	5.0"	8.0"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	16%	16%	15%	9%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	13%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	1%	3%	6%	9%	6%	7%	3%	1%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	8%	3%	4%	7%	4%	3%	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%	11%

**COMMENTS:** Bright sunshine is likely on 61% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 33% in January, to a high of 87% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 1 ° at some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 95 ° 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°degrees cooler than actual ones, due to the relatively low humidity. Although summer afternoons can be hot, the mornings can be quite nippy. Below-freezing temperatures have occurred in every month, including the summer ones. During the winter, the temperature will usually drop below zero at least once. The campground has no running water during the winter months. Visitors to the lava tube caves should dress warmly. The caves average in the high 40's, and some remain below freezing all summer. In addition to warm clothing, a flashlight, sturdy boots, and a hard hat are recommended.