

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CHARLOTTESVILLE HISTORIC AREA, VIRGINIA

LOCATION: Charlottesville, the birthplace and home of Thomas Jefferson, is located in central Virginia, some 100 miles southwest of Washington, D. C.. The city is situated at the eastern foot of the Blue Ridge mountains, at an elevation of almost 900 feet above sea level. The area's topography ranges from hilly to steep mountains. Most of the historic attractions in the area relate to Jefferson: i. e., Monticello (Jefferson's home), and the University of Virginia (designed by Jefferson). The exceptions are Ash Lawn - Highland (home of James Monroe), Richie Tavern (1780), and the Blue Ridge Parkway (1935-1987).

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:51	10:46	11:56	13:10	14:13	14:46	14:32	13:39	12:29	11:15	10:10	9:35
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:48	5:50	6:51	7:52	8:54	9:36	9:20	8:33	7:46	6:58	5:35	4:44
AREA OF BLUE SKY	42%	44%	45%	46%	45%	46%	47%	47%	51%	56%	49%	45%
LOW FOR MONTH	11°	13°	20°	29°	39°	50°	56°	55°	43°	33°	22°	13°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	28°	28°	36°	45°	55°	63°	67°	65°	59°	49°	39°	30°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	45°	47°	56°	68°	76°	83°	87°	85°	80°	69°	58°	47°
HIGH FOR MONTH	66°	69°	78°	88°	91°	95°	98°	96°	94°	86°	77°	67°
FROSTY MORNINGS	76%	71%	40%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	25%	66%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	3%	5%	22%	34%	29%	13%	2%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	54%	51%	47%	45%	51%	53%	55%	56%	55%	52%	52%	55%
DRY DAYS	71%	72%	69%	68%	66%	63%	61%	64%	72%	77%	75%	73%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	81%	79%	77%	80%	77%	80%	76%	77%	82%	84%	83%	82%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.53	0.54	0.60	0.58	0.65	0.72	0.75	0.74	0.64	0.58	0.48	0.53
LIKELY SNOWFALL	6.2"	6.2"	4.3"	0.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	1.0"	3.7"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	12%	12%	6%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	2%	5%	8%	10%	14%	10%	3%	2%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	12%	18%	13%	17%	24%	27%	35%	39%	31%	19%	16%	15%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 59% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 49% in December and January, to a high of 65% in June. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 6°, and the highest should be near 99°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 3° warmer than actual ones during July and August, and a degree or two cooler than actual ones during the cooler months. About a third of the days will be clear and sunny, with October leading the way with 44%. The mountains to the west of town give the area milder winters than many places closer to the coast. Below-zero temperatures, in particular, are extremely rare. On the other hand, summer afternoons can be quite hot and humid, despite the higher elevation. You can expect afternoon temperatures to drop about 1°F for each 300' increase in elevation, should you decide to drive the Blue Ridge Parkway.