

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE GRAND CANYON (BOTTOM), ARIZONA

LOCATION: The Grand Canyon of the Colorado River is located in northwestern Arizona. Much of it now lies within the boundaries of either Grand Canyon National Park or Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Most of the canyon bottom lies between 2,500 and 3,200 feet above sea level, with the North Rim towering a mile and more above it, and the South Rim only 1,500 feet lower. The only way you can get to the bottom of the Grand Canyon is to hike, ride a horse or mule (mule is better), or ride the river in a boat or raft. Except for several campsites, the Phantom Ranch is the only place to stay in the canyon bottom, and the only place to eat. Reservations for both are absolutely necessary.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:01	10:51	11:57	13:06	14:04	14:35	14:22	13:32	12:27	11:19	10:18	9:46
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:17	8:03	9:01	10:28	12:05	12:41	10:18	9:39	10:01	9:08	8:03	7:00
AREA OF BLUE SKY	49%	48%	48%	53%	59%	71%	51%	53%	66%	65%	59%	52%
LOW FOR MONTH	27°	30°	35°	41°	49°	58°	67°	66°	57°	45°	33°	28°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	37°	41°	47°	55°	63°	72°	77°	74°	69°	59°	45°	37°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	56°	62°	71°	82°	91°	101°	106°	102°	97°	84°	68°	57°
HIGH FOR MONTH	73°	79°	86°	95°	103°	111°	113°	111°	108°	97°	83°	73°
FROSTY MORNINGS	25%	9%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	29%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	17%	66%	93%	100%	97%	91%	39%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	44%	35%	26%	20%	17%	13%	17%	20%	20%	24%	34%	42%
DRY DAYS	92%	87%	88%	88%	94%	97%	85%	82%	91%	92%	93%	90%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	88%	90%	89%	91%	97%	97%	89%	85%	94%	94%	93%	92%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.12	0.14	0.13	0.09	0.05	0.05	0.14	0.24	0.14	0.11	0.08	0.14
LIKELY SNOWFALL	0.4"	0.1"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	0.7"
SNOWY DAYS	13%	7%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	23%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	3%	6%	11%	13%	50%	49%	22%	7%	2%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	3%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely to occur on 77% of the year's daylight hours. This will probably range from a low of 71% in August, to a high of 87% in June. The expected lowest temperature for the year will be around 24° on some windless winter sunrise, and the most probable highest will be near 114° on some blazing summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will generally be up to 10° cooler than actual ones. The effect of the canyon walls is to shade out the bottom during both the early morning hours and the late afternoon hours. This shading will vary considerably, depending upon the width and orientation of the canyon wherever you happen to be. Consequently, these reduced hours of sunshine are *not* shown in the table. All drinking water from natural sources must be purified. *Giardiasis* is rife.