

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SAMARKAND AREA, UZBEKISTAN

LOCATION: Samarkand is located in southeastern Uzbekistan, not too far from the border with Tajikistan. The city is situated on the Zerevshan River (a tributary of the Amu Darya) where it leaves the Zerevshan Mountains. Elevations within the city are about 2,200 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:43	10:41	11:56	13:14	14:21	14:56	14:41	13:44	12:30	11:12	10:03	9:26
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:31	4:57	5:39	7:24	10:17	12:38	12:58	11:59	10:38	7:52	6:00	4:30
AREA OF BLUE SKY	42%	43%	40%	48%	67%	83%	89%	92%	90%	73%	58%	47%
LOW FOR MONTH	11°	16°	25°	35°	41°	53°	57°	54°	42°	32°	23°	12°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	27°	29°	38°	48°	55°	62°	64°	61°	53°	43°	36°	31°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	43°	46°	56°	70°	79°	90°	93°	90°	82°	70°	59°	48°
HIGH FOR MONTH	60°	66°	74°	86°	94°	101°	102°	100°	93°	86°	78°	67°
FROSTY MORNINGS	68%	60%	28%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	31%	45%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	8%	47%	76%	54%	10%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	52%	51%	50%	41%	35%	27%	26%	27%	27%	35%	41%	48%
DRY DAYS	74%	75%	68%	66%	84%	94%	97%	97%	97%	90%	83%	77%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	88%	89%	83%	81%	92%	98%	99%	99%	99%	95%	92%	90%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.24	0.23	0.39	0.45	0.21	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.13	0.16	0.22
LIKELY SNOWFALL	8.9"	6.5"	3.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.3"	4.2"
SNOWY DAYS	17%	17%	8%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	5%	10%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	2%	7%	8%	4%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	11%	8%	6%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	8%	10%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine occurs on 68% of the year's daylight hours. This ranges from a low of 46% in January, to a high of 88% in July. The expected low temperature for the year will be around 6° at some windless winter sunrise, and the high will be near 103° on some sunny summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to four degrees cooler than actual ones. Snow flurries are common during the winter months, but the ground rarely remains snow-covered for more than a few days at a time. During the winter months, strong gravity winds blow downslope from the nearby mountains. Similar in nature to the *föhn* of Europe and the *chinook* of North America, they simultaneously raise temperatures and lower humidities very rapidly. This results in the virtual disappearance of any snow cover that happens to be around. The shepherds of these mountains have a saying that "two days of these snow-eating winds is better than two weeks of sunshine".