



CHINA & THE FAR EAST
Regional Travel Information and Map

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NORTHEAST ASIA





Beijing capital of China for over 600 years where past and present merge as a kaleidoscope of historic wonders and modern marvels. Beijing is your gateway to all that is China.



Terracotta Warriors and Horses Museum in Xian part of the world's largest ancient funerary complex - here lies the foundations of a united Chinese empire where an imperial honour guard protects the secrets of her imperial past.



Shanghai, China's window on the world - bright, bold, and breathtaking - rising from its treaty port past to embrace its future as the commercial capital of modern China.

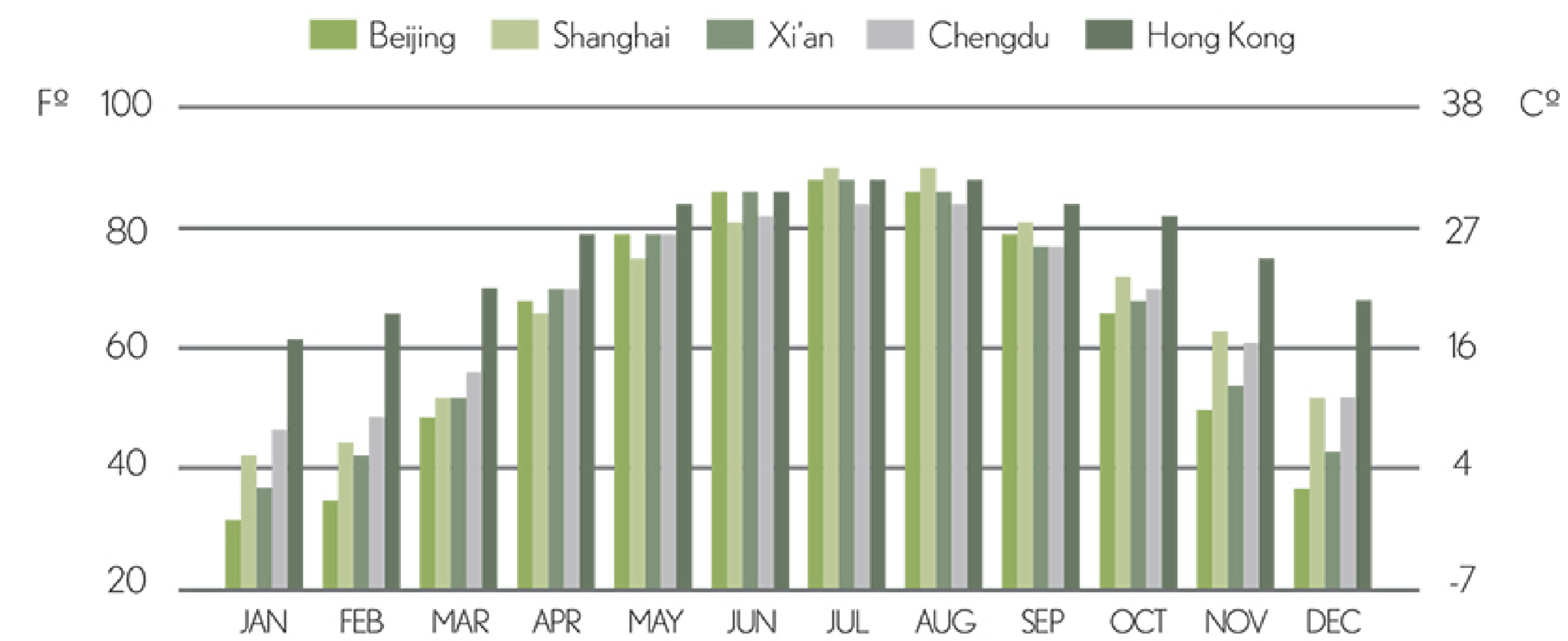


Hong Kong, east and west to produce the best - from its magnificent harbor, striking mountain backdrop, and glittering urban façade, there is only one Hong Kong - Asia's city of dreams.

CHINA

TEMPERATURE

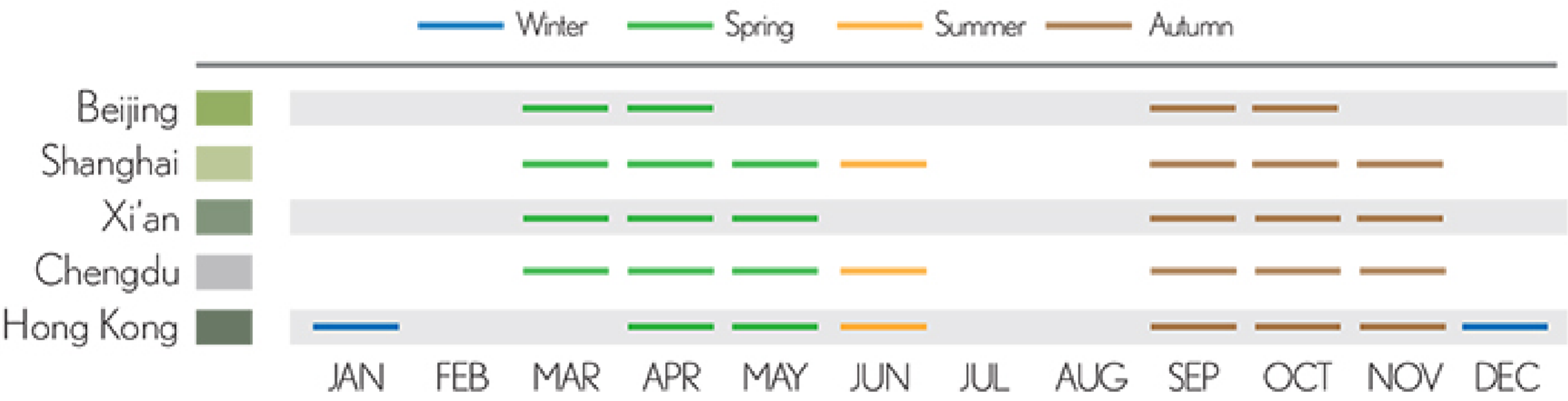
Average daily maximum temperature in F° and C°



Average days with rainfall

Beijing	2	3	4	5	6	9	14	12	7	6	5	2
Shanghai	11	12	14	15	15	15	12	11	13	12	11	11
Xi'an	3	4	8	9	10	11	12	12	13	11	6	3
Chengdu	14	13	16	16	18	19	20	20	19	18	10	9
Hong Kong	6	9	10	11	15	19	17	17	14	8	6	4
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL



Timezone GMT +8hr

Currency Chinese Yuan (CNY, or Renminbi) in Mainland China; and Hong Kong Dollar in Hong Kong

Beijing

Beijing has been the heart and soul of China throughout its illustrious history. A fascinating city that has enchanted the imaginations of visitors for centuries. Behold the juxtaposition of Chinese history and development, from the Great Wall and Forbidden City to the wonders of modern architecture of the Olympic Village, Beijing is all about grandiosity.

Shanghai

A bustling metropolis, Shanghai has always captured ones imagination with its seductive mix of tradition and sophistication, seamlessly merged with a cosmopolitan air. Shanghai has always epitomised modern China while its history remains one of its biggest draws.

Xi'an

The home of the famed tomb complex of Emperor Qin, with its resident army of intricately detailed life-size terracotta soldiers, Xi'an is a historian's paradise which served as the ruling seat for 11 different dynastic periods in ancient Chinese History.

Chengdu

Chengdu is home to the panda, one of China's national treasures. These endangered species live in natural habitats within the Chengdu Panda Breeding and Research Centre, and are a must see. Face-changing shows, Mount Emei and Giant Leshan Buddha are also the highlights of this Sichuan Capital.

Hong Kong

A city of dazzling contrasts, Hong Kong is a unique blend of East and West. Marvel at the sights, from the peaks of Kowloon and New Territories providing a stunning backdrop of deep water to the glimmering high-rise buildings that signal the energy and prosperity of the city.



Yunnan, the land south of the clouds – mountains, meadows, and so much more – 26 minority cultures and a tableaux of landscapes that defy description – the true Shangri-la.



The Fabled Silk Road - travel the sands of time across China's vast northwest frontier in search of the secrets of a glorious past – Buddhist treasures, lost cities, towering mountains, and the world's most fascinating market experience.



"The scenery of **Guilin** is the finest under heaven", so goes an ancient adage that holds true to this day – a verdant ethereal wonderland of landscapes.

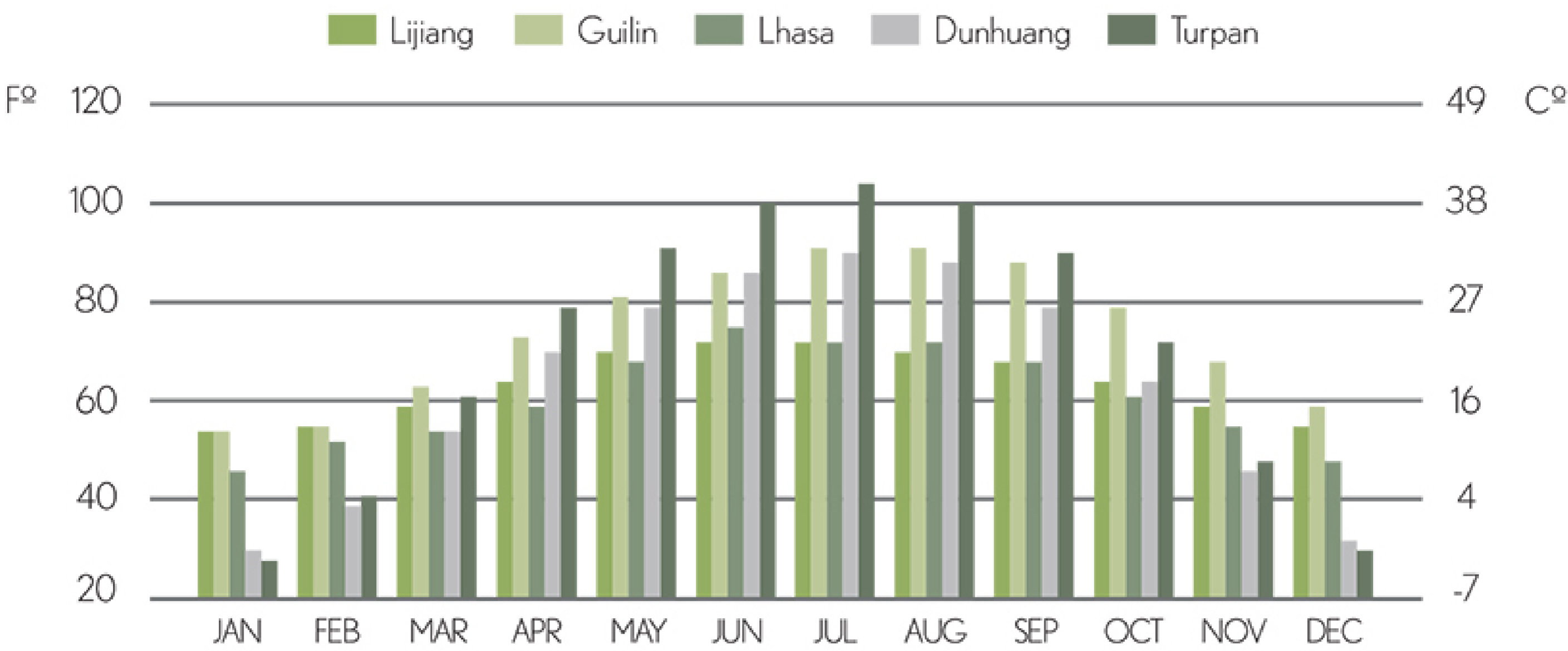


Lhasa, the city of the sun and most holy place of pilgrimage for Tibetan Buddhists is steeped in history and wonders: Explore its magnificent monasteries and palaces, and trace the pilgrim's progress along winding alleyways in her ancient Tibetan quarter.

