

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK, ALASKA

LOCATION: Glacier Bay National Park is located at the northern end of the Alaskan Panhandle, northwest of Juneau. The Park is situated at the southern end of the St. Elias Mountains, and is (as its name implies) heavily glaciated and substantially ice-covered. Elevations rise to 15,300 feet at the summit of Mount Fairweather, but most visitors will not get far above sea level. The Park Headquarters is at Bartlett Cove, within the Park, and the airstrip is at Gustavus.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	7:10	9:17	11:47	14:23	16:47	18:13	17:36	15:27	12:55	10:20	7:56	6:30
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:06	3:02	4:28	5:40	6:35	6:43	5:26	4:51	3:33	1:59	1:52	1:24
AREA OF BLUE SKY	28%	22%	24%	24%	23%	23%	18%	20%	15%	13%	22%	19%
LOW FOR MONTH	-2°	3°	6°	17°	28°	36°	40°	36°	33°	25°	11°	3°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	20°	23°	26°	32°	33°	44°	48°	47°	43°	37°	28°	24°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	32°	35°	39°	47°	55°	61°	63°	62°	57°	48°	39°	34°
HIGH FOR MONTH	43°	45°	46°	58°	68°	72°	74°	75°	65°	56°	48°	45°
FROSTY MORNINGS	81%	79%	77%	50%	19%	0%	0%	3%	10%	26%	57%	71%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	80%	76%	69%	65%	64%	66%	72%	74%	78%	81%	82%	83%
NEARBY WATERS	43°	42°	43°	43°	46°	50°	53°	55°	53°	51°	47°	44°
DRY DAYS	43%	46%	43%	40%	44%	50%	47%	40%	33%	26%	33%	34%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	65%	64%	68%	71%	66%	72%	68%	62%	51%	44%	56%	57%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.74	0.56	0.45	0.41	0.46	0.41	0.65	0.73	1.17	1.44	1.06	0.80
LIKELY SNOWFALL	18.0"	12.7"	11.5"	1.8"	0.2"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.7"	7.5"	18.4"
SNOWY DAYS	22%	22%	24%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	8%	24%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	8%	10%	7%	4%	4%	4%	4%	8%	11%	8%	9%	7%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely to occur on 31% of the year's daylight hours. This will probably range from a low of 19% in October, to a high of 39% in April and May. The expected lowest temperature for the year will be around -14° on some windless winter sunrise, and the most probable highest will be near 81° on some long and sunny summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will generally be close to actual ones. Most visitor facilities are available only from about the middle of May through the middle of September. Facilities are available both at Bartlett Cove and at Gustavus. The mixture of mountains, water, and ice that characterizes the Park is reflected in a wide variety of local climates. Elevation and proximity to open water are the major factors, but cold-air drainage from off the ice fields and glaciers is also significant.