

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE, MICHIGAN

LOCATION: Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore is located in the northwestern portion of Michigan's lower peninsula. It consists of some thirty-five miles of Lake Michigan coastline and the offshore Manitou Islands. The chief attractions are the large shoreline sand dunes, and the many sandy beaches. The area also includes small inland lakes, forests, and a variety of wildlife. Chief activities are scenic drives, hiking, boating, camping, fishing, and swimming. A seasonal passenger ferry service from Leland connects to the Manitou Islands. North Manitou is a wilderness and has no visitor facilities. Hiking and camping are by permit only. South Manitou has campgrounds. Elevations are within a few hundred feet of lake level. Most facilities are available only from May through October. Supplies and services are available in a number of the small communities that dot the area.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:13	10:23	11:54	13:28	14:50	15:34	15:15	14:05	12:35	11:01	9:37	8:51
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:12	4:28	6:04	7:32	9:00	10:10	10:42	9:19	7:13	5:23	3:14	2:37
AREA OF BLUE SKY	21%	27%	32%	36%	40%	43%	50%	47%	43%	37%	22%	21%
LOW FOR MONTH	-2°	-9°	3°	16°	30°	40°	45°	44°	39°	30°	12°	6°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	16°	14°	23°	33°	42°	50°	57°	56°	51°	41°	32°	22°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	29°	29°	37°	50°	61°	70°	76°	75°	68°	57°	44°	34°
HIGH FOR MONTH	44°	45°	58°	67°	73°	82°	87°	85°	80°	70°	59°	48°
FROSTY MORNINGS	96%	98%	86%	52%	13%	1%	0%	0%	3%	15%	57%	88%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	11%	7%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	63%	58%	54%	50%	54%	55%	56%	59%	60%	65%	69%
NEARBY WATERS	38°	37°	36°	36°	39°	45°	58°	64°	61°	53°	46°	45°
DRY DAYS	56%	61%	69%	71%	71%	71%	76%	75%	68%	66%	62%	57%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	81%	84%	85%	83%	83%	82%	84%	85%	79%	80%	79%	81%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.33	0.31	0.27	0.37	0.46	0.47	0.43	0.43	0.53	0.47	0.44	0.34
LIKELY SNOWFALL	25.6"	17.7"	11.9"	3.6"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.4"	7.9"	20.9"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	44%	39%	25%	9%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	21%	43%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	3%	7%	10%	16%	17%	14%	13%	5%	2%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	6%	8%	9%	8%	9%	9%	8%	11%	9%	8%	8%	7%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 52% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 30% in December, to a high of 70% in July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -11°, and the highest should be near 91°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones.