

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO FORT MATANZAS NATIONAL MONUMENT, FLORIDA

LOCATION: Fort Matanzas National Monument is located on the Atlantic coast of northeastern Florida. The Monument is situated on barrier islands at the mouth of the Matanzas River, some fifteen miles south of St. Augustine. The Monument consists of some 300 acres, only part of which is open to the public. Much of the lower end of Anastasia Island is set aside as the Least Tern nesting area and wildlife preserve. The Visitor Center is located off FL-A1A on Anastasia Island. A short ferry ride leads to Fort Matanzas on Rattlesnake Island. There are nature trails, boardwalks, and car access to a portion of the beach on Anastasia Island. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:29	11:08	11:59	12:53	13:38	14:01	13:52	13:13	12:23	11:29	10:42	10:17
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:02	6:47	8:00	9:14	9:38	8:51	8:48	8:22	7:14	6:44	6:24	5:36
AREA OF BLUE SKY	45%	46%	49%	53%	51%	43%	42%	43%	42%	49%	51%	45%
LOW FOR MONTH	30°	33°	38°	48°	57°	66°	70°	71°	66°	52°	39°	32°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	47°	48°	54°	60°	67°	72°	74°	74°	74°	67°	57°	49°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	64°	66°	71°	78°	83°	87°	90°	89°	86°	80°	73°	67°
HIGH FOR MONTH	80°	82°	85°	90°	93°	95°	97°	96°	93°	89°	84°	81°
FROSTY MORNINGS	7%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	1%	4%	14%	31%	52%	42%	20%	3%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	63%	61%	58%	57%	61%	67%	68%	71%	69%	66%	64%	63%
NEARBY WATERS	68°	66°	69°	72°	77°	80°	83°	83°	82°	79°	74°	67°
DRY DAYS	72%	72%	75%	81%	77%	60%	59%	59%	63%	69%	77%	78%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	84%	82%	84%	89%	86%	73%	74%	73%	74%	81%	87%	88%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.46	0.59	0.50	0.34	0.42	0.88	0.86	0.93	1.02	0.72	0.36	0.33
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	3%	6%	10%	13%	23%	41%	54%	47%	26%	7%	3%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	20%	13%	10%	9%	7%	4%	3%	4%	4%	9%	15%	17%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 63% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 54% in December, to a high of 72% in April. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 27°, and the highest should be near 98°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be substantially higher than actual ones from June through September. Humidities are high throughout the year. Winter (December through February) has mild to warm days (sometimes quite cool) and chilly to cold nights. Temperatures will drop below freezing on three or four occasions during the winter nights. Summer (June through September) features hot to very hot days and warm and sultry nights. Afternoon and evening thundershowers are characteristic of this season. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition, but bring the Monument some of its best weather of the year. The official hurricane season runs from June through November. Fort Matanzas has one chance in fifty of having a hurricane pass over in any given year.