

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, UTAH & ARIZONA

LOCATION: Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is located on the Utah - Arizona border. Most of the NRA's 1,960 square miles of canyon country is in Utah. The NRA is centered on Lake Powell, the 186 mile-long reservoir of the Colorado River that backs up Glen Canyon Dam. The lake has some 1,900 miles of shoreline—most of it sheer cliffs rising hundreds of feet. The lake is more than 500 feet deep in places. The NRA is extremely popular during the summer months, despite the blazing heat and lack of shade. Activities include boating, camping, hiking, fishing, and photography. Elevations are around 3,800 feet above sea level. The sheer cliffs lining Lake Powell make access (and egress) possible only in a few locations along the 1,900 miles of shoreline.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:54	10:47	11:56	13:09	14:11	14:43	14:29	13:37	12:28	11:16	10:13	9:38
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:29	7:26	8:24	9:40	10:55	12:20	11:36	10:45	10:13	8:46	7:12	6:18
AREA OF BLUE SKY	48%	47%	48%	51%	55%	68%	64%	64%	70%	66%	57%	51%
LOW FOR MONTH	11°	14°	23°	30°	41°	51°	63°	61°	48°	36°	25°	14°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	26°	31°	38°	45°	55°	64°	71°	69°	61°	48°	37°	27°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	47°	53°	62°	72°	83°	94°	99°	96°	87°	74°	58°	47°
HIGH FOR MONTH	59°	67°	79°	88°	97°	105°	106°	104°	98°	87°	71°	59°
FROSTY MORNINGS	81%	59%	21%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	27%	80%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	23%	74%	94%	89%	43%	2%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	53%	42%	32%	24%	21%	16%	20%	23%	24%	29%	40%	50%
NEARBY WATERS	47°	46°	53°	55°	64°	70°	77°	79°	75°	68°	61°	52°
DRY DAYS	87%	86%	84%	89%	92%	93%	90%	87%	87%	86%	87%	90%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	95%	94%	93%	97%	97%	97%	95%	94%	93%	92%	94%	96%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.09	0.08	0.11	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.15	0.10	0.07
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	2%	5%	10%	12%	25%	24%	13%	4%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	5%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 75% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a “low” of 65% in December and January, to a high of 84% in June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 9° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 108° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 6° cooler than actual ones all year around, but particularly during the heat of summer. Only three or four days each winter will remain below freezing all day long. Below-zero temperatures do occur, but not every winter. May and June, then September and October bring the best weather, and crowds are much below their summer peak. Spring brings heavy winds from the south that can stymie boaters with limited power. Afternoon winds at any time of year can raise a nasty chop. Power-boaters should carry more fuel than they think they will use. There are only a few places where it can be obtained—and they can be sixty miles apart!