

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO ELKINS AND THE ALLEGHENY MOUNTAINS, WEST VIRGINIA

LOCATION: Elkins is located in the Allegheny Mountains of east-central West Virginia. The area is characterized by steep parallel ridges and deep valleys running northeast - southwest. Elkins, at around 2,000 feet above sea level, is in the bottom of one of these valleys ; but the mountains themselves rise to close to 5,000 feet above sea level. Nearby is the Spruce Knob - Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area and large stretches of the Monongahela National Forest.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:47	10:43	11:56	13:12	14:17	14:51	14:37	13:42	12:30	11:14	10:07	9:30
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:10	3:53	4:57	6:11	7:36	8:00	7:54	7:03	6:40	5:38	4:05	3:03
AREA OF BLUE SKY	20%	23%	25%	28%	30%	29%	32%	33%	36%	38%	28%	23%
LOW FOR MONTH	-7°	-4°	6°	18°	29°	38°	45°	44°	34°	21°	11°	-2°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	20°	20°	28°	36°	45°	54°	58°	57°	50°	38°	29°	22°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	40°	42°	52°	61°	71°	78°	81°	80°	74°	65°	52°	43°
HIGH FOR MONTH	62°	63°	74°	80°	84°	87°	89°	88°	85°	79°	71°	63°
FROSTY MORNINGS	83%	83%	69%	36%	8%	1%	0%	0%	3%	29%	64%	78%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	64%	61%	56%	51%	54%	58%	61%	61%	60%	54%	58%	64%
DRY DAYS	42%	43%	45%	49%	54%	52%	55%	61%	65%	65%	56%	47%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	72%	73%	70%	69%	72%	72%	72%	75%	78%	80%	75%	73%
DRY HOURS	69%	71%	76%	83%	88%	92%	92%	93%	92%	89%	82%	73%
LIKELY SNOWFALL	14.5"	12.6"	9.8"	3.4"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.4"	5.5"	11.2"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	36%	36%	24%	10%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	15%	31%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	3%	6%	11%	22%	29%	34%	23%	12%	3%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	7%	5%	4%	5%	14%	28%	35%	46%	45%	32%	10%	7%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 47% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 32% in December and January, to a high of 54% in June and July. The year's lowest temperature should be close to -11°, and the highest should be near 91°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. The area has a four-season year. Summer days frequently start off with valley fogs that burn off by noon to mostly clear and sunny skies. Late afternoon may see increasing cloud. Winter days start below freezing, but three out of four will warm to above that point in the afternoon. Some nine or ten winter mornings will start out below zero. Winter snowfalls are common, but rarely stay on the ground at the lower elevations for more than a day or two. Higher peaks will be snow-covered for most of the winter. Icy roads are a common winter hazard.