

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK, NORTH DAKOTA

LOCATION: Theodore Roosevelt National Park is located in the southwestern corner of North Dakota, not too far from the Montana border. The Park consists of three units, the North Unit, the South Unit, and Roosevelt's Elkhorn Ranch. All are located on the Little Missouri River in the High Plains. Elevations vary somewhat, but are usually a bit over 2,000 feet above sea level. The Park is open all year around.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:00	10:16	11:53	13:34	15:02	15:49	15:29	14:14	12:37	10:57	9:27	8:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:45	5:57	6:49	7:59	9:31	10:26	11:50	10:32	8:16	6:27	4:36	4:11
AREA OF BLUE SKY	39%	38%	38%	40%	41%	47%	59%	58%	53%	49%	39%	39%
LOW FOR MONTH	-25 °	-20 °	-7 °	16 °	29 °	40 °	47 °	43 °	30 °	19 °	0 °	-18 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	1 °	7 °	17 °	32 °	42 °	52 °	57 °	55 °	44 °	33 °	19 °	8 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	24 °	29 °	40 °	57 °	69 °	78 °	86 °	85 °	73 °	60 °	42 °	30 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	46 °	51 °	64 °	79 °	88 °	94 °	100 °	99 °	93 °	81 °	64 °	51 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	99%	98%	88%	50%	10%	0%	0%	0%	7%	42%	88%	99%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	12%	36%	33%	8%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	67%	58%	44%	43%	43%	36%	34%	41%	46%	62%	69%
DRY DAYS	75%	76%	75%	74%	68%	62%	73%	77%	78%	82%	80%	76%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	96%	95%	94%	89%	84%	80%	87%	90%	91%	93%	95%	95%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.20	0.40	0.56	0.33	0.25	0.22	0.12	0.08	0.07
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.2 "	5.4 "	6.9 "	3.1 "	1.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.2 "	1.4 "	4.7 "	5.9 "
SNOWY DAYS	25%	24%	22%	10%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	17%	24%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	3%	12%	26%	25%	20%	7%	1%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	4%	6%	4%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%

COMMENTS: The area has a high plains version of the mid-latitude four-season year. The sun shines on some 61% of the year's daylight hours. This ranges from a low of 48% in December, to a high of 76% in July. The coldest day of the year will be below thirty below zero, with the hottest a few degrees over one hundred. A typical summer afternoon will be long, very sunny, arid, and hot. Summer nights are quite cool along towards morning. Winter afternoons are short, moderately sunny, humid, and very cold. Two-thirds of them will fail to warm to above freezing. Winter nights are bitterly cold, with two nights out of five dropping below zero. Winter snowfalls are light, but blizzards are as common now as they were in Teddy's day. During a blizzard, visibility is virtually zero and ranchers have been lost and froze to death between their house and their barn.