

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, NEVADA & ARIZONA

LOCATION: Lake Mead National Recreation Area is located on the border between Nevada and Arizona just down the Colorado River from and adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park. The Recreation Area is composed primarily of two reservoirs and the land around them. Lake Mead itself lies behind Hoover (Boulder) Dam, and Lake Mohave lies behind Davis Dam a bit further downstream. Elevations range from just over 600 feet at Davis Dam to some 8,000 feet above sea level on the north rim of the canyon. The NRA covers some 2,227 square miles of lakes, canyons, and plateaus. The HQ is in Boulder City.

	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	10:19	9:46
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:37	8:30	9:34	10:58	12:14	13:18	11:54	11:18	11:00	9:37	8:18	7:24
AREA OF BLUE SKY	54%	54%	55%	61%	66%	77%	67%	70%	76%	72%	63%	58%
LOW FOR MONTH	30°	33°	38°	46°	55°	63°	72°	71°	62°	48°	37°	30°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	39°	43°	48°	56°	65°	74°	80°	79°	71°	59°	47°	39°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	62°	68°	75°	84°	94°	105°	110°	108°	101°	87°	72°	62°
HIGH FOR MONTH	72°	78°	88°	97°	107°	116°	118°	116°	111°	99°	82°	71°
FROSTY MORNINGS	11%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	13%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	5%	32%	72%	95%	99%	99%	93%	44%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	33%	27%	21%	16%	14%	11%	16%	18%	17%	20%	27%	33%
NEARBY WATERS	54°	55°	55°	57°	68°	72°	80°	83°	78°	70°	63°	58°
DRY DAYS	87%	85%	88%	93%	95%	97%	94%	94%	93%	94%	93%	91%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	93%	92%	94%	97%	98%	99%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.12	0.16	0.13	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	2%	3%	5%	6%	22%	22%	10%	3%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 83% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a “low” of 76% in December and January, to a high of 91% in June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 28° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 119° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 10° cooler than actual ones—particularly during the summer months. Contrary to popular expectations, the presence of even large lakes does very little to increase the extremely low humidity during the summer months. You can easily get cracked lips while boating, or even while swimming. A hat, sun-screen, lip salve, and sunglasses are good ideas in all seasons. This is a major recreation area for the region, and just about anything connected with water sports is available.