

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO TAMANRASSET AND THE AHAGGAR MOUNTAINS, ALGERIA

LOCATION: Tamanrasset is located on the southern slopes of the Ahaggar Mountains in southern Algeria. The town is situated on the banks of the Wadi Tamanghest, which has a surface flow only following the infrequent rains. The wadi is a sometimes tributary of the Niger. Elevations in Tamanrasset vary somewhat, but average around 4,600 feet above sea level. Mount Tahat, north of the city, rises to some 9,573 feet in elevation.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:55	11:23	12:01	12:40	13:13	13:31	13:23	12:56	12:18	11:39	11:05	10:47
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	9:00	9:21	9:47	10:05	9:52	9:28	10:44	9:40	8:53	8:46	8:29	8:16
AREA OF BLUE SKY	76%	76%	75%	75%	64%	63%	75%	64%	63%	74%	74%	74%
LOW FOR MONTH	30°	34°	40°	46°	54°	63°	64°	64°	61°	52°	42°	33°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	41°	45°	50°	58°	65°	72°	72°	71°	68°	60°	51°	44°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	68°	73°	78°	85°	91°	95°	94°	93°	91°	84°	77°	70°
HIGH FOR MONTH	76°	80°	85°	91°	96°	99°	99°	98°	95°	90°	83°	77°
FROSTY MORNINGS	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	1%	25%	73%	93%	93%	94%	64%	10%	1%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	19%	21%	17%	16%	18%	18%	16%	19%	20%	20%	22%	20%
DRY DAYS	99%	98%	98%	96%	97%	90%	94%	90%	89%	94%	98%	99%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	99%	96%	97%	99%	99%	99%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.01
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	6%	3%	7%	8%	2%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: The area has an upland version of the true tropical desert climate. Rainfall is extremely sparse, and equally unreliable. The city's elevation keeps temperatures some 15°F cooler than they might otherwise be. There are two seasons, based on the solar cycle and temperatures. The summer season runs from May through September. It is the slightly less sunny of the two seasons because of the occasional cloud that moves in from equatorial Africa. Afternoon temperatures are usually very hot, but rarely over 100°F because of the elevation. The low humidities made the sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) a couple of degrees cooler. Summer nights are usually warm to mild and quite clear. If it's going to rain, then it's most likely during the summer. Winter afternoons are very sunny, very dry, and mild to warm. Winter nights can be quite chilly, although only two or three frosty nights can be expected all season. Snow flurries are not unknown in the city, but are rare. They are much more common higher in the mountains.