

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO LANCASTER AND THE PENNSYLVANIA “DUTCH” COUNTRY

LOCATION: Lancaster is located in the southeastern quarter of Pennsylvania. The city is situated on Conestoga Creek in an area of fertile farmland. Elevations are only a couple of hundred feet above sea level. The surrounding area has significant populations of Amish, Mennonites, and Moravians whose ancestors migrated from Germany in times past. The term “Dutch” has no relation to the Netherlands, but is a corruption of the term “Deutsch”, the German Language. Most of these people are well integrated into modern society, but the “Old Order” groups prefer the older customs and avoid modern devices.

| | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|-----------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| HOURS OF DAYLIGHT | 9:41 | 10:40 | 11:55 | 13:15 | 14:23 | 14:58 | 14:43 | 13:46 | 12:30 | 11:12 | 10:02 | 9:24 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE | 4:39 | 5:38 | 6:38 | 7:31 | 8:29 | 9:31 | 9:35 | 8:43 | 7:35 | 6:33 | 4:55 | 4:18 |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY | 34% | 37% | 37% | 37% | 37% | 40% | 42% | 43% | 45% | 46% | 37% | 34% |
| LOW FOR MONTH | 13° | 14° | 23° | 33° | 43° | 53° | 59° | 57° | 47° | 36° | 27° | 17° |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE | 21° | 22° | 29° | 38° | 48° | 57° | 61° | 60° | 53° | 41° | 32° | 23° |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE | 40° | 42° | 52° | 65° | 75° | 83° | 87° | 85° | 79° | 68° | 55° | 42° |
| HIGH FOR MONTH | 58° | 61° | 73° | 83° | 88° | 93° | 96° | 94° | 91° | 82° | 72° | 62° |
| FROSTY MORNINGS | 87% | 88% | 70% | 29% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 19% | 59% | 82% |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90° | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 6% | 19% | 30% | 20% | 6% | 1% | 0% | 0% |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY | 59% | 55% | 51% | 49% | 52% | 52% | 53% | 55% | 55% | 54% | 56% | 59% |
| DRY DAYS | 67% | 68% | 66% | 65% | 65% | 66% | 68% | 70% | 74% | 76% | 71% | 69% |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS | 81% | 79% | 78% | 77% | 76% | 79% | 80% | 80% | 83% | 83% | 81% | 80% |
| 5-DAY PRECIPITATION | 0.50 | 0.46 | 0.57 | 0.59 | 0.57 | 0.66 | 0.70 | 0.70 | 0.57 | 0.51 | 0.47 | 0.49 |
| LIKELY SNOWFALL | 7.2" | 7.5" | 5.8" | 1.2" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.1" | 0.9" | 4.7" |
| SNOWY DAYS | 16% | 16% | 10% | 2% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 3% | 10% |
| THUNDER DAYS | 1% | 1% | 4% | 7% | 14% | 21% | 22% | 18% | 9% | 3% | 2% | 1% |
| FOGGY DAYS | 9% | 8% | 7% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 6% | 8% | 8% | 9% |

COMMENTS: The area has a standard mid-latitude four-season year. You can expect bright sunshine on 57% of the year’s daylight hours, ranging from a low of 46% in December to a high of 65% in July. A typical year will have its lowest temperature in the low ‘teens, and its highest temperature in the high 90’s. Precipitation is more than adequate in all months, and is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year. A typical summer afternoon will be sunny, moderately humid, and hot. Summer nights are mild to cool. A typical winter afternoon will be moderately cloudy, humid, and chilly more often than cold. About a dozen winter afternoons will fail to warm above freezing. Winter nights are quite cold. Snow is a feature of the winter season, but most of the precipitation in that season comes as rain. Consequently, snow rarely stays on the ground for more than a few days at a time.