

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CHARLESTON AREA, SOUTH CAROLINA

LOCATION: Charleston is located on the Atlantic Coast of South Carolina. It is situated on a low peninsula at the joint mouths of the Ashley and Cooper Rivers. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level on this low-lying and marshy coast. Charleston was a cultural Mecca of the old Deep South aristocracy, and retains many fine antebellum homes and a strong sense of gracious living.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:16	11:00	11:58	12:59	13:50	14:17	14:06	13:22	12:25	11:24	10:31	10:03
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:53	6:36	7:49	9:15	9:54	9:48	9:21	8:41	8:03	7:36	6:49	5:41
AREA OF BLUE SKY	44%	45%	47%	52%	50%	44%	41%	42%	46%	55%	54%	46%
LOW FOR MONTH	24°	26°	32°	41°	51°	62°	67°	66°	58°	43°	32°	26°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	41°	43°	49°	56°	65°	71°	74°	74°	70°	59°	49°	43°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	58°	60°	66°	73°	81°	86°	89°	88°	84°	75°	67°	60°
HIGH FOR MONTH	74°	76°	81°	87°	92°	96°	97°	95°	92°	86°	80°	75°
FROSTY MORNINGS	33%	26%	9%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	28%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	3%	13%	37%	54%	47%	18%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	55%	52%	51%	50%	55%	60%	64%	65%	64%	57%	55%	55%
NEARBY WATERS	50°	50°	57°	66°	73°	80°	83°	84°	81°	70°	63°	54°
DRY DAYS	68%	68%	70%	74%	73%	63%	58%	58%	67%	81%	77%	72%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	81%	80%	78%	85%	81%	75%	69%	70%	78%	87%	86%	83%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.49	0.58	0.58	0.46	0.55	0.83	1.16	1.08	0.85	0.51	0.39	0.46
SNOWY DAYS	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	4%	8%	10%	21%	33%	43%	38%	18%	5%	3%	2%
FOGGY DAYS	13%	9%	7%	5%	4%	3%	2%	3%	5%	7%	10%	11%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 65% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 57% in December and January, to a high of 72% in May. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 20°, and the highest should be near 98°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be a few degrees cooler than actual ones during the winter, and a few degrees warmer than actual ones during the summer. The city has a marine version of the long-summer humid continental climate typical of the southeastern United States. The influence of the two rivers, the harbor, and the nearby Atlantic Ocean keeps the winters, in particular, from being as cold as places only a few miles farther inland. Snow flurries are common enough in the city, but snowfalls are rare. Summer afternoons are sunny, humid, and hot to very hot. Summer nights are quite warm and damp. Light mists are common, especially along the rivers. Winter afternoons are still sunny, moderately humid and mild to cool. About one winter night in four will fall to below freezing.