

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE YAKUTSK AREA, RUSSIA

LOCATION: Yakutsk is the capital of the Sakha Republic, one of the entities of the modern Russian Federation. It is located in eastern Siberia. The city is situated on the banks of the Lena River, at an elevations of some 500 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	6:15	8:49	11:44	14:46	17:41	19:35	18:44	16:01	13:03	10:04	7:12	5:23
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	0:57	3:59	7:46	9:20	9:36	11:16	11:02	8:43	5:56	3:13	2:00	0:27
AREA OF BLUE SKY	43%	51%	57%	47%	36%	40%	41%	38%	34%	25%	36%	40%
LOW FOR MONTH	-67°	-58°	-42°	-18°	15°	35°	42°	35°	19°	-18°	-48°	-62°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	-49°	-39°	-19°	8°	32°	48°	54°	48°	34°	10°	-25°	-44°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	-41°	-25°	3°	30°	51°	69°	75°	69°	51°	23°	-15°	-36°
HIGH FOR MONTH	-15°	1°	27°	47°	71°	84°	90°	84°	68°	44°	14°	-6°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	100%	97%	52%	3%	0%	2%	48%	97%	100%	100%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	7%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	95%	94%	68%	47%	40%	42%	45%	50%	52%	71%	96%	95%
DRY DAYS	65%	68%	80%	83%	78%	71%	70%	68%	70%	61%	55%	60%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	94%	95%	97%	95%	92%	85%	86%	85%	87%	89%	90%	93%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.10	0.21	0.24	0.24	0.16	0.11	0.08	0.07
LIKELY SNOWFALL	7.2"	4.6"	4.0"	4.1"	2.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	2.8"	9.4"	10.1"	7.3"
SNOWY DAYS	35%	32%	20%	17%	9%	0%	0%	0%	9%	39%	45%	35%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	9%	13%	7%	1%	0%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	50%	36%	8%	2%	1%	2%	2%	5%	7%	6%	16%	44%

COMMENTS: The region has a strongly continental four-season climate. In an ordinary year, temperatures will hit 90° during the summer, and -70° during the winter, for an annual range of some 160°. Summer afternoons are very long, fairly sunny, not very humid, and warm rather than hot. Winter is the dominant season, and runs from October through April. During this time, the ground is usually frozen and snow-covered, as are the local lakes and streams. Temperatures normally remain below freezing continuously from late October through the end of March, and will drop below zero every day from early November through late March. Temperature inversions (heavy, stable colder air underlying lighter and warmer air) are common during the winter, and may last for weeks at a time. The cooling from below produces the formation of ice crystals which very slowly fall to the surface, producing an ice fog. On cold clear nights, these crystals produce a barely-audible tinkling, rustling sound that the Yakuts call "the whisper of the stars".