

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO FORT BRAGG AND THE MENDOCINO COAST, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Fort Bragg is located in Mendocino County on California's northern coast. The town is situated on a level area between the mouths of the Noyo River and Pudding Creek. Elevations are close to sea level. The resort town of *Mendocino* is a few miles south along CA-1. Fort Bragg is the service center for this entire stretch of coast, which includes (from north to south) *Westport-Union Landing State Beach*, *MacKerricher State Park*, *Russian Gulch State Park*, *Van Damme State Park*, *Navarro River Redwoods State Park*, and *Manchester State Beach*—all of which have campgrounds. There are also a slew of Parks, Beaches, and Reserves that have no camping facilities, but are popular for day use. Finally, there is the *Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens* and the famous “*Skunk Train*” that runs inland through the forest to *Willits* and return.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:44	10:42	11:56	13:13	14:20	14:55	14:40	13:44	12:30	11:13	10:04	9:27
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:46	5:39	7:21	8:58	10:08	10:56	9:58	8:50	8:08	6:51	5:30	4:29
AREA OF BLUE SKY	31%	30%	33%	36%	40%	43%	45%	43%	47%	44%	36%	35%
LOW FOR MONTH	28°	29°	30°	33°	36°	41°	43°	43°	41°	36°	32°	29°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	40°	41°	41°	43°	46°	48°	49°	50°	49°	47°	44°	41°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	56°	57°	58°	59°	62°	64°	64°	65°	66°	64°	60°	56°
HIGH FOR MONTH	69°	71°	71°	73°	77°	76°	75°	77°	82°	81°	73°	69°
FROSTY MORNINGS	13%	7%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	9%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	73%	71%	68%	63%	65%	61%	65%	68%	63%	63%	75%	67%
NEARBY WATERS	52°	51°	51°	50°	51°	52°	52°	54°	54°	54°	55°	55°
DRY DAYS	48%	46%	52%	67%	77%	87%	90%	87%	83%	71%	53%	48%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	63%	64%	68%	81%	90%	96%	99%	97%	95%	86%	70%	65%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.24	1.16	0.86	0.45	0.23	0.08	0.01	0.03	0.10	0.38	0.85	1.10
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	22%	24%	21%	28%	36%	46%	59%	58%	50%	45%	24%	20%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 61% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 47% in December, to a high of 73% in sunny (and often foggy) June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 26° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 83° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and calm airs tend to make the high temperatures higher and the low ones lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 3° cooler than actual ones, due to the humidity and the cool winds off the sea. The Pacific Ocean dominates the climate of the area, with the prevailing winds off the sea throughout the year. These often bring fog/low cloud inland in the late afternoon and evening hours, which may not burn off until noon of the next day—if then.