

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO MISSOULA AND THE BITTERROOT MOUNTAINS, MONTANA

LOCATION: Missoula is located in Missoula County in the central part of Montana's far west. The town is situated on the Clark's Fork of the Missouri River at the foot of the Bitterroot Mountains. Elevations are a bit over 3,000 feet above sea level. Missoula is Montana's cultural center, and the home of the University of Montana. It is very much an outdoor-related community. I-90 connects it with Idaho and the rest of Montana.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:00	10:16	11:53	13:34	15:02	15:49	15:29	14:14	12:37	10:57	9:27	8:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:00	4:21	6:08	7:34	8:45	9:33	12:22	10:52	8:28	5:55	3:03	2:23
AREA OF BLUE SKY	16%	20%	23%	26%	31%	36%	61%	57%	47%	34%	19%	14%
LOW FOR MONTH	-9°	-2°	8°	21°	29°	36°	41°	40°	30°	21°	7°	-2°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	14°	19°	25°	32°	39°	46°	50°	49°	41°	32°	24°	17°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	30°	37°	46°	58°	66°	74°	85°	83°	71°	58°	41°	32°
HIGH FOR MONTH	46°	51°	63°	77°	85°	92°	98°	96°	89°	76°	57°	49°
FROSTY MORNINGS	94%	92%	82%	54%	17%	1%	0%	0%	12%	55%	84%	94%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	8%	29%	28%	3%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	76%	66%	52%	41%	42%	42%	31%	30%	38%	50%	71%	79%
DRY DAYS	61%	66%	68%	69%	65%	63%	79%	79%	76%	75%	65%	62%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	89%	91%	91%	88%	83%	82%	91%	90%	89%	90%	89%	89%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.17	0.15	0.15	0.17	0.29	0.32	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.16	0.17	0.18
LIKELY SNOWFALL	11.3"	7.0"	5.7"	2.0"	0.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.2"	5.4"	9.5"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	38%	29%	22%	9%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	19%	35%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	0%	2%	11%	18%	20%	19%	6%	1%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	15%	14%	5%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	10%	15%	21%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 54% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 28% in December, to a high of 80% in July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to -17 on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 99 on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 4° cooler than actual ones during the summer months, and pretty much the same as actual ones during the winter months. Winters are long and cold. From November through February, about one afternoon in three will fail to warm to above freezing, and a dozen sunrises will start out below zero. July and August bring the area its best weather.