

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE BRUSSELS METROPOLITAN AREA, BELGIUM

LOCATION: Brussels, the capital and primate city of Belgium, is located close to the center of that small country. The landscape is flat and low-lying. The city was originally founded in the marshes along the river Senne. Both the marshes and the river have long since been filled in and paved over. Brussels is the headquarters city of both NATO and the European Union.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:31	10:00	11:51	13:48	15:30	16:26	16:02	14:34	12:42	10:47	9:02	8:04
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:42	2:45	3:41	5:01	6:34	6:31	6:09	6:03	5:07	3:39	2:01	1:19
AREA OF BLUE SKY	24%	26%	28%	32%	34%	32%	32%	33%	36%	30%	25%	22%
LOW FOR MONTH	18°	21°	26°	30°	35°	42°	45°	46°	40°	33°	25°	21°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	32°	32°	36°	40°	46°	51°	55°	54°	51°	45°	38°	34°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	41°	43°	49°	56°	64°	70°	72°	72°	67°	58°	48°	43°
HIGH FOR MONTH	52°	55°	63°	71°	80°	84°	87°	85°	80°	71°	59°	54°
FROSTY MORNINGS	46%	47%	29%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	23%	37%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	83%	77%	71%	63%	61%	63%	63%	62%	67%	74%	81%	85%
DRY DAYS	40%	50%	53%	52%	55%	58%	55%	53%	60%	52%	45%	47%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	75%	78%	78%	76%	78%	78%	75%	75%	78%	73%	72%	76%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.47	0.42	0.34	0.38	0.34	0.41	0.59	0.51	0.44	0.53	0.47	0.48
LIKELY SNOWFALL	10.0"	10.0"	7.8"	3.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	3.6"	9.2"
SNOWY DAYS	21%	21%	17%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	16%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	2%	3%	4%	10%	11%	11%	10%	5%	3%	2%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	17%	21%	9%	7%	5%	4%	3%	7%	13%	19%	22%	17%

COMMENTS: Brussels has a four-season year based on temperatures and the vegetative cycle. Spring (April and May) brings blossoms and new growth. Summer (June through September) sees the vegetation in full foliage. Autumn is when the deciduous trees drop their leaves, the annual plants die, and the first heavy frosts appear. Winter (December through March) is the season of vegetative dormancy, and subject to occasional snows and below-freezing temperatures. Even during the coldest months, most of the precipitation will come as rain. What snow does fall, does not remain on the ground for long. Much of this winter rain comes in the form of day-long drizzles mixed with heavy mists. The Irish (who get a lot of them) refer to such weather as "soft" days. Philosophical acceptance and warm woolens help.