

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Golden Gate National Recreation Area is located on the Pacific Coast of northern California, surrounding the Golden Gate passage and its famous bridge. The NRA covers some 117 square miles on both peninsulas, but primarily the northern, Marin County peninsula. The exposure is definitely Pacific, with little influence from San Francisco Bay. Elevations range from sea level to more than 2,500 feet above it near the summit of Mount Tamalpais. The NRA abuts on Point Reyes National Seashore.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:53	10:47	11:56	13:10	14:12	14:45	14:31	13:38	12:29	11:16	10:11	9:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:43	5:34	6:58	8:13	9:14	10:03	9:28	8:33	8:21	7:18	5:41	4:49
AREA OF BLUE SKY	42%	42%	45%	50%	53%	59%	57%	55%	60%	59%	51%	44%
LOW FOR MONTH	36°	39°	41°	43°	46°	49°	51°	52°	51°	48°	42°	36°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	44°	46°	47°	48°	50°	52°	54°	54°	54°	52°	48°	44°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	57°	60°	60°	61°	61°	62°	63°	64°	66°	66°	62°	58°
HIGH FOR MONTH	69°	71°	74°	76°	77°	77°	75°	76°	81°	81°	75°	69°
FROSTY MORNINGS	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	69%	65%	65%	69%	70%	75%	74%	70%	66%	65%	68%
NEARBY WATERS	52°	52°	53°	53°	54°	56°	59°	61°	60°	58°	56°	56°
DRY DAYS	65%	64%	71%	83%	90%	97%	99%	97%	97%	90%	73%	71%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	77%	75%	81%	90%	97%	99%	99%	99%	97%	94%	83%	77%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.68	0.62	0.45	0.20	0.08	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.17	0.47	0.56
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	46%	49%	44%	47%	52%	54%	61%	63%	57%	54%	46%	44%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 60% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 48% in January, to a high of 68% in June and September. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 34°, and the highest should be near 83°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be two to three degrees cooler than actual ones. The winds and fog off the Pacific can be chilly. Afternoons over 90° do come along once in a while, but years can pass without one. Below-freezing temperatures occur two or three times in most years. Abrupt and dramatic weather changes are the rule here, and visitors should be prepared for everything from freezing sleet driven by howling winds, to complete lack of visibility in heavy fog, to blazing sunshine and high humidity combined. Even in the warmest season (September and October), afternoons tend to be cool to mild. Mornings are almost always raw and damp.