

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO LANDER AND THE WIND RIVER COUNTRY, WYOMING

LOCATION: Lander, seat of Fremont County, is located in west-central Wyoming. The town is situated on the Popo Agie River at the foot of the Wind River Mountains, Wyoming's highest at 13,804' in elevation. The town itself sits at an elevation of some 5,400 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:26	10:31	11:54	13:22	14:37	15:17	15:01	13:57	12:33	11:06	9:48	9:06
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:14	7:17	8:25	8:51	9:32	11:08	11:17	10:26	9:02	7:25	5:49	5:41
AREA OF BLUE SKY	48%	47%	43%	41%	41%	52%	58%	58%	58%	53%	47%	49%
LOW FOR MONTH	-14°	-9°	0°	16°	27°	36°	45°	43°	30°	18°	-2°	-10°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	6°	11°	20°	30°	39°	47°	53°	51°	42°	31°	18°	8°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	32°	36°	45°	55°	65°	76°	85°	83°	72°	59°	44°	33°
HIGH FOR MONTH	51°	55°	63°	74°	83°	91°	96°	94°	88°	77°	62°	54°
FROSTY MORNINGS	99%	99%	92%	62%	17%	1%	0%	0%	11%	53%	93%	98%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	25%	16%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	59%	54%	46%	40%	38%	32%	28%	27%	33%	40%	55%	59%
DRY DAYS	87%	82%	77%	73%	71%	79%	80%	83%	83%	83%	84%	86%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	95%	94%	90%	84%	85%	91%	93%	95%	92%	91%	92%	95%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.08	0.12	0.20	0.37	0.40	0.20	0.13	0.09	0.18	0.22	0.13	0.11
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.9"	9.9"	15.2"	17.3"	6.2"	0.8"	0.0"	0.0"	2.2"	9.0"	10.8"	9.5"
SNOWY DAYS	13%	18%	23%	22%	8%	0%	0%	0%	3%	11%	16%	14%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	3%	11%	18%	24%	20%	8%	1%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: The area has a high plains version of the mid-latitude four-season year. Bright sunshine occurs on 68% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a "low" of 59% in November to a high of 75% in July and August. The low temperature for the year will be near -21° some windless winter sunrise, while the high will be around 96° some sunny summer afternoon. Precipitation is light, and is concentrated in the spring and--to a lesser degree--the autumn. A typical summer afternoon will be very sunny, fairly arid, and hot. Summer nights are cool to chilly. A typical winter afternoon will stay below freezing two days out of five. Winter nights are very cold, and drop below zero a couple of dozen times each winter. The *chinook* (from a Salish Indian word, meaning "snow eater") is a strong, warm, dry, downslope wind common to the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains. It often sets in following a winter storm. During the *chinook*, temperatures will rise many tens of degrees in as many minutes. The combination of increasing temperatures, high winds, and very low humidities tends to both melt and evaporate large quantities of snow—sometimes as much as a foot or more per hour.