

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE RED RIVER RESORT AREA, NEW MEXICO

LOCATION: Red River is located in the heart of Carson National Forest in extreme north-central New Mexico, about twenty miles south of the Colorado border. The town is situated on the Red River, a tributary of the Rio Grande to the west. Red River is essentially a family-oriented resort area, without the glitz of Taos. The mostly intermediate slopes of the Red River Ski Area run right down into town. The Enchanted Forest, nearby, is New Mexico's largest cross-country ski area. Elevations are around 8,700 feet above sea level.

	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	13:34	12:28	11:18	10:16	9:43
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:11	7:48	8:36	9:27	10:24	11:39	10:38	10:00	9:36	8:35	7:30	6:42
AREA OF BLUE SKY	61%	56%	56%	54%	54%	62%	52%	60%	63%	68%	65%	63%
LOW FOR MONTH	-15 °	-14 °	-4 °	4 °	18 °	27 °	34 °	33 °	24 °	5 °	-5 °	-12 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	3 °	7 °	14 °	22 °	29 °	35 °	41 °	40 °	34 °	25 °	13 °	5 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	36 °	38 °	44 °	53 °	62 °	73 °	76 °	74 °	69 °	59 °	46 °	38 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	47 °	48 °	54 °	64 °	74 °	84 °	84 °	84 °	79 °	71 °	60 °	52 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	98%	95%	78%	30%	2%	4%	44%	87%	98%	99%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	51%	48%	40%	33%	31%	29%	37%	39%	40%	39%	42%	53%
DRY DAYS	81%	75%	71%	73%	71%	77%	52%	52%	73%	81%	80%	81%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	88%	86%	84%	84%	84%	87%	71%	71%	84%	87%	87%	90%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.18	0.21	0.27	0.29	0.28	0.21	0.50	0.49	0.24	0.24	0.18	0.18
LIKELY SNOWFALL	20.0"	21.3"	29.3"	21.8"	7.3"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.5"	8.4"	18.5"	18.9"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	19%	25%	29%	27%	12%	0%	0%	0%	1%	11%	20%	19%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	3%	10%	27%	34%	68%	55%	23%	9%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	4%	3%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	5%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 74% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a "low" of 69% in December, to a high of 80% in June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to -19 ° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 87 ° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 4 ° cooler than actual ones, due to the low humidity. Winds tend to blow strongly down the slopes at night, and rather weakly up the slopes during the daylight hours. Passing storm systems can easily override both of these local winds. 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 tremendous difference in how much sunshine and how much rain the slope gets, and therefore in its soil temperature and moisture content.