

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE BEAVER ISLAND ARCHIPELAGO, MICHIGAN

LOCATION: The Beaver Island Archipelago is located in northeastern Lake Michigan, roughly halfway between Michigan's upper and lower peninsulas. The island group is politically attached to Charlevoix County, but has always enjoyed a certain measure of autonomy. The major town (and terminus of the 35-mile ferry crossing from Charlevoix) is St. James, at the northern tip of Beaver Island proper. Elevations range from lake level (574') to some 236 feet above it. The island landscape is that of rolling sandy hills, and is largely wooded.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:08	10:21	11:53	13:30	14:54	15:39	15:20	14:09	12:36	11:00	9:33	8:46
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:18	4:55	6:18	7:17	8:28	9:19	9:48	8:22	6:12	4:35	2:42	2:34
AREA OF BLUE SKY	27%	35%	38%	40%	41%	44%	49%	45%	38%	33%	22%	23%
LOW FOR MONTH	-4°	-7°	-1°	14°	28°	36°	45°	45°	36°	27°	13°	1°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	13°	11°	18°	30°	40°	50°	57°	57°	51°	41°	31°	20°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	26°	26°	35°	47°	60°	70°	76°	74°	67°	57°	43°	32°
HIGH FOR MONTH	38°	40°	51°	67°	80°	86°	89°	87°	83°	75°	59°	45°
FROSTY MORNINGS	100%	100%	93%	63%	16%	0%	0%	0%	1%	15%	57%	91%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	73%	70%	67%	60%	58%	61%	63%	63%	66%	66%	74%	76%
NEARBY WATERS	39°	37°	35°	36°	38°	42°	52°	59°	58°	50°	45°	45°
DRY DAYS	55%	60%	67%	67%	65%	66%	66%	67%	61%	62%	58%	56%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	83%	86%	84%	80%	78%	77%	83%	80%	76%	80%	79%	80%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.25	0.23	0.25	0.37	0.44	0.46	0.40	0.44	0.53	0.40	0.41	0.28
LIKELY SNOWFALL	16.9"	13.0"	10.2"	2.5"	0.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.2"	4.4"	13.7"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	45%	40%	22%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	35%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	3%	6%	11%	19%	21%	18%	13%	5%	2%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	5%	6%	8%	8%	8%	8%	10%	13%	14%	11%	7%	6%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on half of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 28% in November, to a high of 64% in July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to -9° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 90° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be a degree or two cooler than actual ones during the warmer weather, and pretty much the same as actual ones the rest of the time. The ground is usually frozen and snow-covered from late November through early April. Temperatures will drop below zero perhaps a dozen times during the winter months. Summers are short and warm more often than hot. The effects of Lake Michigan are such that all of the seasons are delayed about two weeks over what might be expected on either mainland.