

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE MUSCAT AREA, OMAN

LOCATION: Muscat (Masqat), the capital and largest city of Oman, is located on the northeast coast of that nation. Muscat is actually at least three separate cities--the old city of Muscat, the commercial port of Mutrah, and the business center of Ruwi. These communities are distributed along a rounded point of land facing northeast into the Sea of Oman. Elevations are within a few hundred feet of sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:52	11:22	12:01	12:42	13:17	13:34	13:27	12:58	12:19	11:38	11:02	10:43
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:44	8:59	9:17	10:13	11:08	10:05	9:02	8:46	9:23	9:48	9:41	8:36
AREA OF BLUE SKY	73%	74%	73%	76%	86%	81%	72%	71%	82%	89%	84%	74%
LOW FOR MONTH	59°	59°	63°	70°	78°	82°	81°	79°	77°	73°	67°	62°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	66°	67°	72°	78°	86°	88°	87°	84°	83°	80°	73°	68°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	77°	77°	83°	90°	98°	100°	97°	93°	93°	92°	85°	79°
HIGH FOR MONTH	84°	86°	95°	102°	110°	111°	110°	104°	103°	101°	93°	86°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	3%	14%	58%	94%	97%	93%	83%	78%	64%	12%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	61%	62%	57%	51%	44%	52%	60%	66%	62%	59%	62%	63%
NEARBY WATERS	74°	74°	75°	79°	84°	88°	88°	88°	87°	85°	81°	76°
DRY DAYS	95%	94%	96%	96%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	97%	94%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	98%	94%	98%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.15	0.13	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.10
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	2%	3%	4%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	4%	4%	1%	0%	1%

COMMENTS: Muscat has two seasons. The low-sun season is the most pleasant of the two, and extends from November through early April. It is characterized by shorter days, somewhat cloudier (but still very sunny) skies, lower temperatures, and a somewhat better chance of rain. The high-sun season runs from late April through the end of October. Its days are longer, sunnier, very much hotter, and about as rainless as days can get. If you think it unlikely that you would ever welcome rain on your vacation, spend a summer week in Muscat. Sand and dust storms are a feature of the Muscati climate. You can expect a certain amount of this in every season, but it becomes very common from late May through August. At that time you should anticipate blowing dust and sand on about half the days. Wearers of contact lenses should switch to regular glasses when these storms appear.