

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO RUIDOSO RESORT AREA, NEW MEXICO

LOCATION: Ruidoso is located in Lincoln County in south-central New Mexico. This all-year resort town is situated on the Ruidoso River, well up in the Sierra Blanca Mountains surrounded by the Lincoln National Forest. Elevations in town are in the neighborhood of 6,800 feet above sea level, with nearby Sierra Blanca Peak rising to just over 12,000 feet in elevation. Ruidoso Downs offers high-stakes horse-racing between early May and Labor Day. Lincoln National Forest offers scenic drives, camping, hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, riding, and gold-panning. The Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation offers all this and more, including excellent skiing at Ski Apache. It also possesses one of the most luxurious resorts in the state at the Inn of the Mountain Gods.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:13	10:59	11:58	13:00	13:52	14:20	14:08	13:24	12:25	11:23	10:29	10:00
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:12	7:54	8:55	10:07	10:46	11:33	10:45	9:57	9:13	8:38	7:43	6:57
AREA OF BLUE SKY	55%	56%	56%	59%	60%	66%	59%	59%	64%	67%	63%	58%
LOW FOR MONTH	-5 °	-4 °	7 °	16 °	22 °	32 °	39 °	38 °	30 °	18 °	1 °	-4 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	17 °	19 °	22 °	28 °	33 °	42 °	48 °	47 °	40 °	31 °	21 °	17 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	49 °	52 °	57 °	66 °	74 °	83 °	82 °	80 °	76 °	68 °	57 °	51 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	62 °	62 °	67 °	76 °	83 °	90 °	90 °	86 °	84 °	76 °	67 °	62 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	90%	93%	86%	77%	50%	10%	0%	0%	15%	63%	87%	92%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	8%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	40%	34%	26%	23%	24%	25%	32%	35%	36%	36%	37%	43%
DRY DAYS	82%	82%	85%	90%	89%	82%	58%	56%	75%	84%	88%	84%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	89%	89%	90%	93%	94%	87%	70%	71%	85%	90%	93%	88%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.18	0.20	0.22	0.12	0.14	0.31	0.70	0.65	0.38	0.21	0.13	0.25
LIKELY SNOWFALL	10.1"	7.9"	8.1"	2.2"	0.2"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.9"	4.3"	9.7"
SNOWY DAYS	18%	13%	9%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	10%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	2%	6%	14%	19%	26%	26%	13%	5%	2%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	10%	9%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	5%	7%	8%	8%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 74% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 69% in December, to a high of 81% in June. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -7°, and the highest should be near 93°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 6° cooler than actual ones—especially during the spring. Precipitation is light, with most of it coming during the summer thunderstorm season. Almost all of the winter precipitation comes as snow, with snowfall totals higher in the mountains than the values shown for town.