

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO LOUISVILLE AND THE KENTUCKY DERBY

LOCATION: Louisville, home to Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby, is located on the south bank of the Ohio River in north-central Kentucky (and across the river in southeastern Indiana). Elevations are usually between 400 and 600 feet above sea level. Louisville becomes a world-class destination on the first Saturday in May every year. This is the date of the Kentucky Derby, the “Run for the Roses”. Needless to say, advance reservations for accommodation and meals are a necessity. The city is also a center for the production of bourbon whiskey and burley tobacco.

| | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| HOURS OF DAYLIGHT | 9:50 | 10:45 | 11:56 | 13:11 | 14:14 | 14:47 | 14:33 | 13:40 | 12:29 | 11:15 | 10:09 | 9:34 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE | 4:02 | 5:09 | 6:13 | 7:27 | 8:55 | 10:04 | 10:18 | 9:18 | 8:19 | 7:03 | 4:57 | 3:47 |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY | 29% | 33% | 35% | 38% | 41% | 45% | 48% | 49% | 51% | 51% | 39% | 30% |
| LOW FOR MONTH | 4 ° | 9 ° | 19 ° | 31 ° | 40 ° | 52 ° | 58 ° | 56 ° | 45 ° | 32 ° | 21 ° | 10 ° |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE | 26 ° | 28 ° | 36 ° | 46 ° | 56 ° | 65 ° | 68 ° | 66 ° | 60 ° | 48 ° | 38 ° | 29 ° |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE | 42 ° | 45 ° | 55 ° | 66 ° | 76 ° | 84 ° | 88 ° | 87 ° | 81 ° | 69 ° | 55 ° | 45 ° |
| HIGH FOR MONTH | 64 ° | 67 ° | 77 ° | 84 ° | 89 ° | 95 ° | 96 ° | 96 ° | 92 ° | 85 ° | 74 ° | 65 ° |
| FROSTY MORNINGS | 68% | 63% | 36% | 5% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 4% | 29% | 60% |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90 ° | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% | 3% | 24% | 40% | 31% | 13% | 1% | 0% | 0% |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY | 64% | 59% | 54% | 50% | 52% | 53% | 53% | 53% | 53% | 52% | 58% | 64% |
| DRY DAYS | 62% | 64% | 60% | 60% | 64% | 65% | 69% | 72% | 73% | 75% | 68% | 64% |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS | 80% | 79% | 74% | 76% | 76% | 79% | 79% | 82% | 84% | 85% | 79% | 79% |
| DRY HOURS | 80% | 82% | 85% | 89% | 91% | 95% | 95% | 96% | 94% | 93% | 88% | 82% |
| LIKELY SNOWFALL | 4.5" | 3.9" | 2.5" | 0.2" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.0" | 0.1" | 0.7" | 2.6" |
| DAYS WITH SOME SNOW | 14% | 13% | 7% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% | 7% |
| DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER | 3% | 4% | 10% | 14% | 21% | 28% | 26% | 22% | 12% | 6% | 4% | 1% |
| DAYS WITH SOME FOG | 5% | 3% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 3% | 4% | 3% | 5% |

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 58% of the year’s daylight hours. This might range from a low of 39% in December, to a high of 71% in July. The year’s lowest temperature should be close to zero, and the highest should be near 98°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be essentially the same as actual ones. The area has a four-season year. Summer afternoons are generally sunny, hot, and moderately humid. Afternoon and early evening thundershowers are fairly common. Winter afternoons are generally cloudy, chilly to cold, and humid. Four out of five winter afternoons will warm to above the freezing point. Snowfalls are variable from year to year, and rarely remain on the ground for more than a day or two. The August through October period brings the most clear days (about 40%), and is generally considered to have the nicest weather.