

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO ARCHES NATIONAL PARK, UTAH

LOCATION: Arches National Park is located in the aptly named Grand County of southeastern Utah. The Park is situated along the Colorado River in the high desert and canyonlands of the northern part of the Colorado Plateau. Elevations within the Park range from less than 4,000 feet along the river, to roughly 5,700 feet in the higher reaches. The campground lies about 5,200 feet in elevation, some 1,200 feet higher than the Visitor Center.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:48	10:44	11:56	13:12	14:17	14:51	14:36	13:41	12:29	11:14	10:07	9:31
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:50	6:45	7:42	8:59	10:18	11:46	11:15	10:19	9:39	8:12	6:33	5:43
AREA OF BLUE SKY	43%	43%	44%	44%	49%	63%	58%	58%	65%	62%	52%	46%
LOW FOR MONTH	-3°	5°	15°	24°	33°	41°	49°	46°	35°	23°	11°	5°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	14°	20°	32°	36°	46°	52°	59°	57°	47°	35°	24°	16°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	38°	48°	57°	68°	78°	88°	94°	91°	82°	69°	53°	40°
HIGH FOR MONTH	51°	60°	71°	81°	89°	99°	101°	98°	93°	81°	66°	53°
FROSTY MORNINGS	96%	85%	56%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	19%	75%	93%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%	61%	87%	80%	38%	2%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	53%	38%	28%	24%	17%	20%	27%	27%	34%	48%	62%
DRY DAYS	85%	83%	81%	83%	85%	90%	86%	83%	85%	85%	90%	86%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	93%	92%	92%	91%	93%	95%	95%	92%	93%	93%	93%	93%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.12	0.07	0.11	0.14	0.15	0.16	0.12	0.13
LIKELY SNOWFALL	5.3"	2.5"	1.7"	0.2"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	1.0"	4.1"
SNOWY DAYS	11%	7%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	7%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	3%	7%	14%	16%	32%	31%	16%	6%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	7%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%

COMMENTS: The area has a high desert version of the mid-latitude four-season year. Bright sunshine occurs on 70% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a "low" of 60% in December to a high of 79% in June. The low temperature for the year will be near -6° some windless winter sunrise, while the high will be around 102° some sunny summer afternoon. Precipitation is sparse, and varies tremendously from year to year. A typical summer afternoon should be very sunny, very arid, and very hot. Sensible temperatures are cooler than actual ones. Summer nights get cool along towards morning. Summer afternoon thunderstorms are characteristic of the season, but less than half bring actual rain to the surface. A typical winter afternoon will be sunny, humid, and cold. Some half-dozen time each winter the afternoon temperatures will fail to rise above the freezing point. Winter nights are very cold, and three or four of them will drop below zero. Snowfalls are fairly common, but snow rarely remains on the ground past noon of the next day.