

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO ZURICH AND THE MITTELLAND, SWITZERLAND

LOCATION: Zurich is located in the Central Plateau (Mittelland) region of northeastern Switzerland. The city is situated at the north end of Lake Zurich, at an elevation of some 1,730 feet above sea level. Zurich is Swiss to the last centimeter of its stolid, bourgeois soul.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:57	10:14	11:53	13:36	15:05	15:53	15:33	14:16	12:38	10:56	9:24	8:34
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:57	3:15	4:41	5:37	6:30	7:05	7:41	7:06	5:50	3:49	2:21	1:45
AREA OF BLUE SKY	21%	30%	38%	38%	40%	40%	45%	46%	43%	31%	22%	19%
LOW FOR MONTH	14°	16°	23°	29°	36°	44°	48°	47°	41°	32°	25°	18°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	27°	29°	34°	40°	46°	52°	56°	55°	51°	43°	35°	30°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	36°	40°	49°	57°	65°	70°	74°	73°	67°	56°	45°	37°
HIGH FOR MONTH	51°	54°	65°	72°	79°	85°	89°	88°	80°	70°	59°	53°
FROSTY MORNINGS	75%	63%	38%	6%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	27%	65%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	75%	66%	56%	52%	53%	53%	53%	54%	58%	65%	73%	76%
DRY DAYS	59%	56%	57%	54%	54%	50%	54%	56%	62%	58%	60%	57%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	81%	80%	78%	75%	73%	69%	71%	72%	76%	77%	78%	79%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.41	0.43	0.43	0.56	0.67	0.84	0.83	0.81	0.68	0.51	0.46	0.46
LIKELY SNOWFALL	19.4"	15.7"	15.1"	9.1"	1.4"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.9"	9.5"	17.8"
SNOWY DAYS	31%	28%	24%	12%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	14%	27%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	1%	5%	13%	18%	20%	17%	8%	1%	0%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	20%	18%	8%	4%	3%	2%	2%	4%	11%	20%	22%	21%

COMMENTS: Zurich has the standard mid-latitude four-season climate of most of central Europe. Spring starts about the middle of March, and runs through the end of May. Its chief characteristic is the alternation of below-freezing spells with warm and sunny spells. Summer extends from early June through the middle of September. It features the warmest and sunniest weather of the year, with one or two afternoon thundershowers each week. Autumn runs from late September through late November. It brings the first frosts and the first snows, but also has some periods of nice sunny weather. Winter is the season of cloudy skies and cold weather. It hold sway from late November through the middle of March. Zurich is large enough to have a distinct "urban heat island" effect. On calm days and nights, temperatures in the city center will be several degrees warmer than those in the outlying sections of the city. Similarly, snowfall is less in the city, with precipitation coming as rain in the center when the suburbs are having snow.