

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO VERKHoyANSK AND FAR YAKUTIA, RUSSIA

LOCATION: Verkhoyansk is located in northeastern Siberia, what used to be Yakutia, and is now known as the Sakha Republic. The town is situated on the banks of the Yana River, which flows north into the Arctic Ocean. Elevations are only a few hundred feet above sea level. The town is accessible only by air, and that only when the weather is good.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	3:35	7:47	11:38	15:37	20:21	24:00	22:37	17:24	13:21	9:28	5:21	1:04
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	0:07	2:55	7:00	9:38	9:49	11:03	10:07	7:16	4:18	2:32	0:46	0:01
AREA OF BLUE SKY	58%	61%	59%	49%	37%	35%	36%	34%	31%	34%	49%	54%
LOW FOR MONTH	-74°	-71°	-59°	-35°	0°	30°	35°	27°	10°	-32°	-59°	-70°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	-60°	-54°	-38°	-9°	24°	46°	47°	40°	27°	-3°	-39°	-54°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	-51°	-38°	-9°	22°	44°	63°	68°	60°	44°	13°	-29°	-46°
HIGH FOR MONTH	-19°	-7°	17°	39°	63°	82°	86°	78°	62°	37°	5°	-10°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	100%	100%	73%	12%	4%	17%	74%	99%	100%	100%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	72%	71%	60%	50%	46%	43%	47%	51%	57%	70%	76%	74%
DRY DAYS	76%	77%	84%	86%	84%	73%	73%	73%	77%	73%	69%	73%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	97%	96%	97%	97%	96%	87%	87%	87%	91%	93%	92%	96%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.17	0.19	0.18	0.10	0.06	0.07	0.05
LIKELY SNOWFALL	4.0"	4.0"	4.0"	3.3"	2.7"	1.0"	0.0"	0.0"	3.6"	6.9"	8.0"	5.9"
SNOWY DAYS	24%	23%	16%	14%	15%	3%	1%	1%	14%	27%	31%	27%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	6%	4%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	25%	27%	17%	2%	2%	1%	2%	11%	9%	5%	15%	20%

COMMENTS: The region has a sub-arctic climate, with short mild summers and long extremely cold winters. Precipitation is quite light, and most of it comes as snow. The midsummer day is continuous (if you count twilight) from early May through early August. No month is reliably free of below-freezing temperatures. The midwinter night is somewhat shorter because of the diameter of the sun's disc. It lasts only from the middle of December through early January. Winters are cold. Temperatures usually drop below zero at least for a short time every day from late October through early April. Verkhoyansk is tied with Omycon, also in Siberia, as having the world lowest temperature outside of Antarctica---a nasty -90°F, recorded in February one cold year.

Because the Yana River flow north, its headwaters thaw before its northern mouth. This results in wide-spread flooding every spring.