

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE POINT ARENA AREA, CALIFORNIA

DESCRIPTION: Point Arena (“Arena” is Spanish for “sand”) is located in Mendocino County on the Pacific coast of northern California, some thirty miles south of Fort Bragg along the scenic CA-1, the Shoreline Highway. The point projects out into the waters of the Pacific south of the mouth of the Garcia River. *Manchester State Beach* is a couple of miles to the north, along the sandy coast. *Schooner Gulch State Beach* is just to the south of the point. Elevations are close to sea level at the beaches, but rise steeply inland to the Coastal Mountains.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:47	10:43	11:56	13:12	14:17	14:52	14:37	13:42	12:30	11:14	10:06	9:30
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:02	5:58	7:50	9:33	10:52	11:46	10:43	9:34	8:39	7:23	5:59	4:46
AREA OF BLUE SKY	33%	32%	35%	38%	43%	47%	48%	46%	50%	48%	39%	37%
LOW FOR MONTH	27°	30°	31°	32°	35°	41°	43°	44°	40°	34°	29°	27°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	40°	42°	42°	42°	46°	49°	50°	50°	50°	46°	43°	40°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	57°	58°	58°	60°	62°	64°	66°	67°	68°	66°	61°	57°
HIGH FOR MONTH	71°	72°	72°	75°	78°	76°	76°	79°	85°	86°	75°	71°
FROSTY MORNINGS	16%	10%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	16%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	72%	70%	66%	62%	64%	61%	64%	67%	62%	62%	72%	67%
NEARBY WATERS	52°	52°	51°	51°	52°	52°	54°	56°	56°	55°	55°	55°
DRY DAYS	61%	57%	61%	73%	87%	93%	97%	97%	90%	81%	67%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	68%	68%	68%	83%	94%	97%	99%	97%	93%	87%	73%	71%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.26	1.20	0.92	0.49	0.12	0.04	0.02	0.06	0.14	0.44	0.98	1.09
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	16%	24%	19%	22%	34%	45%	57%	56%	44%	37%	16%	13%

CLIMATE: Bright sunshine is likely on 66% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 5% in cloudy low-sun December, to a high of 79% in high-sun June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 25° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 88° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 3° cooler than actual ones throughout the year. This is due to the combination of temperature and humidity, the winds off the cool waters of the Pacific, and the prevalence of fog and low cloud. The coast almost always has some degree of haze, mist, or fog. 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. Local sunshine, temperatures, and humidity vary from site to site, depending upon how much fog and low cloud that particular site gets. This, in turn, is dependent upon distance from the sea, elevation, and peculiarities of local topography.