

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS NRA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: The Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is located north and west of the Los Angeles basin in southern California. The NRA covers some 240 square miles of federal, state, local, and private lands in the Santa Monica Mountains and environs. Elevations range from sea level along the miles of Pacific shore to over 2,800 feet at the summits of many of the peaks. There are numerous towns, settlements, and residential areas scattered throughout the mountains and coast. The NRA contains few federal facilities. Although the NRA has many little-visited segments, this is hardly a wilderness. The view out over Los Angeles from Mulholland Drive at the NRA's eastern end has been featured in innumerable television and movie shots.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:10	10:57	11:57	13:01	13:55	14:24	14:12	13:26	12:26	11:22	10:26	9:56
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:41	7:28	8:17	9:11	8:42	8:55	8:52	8:47	8:06	7:51	7:39	7:05
AREA OF BLUE SKY	51%	50%	51%	54%	49%	51%	55%	58%	56%	56%	59%	56%
LOW FOR MONTH	36°	38°	40°	43°	47°	50°	54°	55°	52°	47°	41°	36°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	45°	46°	47°	50°	53°	56°	59°	60°	59°	55°	49°	46°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	65°	66°	66°	68°	69°	72°	75°	76°	76°	74°	70°	67°
HIGH FOR MONTH	78°	79°	79°	82°	82°	84°	86°	86°	90°	90°	85°	81°
FROSTY MORNINGS	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	4%	4%	2%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	56%	59%	61%	62%	65%	67%	67%	67%	65%	62%	57%	55%
NEARBY WATERS	57°	57°	57°	57°	58°	61°	63°	64°	64°	63°	61°	59°
DRY DAYS	81%	80%	82%	89%	96%	98%	99%	99%	97%	94%	88%	84%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	86%	87%	89%	93%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	93%	90%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.50	0.53	0.35	0.16	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.23	0.37
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	12%	11%	10%	10%	5%	8%	11%	16%	19%	18%	15%	15%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 67% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 62% in the foggy May through July period, to a high of 73% in sunny November. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 34° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 95° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. These data are for the coastal strip, with its many popular beaches and resorts. Elevation and—to a lesser degree—slope orientation rule local climates. You can expect daytime temperatures to drop an average of 1°F for each 300'-increase in elevation—and *vice versa* going downhill. 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.