

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO CALAVERAS BIG TREES STATE PARK, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: *Calaveras Big Trees State Park* is located in Calaveras County in east-central California. The Park is situated on the banks of San Antonio Creek (a tributary of the Sacramento River) in the lower western slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Elevations are around 4,700 feet above sea level. The area is part of the *Stanislaus National Forest*. The Park is served by highway CA-4 out of Angel's Camp. The Park features two magnificent groves of giant sequoias, and is open all year around—although the higher portions of the highway are not.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:50	10:45	11:56	13:11	14:14	14:47	14:34	13:40	12:29	11:15	10:09	9:34
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:39	4:20	4:56	7:53	8:38	10:57	12:35	11:38	10:22	7:32	3:59	3:43
AREA OF BLUE SKY	31%	31%	31%	37%	49%	65%	82%	79%	76%	58%	33%	34%
LOW FOR MONTH	13°	16°	19°	24°	29°	35°	42°	41°	37°	30°	22°	17°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	27°	28°	30°	34°	40°	46°	52°	51°	47°	40°	33°	29°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	46°	47°	51°	57°	65°	75°	83°	82°	76°	66°	54°	48°
HIGH FOR MONTH	58°	59°	63°	69°	79°	87°	91°	91°	87°	77°	66°	60°
FROSTY MORNINGS	81%	79%	74%	50%	18%	2%	0%	0%	2%	15%	53%	78%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	9%	9%	3%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	64%	57%	48%	39%	32%	27%	25%	26%	29%	36%	54%	65%
DRY DAYS	65%	64%	65%	73%	84%	93%	97%	97%	93%	87%	73%	71%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	68%	66%	69%	80%	88%	97%	99%	99%	97%	90%	79%	73%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.71	1.64	1.32	0.76	0.36	0.11	0.02	0.02	0.12	0.44	0.96	1.50
LIKELY SNOWFALL	32.1"	25.0"	29.9"	14.9"	2.2"	0.5"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.4"	7.5"	22.0"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	11%	10%	13%	9%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	7%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	1%	2%	5%	6%	9%	6%	3%	2%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	32%	35%	19%	16%	15%	11%	11%	8%	9%	16%	34%	31%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 60% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 37% in January to a high of 86% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 12° at some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 93° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 4° cooler than actual ones during the warmer months, due to the relatively low afternoon humidity. This humidity varies considerably. On foggy days, it will be close to saturation, whereas on clear ones it can drop down into the 'teens. Snowfall is also highly variable, both from year to year and from place to place within the area. Elevation and—to a lesser degree—slope orientation rule local climates. As in all mountains, the direction the slope is facing makes a difference in how much sunshine and how much rain the slope gets, and therefore in its temperature and humidity.