

# SUNSHINE GUIDE TO BERLIN, GERMANY

SEASONS: Berlin has the same four-season year that most of us are familiar with. Spring (April and May) is the season when the annual plants start to sprout and the deciduous trees leaf out. Spring weather alternates between wintry conditions and promises of warmth. Summer (June through mid-September) is the season of long warm days and full vegetative growth. Autumn (mid-September through mid-November) is the season when the annuals die, the deciduous trees drop their leaves, and the first frosts appear. Winter (mid-November through March) is the season of vegetative rest, snow, and cold.

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	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
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HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:17	9:52	11:50	13:54	15:44	16:44	16:18			
	14:43	12:45	10:42	8:50	7:47					

HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:28	2:17	4:06	5:49	7:28	8:11	7:36	7:00		
	5:31	3:25	1:38	1:06						

AREA OF BLUE SKY	27%	28%	34%	40%	44%	44%	39%	42%		
	45%	35%	27%	23%						

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LOW FOR MONTH	11°	11°	20°	28°	34°	42°	47°	46°	38°	
	30°	23°	14°							

SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	26°	26°	32°	38°	46°	52°	56°	55°		
	49°	41°	34°	29°						

AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	35°	37°	46°	55°	65°	71°	74°	73°		
	67°	55°	44°	37°						

HIGH FOR MONTH	48°	50°	62°	72°	82°	86°	89°	87°	81°	
	69°	56°	50°							

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FROSTY MORNINGS	67%	67%	45%	12%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
	0%	5%	29%	55%						

AFTERNOONS OVER 90° 0% 0% 0% 0% 0% 2% 3% 3%  
0% 0% 0% 0%

AFTERNOON HUMIDITY 82% 76% 65% 58% 54% 56% 57%  
59% 62% 71% 81% 85%

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CHANCES OF A DRY DAY 84% 85% 84% 84% 83% 76% 82%  
82% 86% 87% 83% 78%

TOTAL PRECIPITATION 1.9" 1.4" 1.4" 1.7" 1.9" 2.4" 3.0" 2.4" 1.9"  
1.8" 1.7" 1.8"

SNOWY DAYS 27% 24% 15% 5% 1% 0% 0% 0%  
0% 1% 8% 18%

THUNDER DAYS 0% 0% 2% 4% 13% 17% 16% 14%  
5% 1% 1% 0%

FOGGY DAYS 11% 13% 6% 3% 1% 1% 0% 2%  
5% 12% 20% 19%

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NICE DAY INDEX 52% 54% 62% 71% 75% 74% 77% 77%  
75% 69% 55% 49%

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**SUNNIEST MONTHS:** May through August. This is when you can expect to get the sunniest weather of the year. In general, only 38% of the year's daylight hours will be sunny--from a high of 49% in June, to a low of 14% in December. Spring and Autumn get the most clear days, about one day in six or seven. More than half the days in December and January never see the sun at all.

The long summer days are made even longer by about fifty minutes of twilight before sunrise and the same after sunset.

**WARMEST MONTHS:** Early June through August. Berlin summers usually feature warm days (rather than hot) and cool nights. The hottest actual temperature of the year will be around 91°, and will probably occur in July.

Only occasionally during this period will the nights be hot enough that you will sleep better with some sort of room-cooling.

**COOLEST MONTHS:** January and February. At this time of year, you can expect frosty mornings on about two-thirds of the days. On two days out of five, be ready for afternoon temperatures to remain below freezing the whole day. The coldest temperature of the year will be around 4°, and will probably occur in February.

Snowfalls will usually total about twenty inches for the season, and the ground is often snow-covered for days at a time.

**DRIEST MONTHS:** March and September. Some 44% of the year's days will get no measurable precipitation; that is, they will get less than a hundredth of an inch. March and September will have 63% such days, whereas November and January will get only 48%. A "dry day" in the table, however, is one with less than a tenth of an inch--a more useful measure. It takes at least that much to wet the ground under the trees.

The summer thundershowers seem to prefer the late afternoon and early evening, but the rest of the precipitation seems to have no preferred time of day. In addition, most summer rainstorms are brief. In contrast, many winter storms--both snow and rain--may persist for several days.

**THINGS TO KNOW:** Berlin will often have a distinct "urban heat island" effect. Under windless and rainless conditions (or near), the city center will be many degrees warmer than the outlying suburbs. This is especially noticeable at night and in the winter. Precipitation of any kind diminishes this effect, and a strong wind will eliminate it completely. Snow is typically much lighter in the city center, and melts more quickly.

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