

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE APACHE JUNCTION RECREATION AREA, ARIZONA

LOCATION: Apache Junction is located in the northwestern corner of Pinal County in central Arizona, some twenty-five miles southeast of Phoenix. The landscape is one of low desert, with the Goldfield Mountains to the north, and the Superstition Mountains looming to the east. Elevations in town are about 1,700 feet above sea level. Apache Junction is a base of operations for hiking trips into the Superstition Mountains and drives along the Apache Trail. The Arizona Renaissance Festival is held on weekends from early February through late March, recreating a 16<sup>th</sup> century European market fair. Members of the Society for Creative Anachronism will love it. The Lost Dutchman Days festival is in early March.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:13	10:59	11:58	13:00	13:53	14:20	14:09	13:24	12:25	11:23	10:29	10:00
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:01	8:50	10:06	11:32	12:54	13:27	11:48	11:16	11:00	10:01	8:50	7:45
AREA OF BLUE SKY	57%	57%	60%	68%	75%	82%	69%	63%	72%	74%	68%	60%
LOW FOR MONTH	28°	33°	35°	44°	50°	62°	72°	68°	61°	46°	34°	31°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	39°	43°	47°	54°	63°	72°	80°	78°	72°	60°	47°	41°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	64°	68°	72°	81°	91°	100°	102°	100°	96°	86°	73°	65°
HIGH FOR MONTH	75°	81°	84°	91°	101°	110°	109°	108°	105°	95°	83°	75°
FROSTY MORNINGS	16%	7%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	11%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	1%	18%	62%	94%	98%	97%	85%	35%	1%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	41%	36%	31%	22%	18%	18%	29%	33%	30%	31%	32%	42%
DRY DAYS	86%	87%	88%	93%	97%	98%	85%	84%	90%	91%	91%	87%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	93%	93%	92%	97%	99%	99%	94%	92%	94%	95%	95%	93%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.06	0.02	0.01	0.11	0.19	0.16	0.11	0.10	0.12
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	19%	16%	10%	3%	3%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	6%	4%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 85% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a “low” of 77% in December, to a high of 94% in June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 25° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 113° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 5° cooler than actual ones, due to the low humidity. If you’re goosy about narrow, winding mountain roads, drive the Apache Trail from west to east (Apache Junction to Globe). If you enjoy hanging out over precipices, do it the other way (Globe to Apache Junction). It’s spectacular in both directions. Unless you’re very, very good, don’t attempt to take a trailer over it.