

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ASHEVILLE AREA, NORTH CAROLINA

LOCATION: Asheville is located in the Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina. The city is situated north of the Blue Ridge Mountains in valley of the French Broad River, and sits astride that waterway. Elevations in the city are around 2,200 feet above sea level; but Mount Mitchell (6,684'), the highest point in eastern United States, is only some twenty miles away to the northeast.

	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	14:19	13:31	12:27	11:20	10:20	9:49
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:09	6:00	6:58	8:21	8:53	9:19	8:32	7:44	7:23	7:09	5:56	4:58
AREA OF BLUE SKY	38%	40%	39%	43%	41%	41%	37%	39%	42%	52%	46%	40%
LOW FOR MONTH	8°	11°	20°	28°	37°	47°	54°	53°	42°	28°	19°	12°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	28°	29°	36°	43°	52°	59°	63°	62°	56°	45°	35°	29°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	48°	50°	58°	67°	75°	82°	84°	83°	78°	68°	58°	49°
HIGH FOR MONTH	65°	68°	76°	83°	86°	90°	91°	90°	87°	81°	73°	67°
FROSTY MORNINGS	68%	66%	41%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	42%	66%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	16%	9%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	57%	54%	51%	47%	54%	57%	61%	62%	60%	53%	53%	57%
DRY DAYS	66%	63%	61%	67%	63%	61%	58%	60%	71%	76%	71%	68%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	81%	77%	75%	81%	77%	77%	76%	77%	81%	83%	83%	83%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.45	0.52	0.63	0.53	0.51	0.59	0.61	0.62	0.52	0.44	0.38	0.47
LIKELY SNOWFALL	3.4"	3.7"	2.5"	0.4"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	0.5"	1.9"
SNOWY DAYS	9%	8%	6%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	3%	7%	11%	21%	30%	35%	30%	12%	3%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	9%	7%	7%	6%	14%	21%	26%	36%	31%	21%	10%	10%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 60% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 51% in December and January, to a high of 64% from April through June. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 3°, and the highest should be near 92°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones during the winter, a few degrees cooler in spring and autumn, and a few degrees hotter in the summer. Most residents think of spring and fall as the best times of year. Asheville occupies a sort of "dry pocket" in the area, with rainfall increasing quite markedly in all directions except for the immediate northwest. You can also expect temperatures to drop an average of 1° for each 300-feet of increase in elevation. All of Asheville's seasons, including winter, are sunnier than most. Spring brings a profusion of flowering shrubs, while fall brings a gorgeous hardwood color display. A drive along the nearby Blue Ridge Parkway is a good way to see both.