

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE JAMESTOWN AREA, NORTH DAKOTA

LOCATION: Jamestown is located in Stutsman County in southeastern North Dakota. It is the county seat, and is situated at the junction of I-94 and US-52/28, roughly halfway between Bismarck and Fargo. It is also situated at the junction of Pipestem Creek with the James River. Elevations are some 1,500 feet above sea level. Jamestown lies in the northern Great Plains. The surrounding countryside is gently rolling farmland and pasture. Major crops include wheat, barley, and flax. Cattle are the most important livestock. Jamestown is the site of *Jamestown College* and the *Fort Seward Historical Site*.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:00	10:16	11:53	13:34	15:02	15:49	15:29	14:14	12:37	10:57	9:27	8:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:34	5:43	6:45	7:56	9:08	9:52	11:14	9:54	7:46	6:13	4:04	3:55
AREA OF BLUE SKY	39%	40%	37%	40%	42%	44%	56%	54%	49%	44%	36%	37%
LOW FOR MONTH	-26°	-20°	-9°	12°	25°	37°	44°	40°	26°	16°	0°	-19°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	-2°	3°	16°	30°	42°	52°	57°	54°	44°	33°	18°	5°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	18°	22°	36°	54°	68°	77°	84°	82°	71°	58°	38°	24°
HIGH FOR MONTH	42°	45°	59°	80°	90°	95°	99°	100°	94°	83°	61°	45°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	99%	94%	61%	15%	1%	0%	1%	12%	47%	93%	99%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	9%	22%	21%	6%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	69%	64%	49%	44%	49%	46%	44%	47%	50%	64%	71%
DRY DAYS	86%	87%	86%	79%	73%	66%	72%	77%	79%	84%	88%	87%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	95%	95%	94%	88%	83%	78%	83%	86%	88%	92%	94%	95%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.08	0.09	0.13	0.26	0.39	0.58	0.49	0.38	0.29	0.20	0.11	0.08
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.3"	5.3"	6.3"	2.6"	0.5"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.8"	5.4"	5.4"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	14%	13%	11%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	11%	13%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	1%	4%	12%	27%	28%	23%	9%	2%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	4%	6%	6%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	5%	6%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 59% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 43% in cloudy November, to a high of 73% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to -27° at some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 102° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and calm airs tend to make the high temperatures higher and the low ones lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. Jamestown has a mid-latitude four-season continental climate. The range of 160° between its record high (118°) and its record low (-42°) testify to its continentality. Winter is the dominant season, and runs from November through March. During this season, more than half the afternoons fail to warm above the freezing point, and about a third of the mornings start out below zero. Blizzards and blinding snowstorms are a fact of Great Plains life. Summers are hot, sunny, windy, and get most of the year's precipitation. Summer thunderstorms can be violent, and often destroy crops. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition, with alternating spells of warm and cool weather.