

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

LOCATION: Belfast, the capital and primate city of Northern Ireland, is located in the east-central part of the country. The city is situated on the shores of Belfast Lough, an inlet off of the North Channel. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	7:56	9:41	11:49	14:03	16:03	17:11	16:42	14:57	12:48	10:35	8:33	7:24
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:28	2:21	3:15	5:03	6:07	5:49	4:34	4:25	3:36	2:41	1:52	1:11
AREA OF BLUE SKY	27%	31%	36%	40%	36%	34%	29%	31%	37%	33%	33%	29%
LOW FOR MONTH	20°	22°	25°	28°	31°	37°	42°	41°	37°	31°	27°	24°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	34°	34°	36°	39°	43°	48°	52°	51°	48°	44°	39°	36°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	43°	44°	48°	53°	58°	63°	65°	65°	61°	55°	48°	45°
HIGH FOR MONTH	52°	52°	58°	63°	70°	74°	74°	73°	69°	63°	56°	53°
FROSTY MORNINGS	32%	30%	21%	14%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	18%	23%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	84%	78%	73%	68%	65%	67%	70%	72%	75%	79%	82%	85%
NEARBY WATERS	47°	45°	45°	46°	49°	52°	55°	56°	56°	54°	52°	50°
DRY DAYS	33%	41%	46%	48%	50%	49%	42%	41%	41%	39%	37%	34%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	71%	75%	75%	74%	75%	74%	71%	70%	69%	67%	68%	70%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.55	0.43	0.38	0.36	0.36	0.42	0.51	0.54	0.52	0.56	0.54	0.57
LIKELY SNOWFALL	7.5"	6.3"	4.7"	1.2"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.4"	4.1"
SNOWY DAYS	15%	15%	11%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	8%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%	3%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	7%	8%	3%	5%	4%	4%	3%	6%	6%	4%	6%	7%

COMMENTS: Clear days are rare in this part of the world. You can expect them perhaps twice a month. As a consequence, they are highly prized. Belfast summers are mild, not hot. Only rarely are they even warm. Similarly, winters are quite raw and chilly, but nowhere near as cold as the latitude might suggest. Frosty mornings can be expected any time between late October and the end of April, but they are outnumbered two to one by days that never get below freezing. Afternoons that remain below freezing happen about twice a year, during Arctic outbreaks that put the mainland of Europe into the "deep freeze". Snow is common enough during the winter, but rain is four time more likely. As a result, the ground is rarely snow-covered, and when it is, it soon melts. Much of the rain that characterizes the area comes in the form of day-long light drizzles or heavy mists. Although they don't bring much rain, they do get things wet. The Irish refer to such weather as a "soft day". Philosophical acceptance and warm woollens help.