

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE TWIN CITIES AREA, MINNESOTA

LOCATION: The "twin cities" of Minneapolis and St. Paul are located in southeastern Minnesota. The two are situated on the banks of the Mississippi River, at an elevation of some 800 to 900 feet above sea level. St. Paul is the state capital, whereas Minneapolis is the state's largest city. The Mississippi National River runs right through the heart of the twin cities, but has few federal facilities.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:13	10:24	11:54	13:28	14:49	15:33	15:14	14:05	12:35	11:02	9:38	8:52
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:46	5:58	6:46	7:48	9:01	10:11	11:03	9:44	7:40	5:57	3:46	3:40
AREA OF BLUE SKY	38%	38%	36%	36%	37%	40%	49%	48%	45%	43%	31%	32%
LOW FOR MONTH	-19°	-14°	-1°	21°	33°	45°	52°	49°	35°	25°	5°	-11°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	5°	8°	22°	36°	48°	58°	63°	61°	52°	40°	25°	12°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	22°	26°	38°	56°	68°	78°	83°	80°	72°	59°	40°	27°
HIGH FOR MONTH	41°	45°	60°	79°	88°	94°	96°	94°	90°	80°	62°	46°
FROSTY MORNINGS	98%	96%	82%	33%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	19%	73%	95%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	8%	17%	12%	3%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	64%	60%	50%	48%	52%	51%	53%	53%	53%	64%	70%
DRY DAYS	72%	73%	71%	66%	62%	61%	69%	70%	68%	73%	74%	73%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	92%	92%	85%	82%	78%	76%	81%	80%	81%	87%	87%	92%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.14	0.16	0.25	0.37	0.54	0.70	0.56	0.54	0.50	0.34	0.23	0.16
LIKELY SNOWFALL	9.7"	8.2"	9.7"	3.3"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.5"	6.4"	8.6"
SNOWY DAYS	28%	25%	21%	7%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	15%	26%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	3%	8%	18%	26%	24%	22%	15%	6%	2%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	6%	7%	6%	2%	3%	3%	3%	4%	5%	5%	6%	7%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 58% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 39% in November, to a high of 72% in July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -22°, and the highest should be near 98°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones. The area has a mid-latitude four-season climate, with long very cold winters and short hot summers. Precipitation is light, with most of it coming during the warmer months. Winter precipitation is almost all snow. A typical summer afternoon will be long, quite sunny, moderately humid, and warm to hot. Summer afternoon and early evening thunderstorms are common. Summer nights are generally mild. Winter afternoons remain below freezing on two thirds of the days, and winter nights will drop below zero about a third of the time. The ground is frequently snow-covered, and would be more often and longer if winter precipitation were any heavier. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition, with cold fronts and warm fronts alternating at intervals of three to five days.