

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE RIVERSIDE AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Riverside, once the major city of southern California, is located in the eastern portion of the great Los Angeles metropolitan area. The city (as its name implies) is situated along the south bank of the Santa Ana River, and backs up into the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains. Elevations vary with distance from the river, but generally range from 800 to 1,600 feet above sea level. A major citrus-growing area, the city is also home to a branch of the University of California.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:11	10:57	11:57	13:01	13:55	14:23	14:11	13:26	12:26	11:22	10:27	9:57
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:21	6:36	7:19	8:52	9:19	11:55	11:20	11:26	9:54	8:34	8:11	7:14
AREA OF BLUE SKY	51%	46%	46%	52%	54%	71%	73%	79%	72%	64%	66%	58%
LOW FOR MONTH	29°	32°	33°	37°	42°	46°	50°	50°	47°	39°	33°	30°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	38°	40°	42°	46°	50°	54°	58°	58°	55°	49°	42°	39°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	66°	68°	71°	75°	79°	87°	94°	94°	91°	82°	75°	68°
HIGH FOR MONTH	80°	81°	86°	90°	94°	102°	106°	103°	103°	96°	87°	81°
FROSTY MORNINGS	16%	9%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	13%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	5%	10%	35%	75%	73%	51%	21%	2%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	38%	41%	45%	38%	39%	34%	32%	29%	29%	33%	30%	34%
DRY DAYS	80%	80%	79%	87%	93%	98%	99%	98%	96%	92%	90%	84%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	87%	88%	89%	94%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	97%	94%	91%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.34	0.36	0.30	0.15	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.08	0.14	0.27
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	3%	4%	3%	2%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	17%	17%	23%	21%	21%	25%	20%	17%	19%	26%	17%	15%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 73% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a “low” of 60% in still-sunny February, to a high of 85% in even sunnier August. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 27° at some clear and windless winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 108° on some clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and windless conditions make the high temperatures higher and the low temperatures lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be significantly lower than actual ones throughout the year, due to the relatively low humidity. Afternoon humidity figures in the table above should be read with caution. When the fog and low cloud is present, the humidity will be higher. When skies are clear, it will be lower. Local climates are strongly influenced by how much fog and low cloud they get. This, in turn, is influenced by distance from the sea, elevation, and local hills and dales. The fog and low cloud layer is not very deep. Higher elevations may escape it entirely, while the valley bottoms and low spots may have more than the table shows. Local residents will be happy to point out the climatic advantages of their own particular neighborhoods.