

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SILVER CITY RECREATION AREA, NEW MEXICO

LOCATION: Silver City is located in southwestern New Mexico. The city is situated at the southern end of the Pinos Altos Mountains. Elevations in town are around 6,000 feet above sea level, which keeps the summers milder than down in the desert. Timbered mountains of Gila National Forest surround the city on three sides, with the southern slopes dropping down the landscape of the Chihuahuan Desert. Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument is north of Silver City. Despite its name, the city's wealth was originally based on copper, with major mines in the area.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:16	11:00	11:58	12:59	13:50	14:17	14:06	13:22	12:25	11:24	10:31	10:03
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:06	9:01	10:17	11:36	12:34	13:03	11:13	10:50	10:28	9:48	8:50	7:50
AREA OF BLUE SKY	54%	56%	56%	65%	70%	75%	51%	55%	68%	70%	66%	56%
LOW FOR MONTH	10°	13°	16°	24°	31°	42°	52°	51°	40°	28°	17°	13°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	24°	26°	30°	36°	44°	54°	59°	57°	51°	41°	30°	25°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	50°	54°	59°	68°	77°	86°	87°	84°	80°	70°	59°	51°
HIGH FOR MONTH	64°	66°	71°	80°	88°	95°	95°	92°	89°	81°	73°	64°
FROSTY MORNINGS	87%	82%	65%	28%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	64%	87%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	32%	32%	15%	7%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	33%	27%	22%	16%	14%	15%	29%	33%	30%	27%	30%	37%
DRY DAYS	86%	85%	85%	91%	91%	87%	60%	62%	77%	84%	90%	83%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	92%	92%	92%	95%	97%	94%	78%	78%	86%	92%	95%	92%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.07	0.06	0.12	0.50	0.54	0.31	0.20	0.12	0.17
LIKELY SNOWFALL	4.4"	3.1"	2.8"	0.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	1.2"	4.4"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	4%	5%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	2%	3%	7%	13%	40%	39%	16%	6%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 84% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a "low" of 78% in December, to a high of 91% in May and June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 4° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 97° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 5° cooler than actual ones throughout the year, due to the low humidity. Summers are long, very sunny, hot, and a touch more humid than the other seasons. About half of the year's rain comes during the thunderstorm season of late June through early September. Winters are long, very sunny, cold, and dry. Precipitation is light, and most of it comes from the occasional frontal snowfalls. The best weather comes from April through June, then again in September and October. The area gets the sunniest winters in the United States.