

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SAN FRANCISCO CITY AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: San Francisco is located on California's Pacific Coast, about two-thirds of the way up from the Mexican Border. The city occupies the northern end of a hilly peninsula, between the Pacific Ocean to the west and San Francisco Bay to the east. Elevations in the city range from sea level up to more than 900 feet above it. San Francisco's climate probably varies more from one neighborhood to another in terms of sunshine, temperatures, and fogginess than any other major city in the country. The table values are representative of the Mission district, which is the least foggy part of the city. Consequently, it is also the sunniest and the warmest. Other parts of the city will be foggier, less sunny, and cooler.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:53	10:47	11:56	13:09	14:12	14:44	14:31	13:38	12:29	11:16	10:12	9:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:20	6:26	7:54	9:23	10:05	10:55	9:47	8:46	8:53	7:51	6:24	5:13
AREA OF BLUE SKY	47%	48%	51%	57%	58%	64%	59%	56%	64%	63%	57%	48%
LOW FOR MONTH	39°	42°	43°	45°	47°	50°	50°	51°	52°	50°	45°	40°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	45°	48°	49°	50°	51°	53°	53°	54°	55°	54°	51°	47°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	56°	59°	61°	63°	64°	66°	65°	66°	69°	69°	63°	57°
HIGH FOR MONTH	65°	69°	74°	78°	81°	83°	80°	80°	87°	85°	74°	66°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	3%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	68%	66%	62%	62%	65%	67%	73%	73%	65%	61%	62%	68%
NEARBY WATERS	52°	52°	54°	53°	55°	56°	60°	62°	60°	58°	56°	56°
DRY DAYS	65%	62%	67%	80%	88%	94%	99%	99%	94%	87%	75%	68%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	76%	77%	81%	90%	96%	99%	99%	99%	98%	94%	84%	77%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.73	0.63	0.50	0.25	0.09	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.16	0.41	0.66
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	8%	6%	3%	1%	3%	3%	3%	5%	3%	5%	9%	5%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on two-thirds of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 54% in foggy December and January, to a high of 74% in sunny June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 37° at some chilly winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 90° on some windless summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be two to three degrees *cooler* than actual ones, due to the dampness. Mark Twain once remarked, "The coldest winter I ever experienced was one summer in San Francisco." For most of the year, the ocean side of the city is the foggiest and coolest, with the fog rolling in during the late afternoon and not burning off until late morning. During the coolest months, the Bay side is the foggiest, with the same daily pattern. The fog layer is only a few hundred feet thick, and some higher neighborhoods escape much of it.