

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE BASEL AREA, SWITZERLAND

LOCATION: Basel is Switzerland's second-largest city (after Zurich), and a major commercial center. The city is located in extreme north-western Switzerland, on the border with both France and Germany. Portions of the metropolitan area extend into France, and that country is also the location of Basel's airport. The city is situated on the banks of the Rhine River, just where it emerges from its narrow valley through the Jurassic Alps on its northward flow to the North Sea. Elevations are better than a thousand feet above sea level. The city has a large and rowdy (for Switzerland) student population, and is noted for its very lively carnival (Monday after Ash Wednesday).

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:55	10:14	11:53	13:36	15:06	15:55	15:34	14:17	12:38	10:55	9:23	8:32
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:02	2:54	4:32	5:26	6:19	7:10	7:28	6:44	5:19	3:30	1:59	1:42
AREA OF BLUE SKY	26%	30%	33%	36%	36%	40%	44%	44%	44%	33%	24%	26%
LOW FOR MONTH	13°	14°	21°	29°	34°	43°	47°	46°	39°	31°	24°	15°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	28°	29°	34°	40°	47°	53°	56°	56°	51°	43°	36°	30°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	39°	43°	51°	59°	67°	73°	77°	76°	70°	59°	47°	40°
HIGH FOR MONTH	53°	57°	67°	76°	83°	89°	93°	91°	85°	74°	61°	55°
FROSTY MORNINGS	66%	54%	32%	8%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	23%	55%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	7%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	78%	71%	61%	56%	57%	58%	58%	59%	65%	71%	76%	80%
DRY DAYS	63%	61%	62%	58%	56%	57%	59%	61%	60%	62%	60%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	84%	83%	81%	78%	76%	75%	78%	78%	78%	79%	80%	82%
DRY HOURS	85%	84%	87%	87%	90%	91%	94%	92%	93%	91%	86%	86%
LIKELY SNOWFALL	9.0"	6.7"	4.1"	1.4"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	3.1"	7.6"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	21%	19%	13%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	8%	17%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	1%	4%	11%	17%	15%	13%	7%	1%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	19%	19%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	6%	14%	22%	22%	20%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 38% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 20% in December, to a high of 48% in July and August. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 6°, and the highest should be near 95°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones. This area, protected by its rift valley, gets somewhat earlier springs and hotter summers than European cities at similar latitudes and altitudes. On the other hand, this is the cloudy side of the Alps, with Basel getting up to two hours per day less sunshine than cities on the southern slopes.