

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO HEARST CASTLE AND THE CAMBRIAN COAST, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Hearst Castle (actually Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument) sits on a hilltop overlooking the California coast south of Big Sur and north of Morro Bay. The former home of zillionaire William Randolph Hearst is an eclectic mix of magnificent art collected from all over the world and contemporary gaucherie. It was deeded to the state by Hearst's heirs, and is well worth a visit. The coast here is somewhat more developed than that of Big Sur, but similar. Los Padres National Forest covers the Santa Lucia Mountains that crowd this coastline, and a number of state beaches offer ocean access.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:03	10:53	11:57	13:05	14:02	14:32	14:20	13:31	12:27	11:20	10:20	9:48
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:31	6:09	6:58	8:41	9:05	9:48	9:14	8:46	8:24	7:45	6:53	6:01
AREA OF BLUE SKY	50%	48%	48%	52%	53%	56%	57%	56%	58%	59%	57%	54%
LOW FOR MONTH	38°	37°	40°	39°	41°	45°	45°	44°	44°	44°	42°	40°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	45°	45°	46°	46°	48°	49°	51°	51°	52°	51°	49°	47°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	58°	58°	58°	57°	58°	59°	61°	61°	62°	62°	62°	60°
HIGH FOR MONTH	68°	70°	67°	68°	69°	69°	70°	68°	73°	73°	74°	73°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	59%	61%	63%	59%	61%	61%	62%	63%	62%	58%	56%	59%
NEARBY WATERS	54°	54°	54°	54°	55°	57°	58°	58°	58°	57°	56°	55°
DRY DAYS	68%	68%	70%	84%	90%	95%	98%	98%	95%	89%	82%	73%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	79%	78%	82%	91%	96%	99%	99%	99%	99%	95%	90%	83%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.64	0.69	0.52	0.27	0.08	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.13	0.24	0.53
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	14%	15%	15%	21%	23%	33%	37%	40%	44%	38%	20%	17%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 64% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 55% in January, to a high of 68% in September and October. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 33°, and the highest should be near 79°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be about 3° cooler than actual ones the year around. Morning and evening fogs are characteristic of the coast, especially during the summer months. These can cover the lower stretches of Highway 1 while leaving the higher portions in the bright sun. This alternation of poor and good visibility, the narrow two-lane pavement, steep slopes, tight curves, and numerous slow-moving RVs, make driving extremely hazardous for the impatient. You can expect an average speed of from 20 to 25 miles per hour. If you're in a hurry, don't take Highway 1.