

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ASHKHABAD AREA, TURKMENISTAN

LOCATION: Ashkhabad, the capital of Turkmenistan, is located in the south-central part of the country, not too far from the border with Iran. The city is situated on the Mergad River, at the foot of the Kopet Mountains. Elevations are some 750 feet above sea level.

| | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|-----------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| HOURS OF DAYLIGHT | 9:52 | 10:46 | 11:56 | 13:10 | 14:13 | 14:45 | 14:32 | 13:39 | 12:29 | 11:15 | 10:11 | 9:36 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE | 3:36 | 4:19 | 4:47 | 6:29 | 9:06 | 11:03 | 11:29 | 11:18 | 9:42 | 7:26 | 5:16 | 3:28 |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY | 32% | 36% | 35% | 42% | 54% | 73% | 79% | 84% | 81% | 65% | 48% | 33% |
| LOW FOR MONTH | 8° | 18° | 26° | 38° | 48° | 58° | 64° | 58° | 45° | 33° | 24° | 18° |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE | 28° | 32° | 40° | 50° | 61° | 68° | 73° | 68° | 59° | 47° | 39° | 33° |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE | 43° | 49° | 57° | 72° | 80° | 94° | 99° | 97° | 87° | 73° | 59° | 48° |
| HIGH FOR MONTH | 62° | 69° | 79° | 93° | 101° | 106° | 107° | 105° | 100° | 90° | 80° | 70° |
| FROSTY MORNINGS | 60% | 50% | 16% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 3% | 20% | 48% |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90° | 0% | 0% | 0% | 7% | 37% | 84% | 97% | 93% | 47% | 3% | 0% | 0% |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY | 58% | 51% | 49% | 39% | 35% | 24% | 24% | 22% | 24% | 33% | 47% | 56% |
| DRY DAYS | 70% | 73% | 68% | 71% | 79% | 93% | 96% | 97% | 97% | 88% | 80% | 74% |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS | 91% | 90% | 84% | 85% | 90% | 97% | 99% | 99% | 99% | 94% | 91% | 92% |
| 5-DAY PRECIPITATION | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.28 | 0.24 | 0.17 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.12 |
| LIKELY SNOWFALL | 2.6" | 2.8" | 1.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.4" | 1.3" |
| SNOWY DAYS | 10% | 12% | 3% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 6% |
| THUNDER DAYS | 0% | 1% | 2% | 11% | 16% | 10% | 5% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 0% | 0% |
| FOGGY DAYS | 16% | 9% | 6% | 1% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% | 4% | 12% |

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine occurs on 60% of the year's daylight hours. This ranges from a low of 36% in wintry December, to a high of 83% in summery August. The expected low temperature for the year will be around 6° at some windless winter sunrise, and the high will be near 109° on some sunny summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be a few degrees cooler than actual ones from May through November. Much of the winter precipitation comes as snow, but the totals are slight and it usually melts quickly. Only fifteen days of the season can be expected to still have snow on the ground at noon. Downslope winds during the winter months (very similar to the *föhn* of Europe) help keep the winter landscape relatively free of snow. These winds simultaneously raise the temperature and drop the humidity, resulting in rapid evaporation and melting of any snow cover. One such wind in January was clocked at 63 mph and a temperature of 71°.