

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO NICE AND THE *COTE D'AZUR*, FRANCE

LOCATION: Nice is located on the Mediterranean coast of extreme southeastern France. The city is situated on the *Cote d'Azur* (Blue Coast) of the French Riviera, not too far from Monaco and the Italian border. Elevations within the city are close to sea level, but the foothills of the Alps--just behind the coast--rise to almost 6,000 feet in elevation.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:21	10:28	11:54	13:24	14:42	15:23	15:06	14:00	12:34	11:04	9:44	9:01
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:47	5:34	6:29	7:49	8:52	10:04	11:18	10:07	8:11	6:36	5:06	4:40
AREA OF BLUE SKY	51%	49%	48%	50%	50%	56%	70%	66%	60%	55%	51%	54%
LOW FOR MONTH	33°	34°	38°	42°	48°	54°	61°	59°	56°	47°	40°	35°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	40°	41°	45°	49°	55°	61°	66°	66°	62°	54°	47°	42°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	54°	55°	58°	62°	68°	74°	79°	80°	76°	69°	61°	56°
HIGH FOR MONTH	64°	64°	67°	71°	77°	83°	88°	88°	83°	77°	69°	64°
FROSTY MORNINGS	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	61%	61%	65%	68%	70%	69%	69%	68%	68%	66%	65%	63%
NEARBY WATERS	56°	56°	56°	58°	62°	67°	72°	74°	71°	68°	62°	57°
DRY DAYS	71%	71%	73%	71%	75%	80%	91%	85%	79%	73%	70%	73%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	83%	82%	83%	83%	86%	89%	96%	92%	86%	81%	77%	82%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.48	0.52	0.49	0.45	0.37	0.24	0.13	0.21	0.51	0.75	0.86	0.63
SNOWY DAYS	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
THUNDER DAYS	3%	5%	5%	7%	9%	13%	11%	13%	11%	11%	8%	4%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: Nice has a climate transitional between the four-season year of the Alps to the north, and the three-season year of the Mediterranean lands to the south. The latter predominates, since most of the native woody plants are evergreen (no "fall"), and both crop and plant growth continues throughout the year. Spring runs from March through May, as the rains of winter diminish in frequency and intensity. Summer extends from June through early September, and is distinguished by long sunny days that are warm to hot. Winter starts with the first heavy rains of September and continues into February. It is characterized by cloudy skies, cool temperatures (not cold) and frequent rains. Snow flurries are not unknown, but snow on the ground is almost unheard-of. The low mountains behind the town, however, are frequently snow-covered during the winter.