

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE FRESNO AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Fresno is located in the interior of south-central California. The city is situated on the flat bottom of the San Joaquin Valley, the southern half of California's great central valley. The natural vegetation (before irrigation) was desert to semi-desert. It is now one of the most productive agricultural areas in the nation. Major crops include grapes (especially raisin grapes), nectarines, oranges, plums, and cotton. It also produces more turkeys than any other part of the country. Elevations in the Fresno area are around 250 to 300 feet above sea level. Fresno is a popular base of operations for visits to ***Kings Canyon, Sequoia,*** and ***Yosemite National Park*** for those who prefer the more sophisticated lodging, dining, and entertainment opportunities of an urban area to the often crowded and cramped facilities found in the Parks.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:58	10:50	11:57	13:07	14:07	14:38	14:25	13:35	12:28	11:18	10:16	9:43
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:34	6:55	8:55	10:59	12:34	13:50	13:54	13:02	11:35	9:51	7:07	4:31
AREA OF BLUE SKY	32%	44%	50%	61%	71%	83%	89%	89%	85%	75%	55%	36%
LOW FOR MONTH	27 °	31 °	34 °	39 °	44 °	51 °	56 °	55 °	50 °	40 °	32 °	28 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	38 °	41 °	44 °	48 °	53 °	60 °	65 °	63 °	57 °	51 °	43 °	38 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	54 °	61 °	66 °	74 °	82 °	91 °	99 °	97 °	90 °	79 °	66 °	55 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	67 °	73 °	80 °	90 °	98 °	105 °	107 °	105 °	102 °	94 °	80 °	68 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	25%	11%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	27%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	6%	30%	63%	92%	85%	58%	15%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	56%	46%	35%	27%	23%	21%	24%	27%	34%	53%	68%
DRY DAYS	76%	74%	78%	86%	94%	97%	99%	99%	97%	91%	86%	77%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	85%	85%	85%	93%	97%	99%	99%	99%	99%	97%	90%	87%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.16	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.09	0.16	0.24
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	36%	21%	6%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	20%	37%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 79% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 46% in December and January, to a high of 96% in sunny July and August. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 25° at some frosty winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 108° on some blazing summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be cooler than actual ones throughout the year, due to the combination of temperature and humidity—but especially so during the summer months. Winter (December through February) brings cloudy skies and rain about one day in four. Morning “tule (pronounced “TOO-lee”) fogs” are common in the flat valley bottom, but usually burn off before noon. Look for cool to mild days and cold nights. Snow flurries are common enough, but snow on the ground is rare. Summer (mid-May through the first week in October) brings clear skies and is virtually rainless. Days are hot to very hot, but temperatures fall quickly after sunset, and nights are mild. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition between the two extremes, with spells of hot and dry weather alternating with spells of cool and wet weather.