

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK, NEVADA

LOCATION: Great Basin National Park is located in White Pine County in east-central Nevada, only a few miles from the border with Utah. The Park takes in a significant portion of the Snake Mountains, in the Basin and Range geological province. Elevations range from about 6,200 feet on Snake Creek to 13,063 feet at the summit of Wheeler Peak. The Park Headquarters is at Lehman Caves, at 6,825 feet, and the summary is representative of that elevation. The Park covers some 120 square miles, and includes almost all of the topography and life zones that characterize the Great Basin. The cafe and gift shop are open from May through October.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:47	10:43	11:56	13:12	14:18	14:52	14:38	13:42	12:30	11:14	10:06	9:30
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:06	7:04	8:00	9:08	10:15	12:04	11:31	11:01	10:07	8:28	6:39	6:05
AREA OF BLUE SKY	38%	38%	38%	41%	43%	60%	61%	62%	67%	59%	44%	41%
LOW FOR MONTH	-1°	4°	11°	18°	24°	31°	43°	42°	28°	19°	9°	3°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	18°	20°	23°	31°	39°	48°	57°	55°	47°	36°	25°	20°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	41°	43°	48°	57°	66°	77°	86°	83°	75°	62°	49°	43°
HIGH FOR MONTH	54°	56°	59°	68°	77°	87°	93°	90°	84°	72°	64°	61°
FROSTY MORNINGS	95%	89%	84%	60%	24%	7%	1%	0%	7%	32%	77%	94%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	21%	10%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	57%	51%	41%	32%	28%	21%	21%	23%	23%	30%	46%	57%
DRY DAYS	81%	78%	77%	79%	78%	87%	84%	82%	87%	85%	84%	83%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	90%	89%	87%	90%	90%	93%	90%	87%	95%	90%	93%	90%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.16	0.19	0.24	0.19	0.20	0.12	0.13	0.17	0.13	0.18	0.19	0.16
LIKELY SNOWFALL	12.1"	14.3"	18.7"	7.5"	2.9"	0.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.2"	3.9"	12.0"	11.7"
SNOWY DAYS	19%	22%	23%	14%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%	5%	16%	17%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	1%	5%	13%	14%	27%	28%	11%	4%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	3%

COMMENTS: Covering as it does some 6,000 feet of vertical range, the Park has a variety of climates within the upland mid-latitude category. All have four seasons, with the seasons varying in length and severity with elevation and slope orientation. You can expect daytime temperatures to drop an average of 1°F for each 300'-increase in elevation--and vice versa going downhill. Climates thus range from the living glacier in the sub-arctic climate of the summit of Wheeler Peak to the high desert climate of the lower elevations, where summer temperatures can exceed 100°F. The temperature inside Lehman Cave is a steady 50°F, day and night, summer and winter.