

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK (INTERIOR), FLORIDA

LOCATION: The Florida Everglades cover (or used to cover) the southern quarter of the Florida Peninsula, from Lake Okeechobee southward. The Lake has now been artificially re-channeled to drain into the Atlantic Ocean, and no longer replenishes the swamps and marshes of the Everglades. However, a great deal still remains. Most of this remainder is protected under the 2,357 square miles of Everglades National Park. Another 1,126 square miles lie under the Big Cypress National Preserve, which borders the Park to the north. This summary deals only with the interior portions of the Park and all of the Preserve (which has no coastal area). National Park Visitor Centers are located at the Park entrance station west of Homestead, and at Royal Palm. The Preserve Visitor Center is situated on the Tamiami Trail (US-41) about halfway between Miami and Naples. The Preserve HQ is in Ochopee. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:45	11:17	12:00	12:45	13:23	13:42	13:34	13:02	12:20	11:35	10:56	10:35
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:26	8:08	9:02	9:45	9:43	9:06	9:19	9:05	8:15	7:42	7:17	7:06
AREA OF BLUE SKY	50%	51%	51%	52%	47%	38%	38%	39%	38%	45%	49%	49%
LOW FOR MONTH	41°	42°	45°	49°	56°	63°	67°	69°	69°	56°	47°	43°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	56°	56°	59°	61°	65°	71°	73°	74°	74°	70°	63°	58°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	77°	79°	82°	85°	89°	90°	91°	92°	90°	87°	82°	78°
HIGH FOR MONTH	83°	85°	87°	90°	93°	94°	95°	95°	93°	91°	88°	84°
FROSTY MORNINGS	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	3%	9%	28%	50%	71%	82%	57%	16%	2%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	56%	56%	55%	51%	58%	62%	61%	61%	65%	63%	61%	57%
DRY DAYS	79%	79%	82%	85%	67%	49%	48%	47%	42%	62%	76%	81%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	88%	85%	88%	85%	75%	65%	67%	62%	62%	73%	88%	88%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.25	0.30	0.33	0.48	0.96	1.47	1.31	1.19	1.43	0.90	0.29	0.20
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	3%	4%	6%	8%	25%	43%	49%	51%	43%	16%	5%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	23%	21%	15%	11%	9%	5%	2%	2%	5%	10%	17%	15%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 70% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 66% in rainy June, to a high of 77% in sunny April. The lowest temperature for the year should be close to 39°, and the highest should be near 97°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be significantly higher than actual ones from June through September. Humidity is high all year around. Winter rainfall is light and comes from frontal systems that pass through the area at intervals of from three to five days. Summer rain comes mostly from afternoon and evening thundershowers. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition, but bring the area its nicest weather. The official hurricane season runs from June through November. The winds have lost much of their force by the time they get this far inland, but the water table is so high that flooding is a real hazard.