CHINA

TEMPERATURE

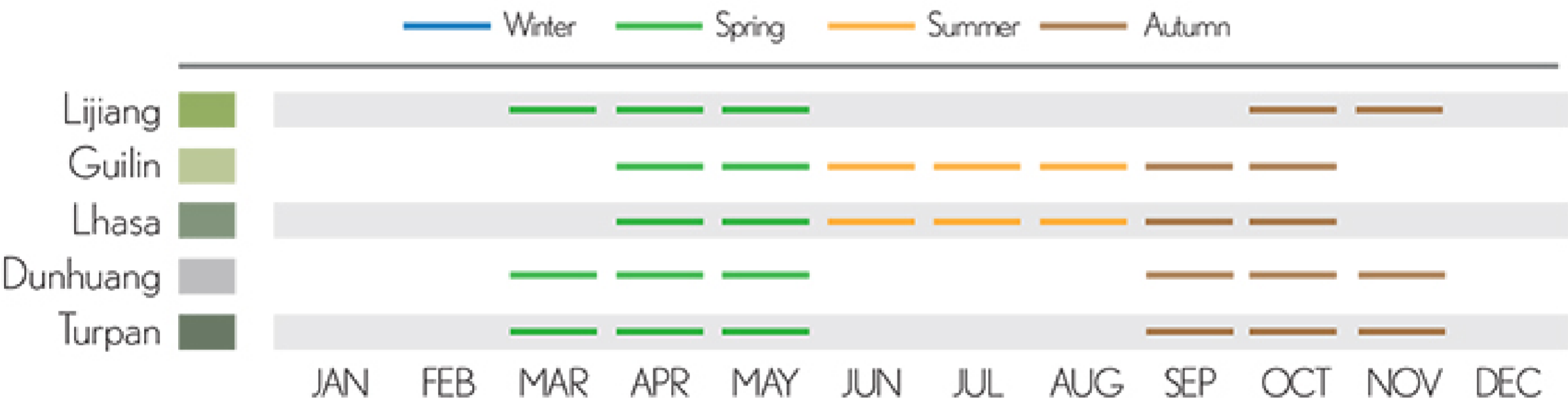
Average daily maximum temperature in F° and C°



Average days with rainfall

Lijiang	3	5	7	9	13	22	25	24	20	12	6	3
Guilin	14	14	18	21	19	18	15	15	9	11	11	11
Lhasa	1	1	2	4	10	15	20	21	15	5	1	1
Dunhuang	1	2	1	1	1	3	4	3	1	1	1	1
Turpan	2	0	1	1	1	2	3	3	2	1	0	1
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL



VISA INFORMATION

All visitors to China are required to carry a passport valid for 6 months beyond their intended length of stay. There should be sufficient blank pages for entry stamps upon arrival. A valid visa is required to enter China while most nationals do not require a visa to enter Hong Kong.

Overseas nationals from 56 countries are now able to enjoy a 144-hour visa free visit to certain Chinese cities if they are transiting through China on to a third country. For more information on which cities offer this service please contact us.

Lijiang

The charming, historic town nestled at the foot of the Himalayas in far-off Yunnan province. A region of great charm and natural beauty. If Yunnan province is said to be "South of the Clouds" then Lijiang sits aloft the highest and most beautiful of those clouds.

Guilin

A city famed for its rugged mountains, crystalline waters, verdant forests, and mysterious caves, Guilin, whose beauty has been celebrated for centuries in Chinese arts, enjoys a reputation for being the most beautiful place in China.

Lhasa

Coined as the "Third Pole" and "Roof of the World" for its altitude, Tibet's rich 2,000 year old religious roots can be visualized through the Jokhang Monastery, Potala Palace and Sanggye Dhungu cliff Buddha statues. Meet with Ani Tsangku Nuns at a chanting ceremony or attend a Lhasa monk scripture recital which is an enlightening experience in this ancient and mysterious part of the world.

Dunhuang

Dunhuang, known as Shazhou (the realm of sand), became an important garrison on the caravan routes linking China to central Asia and the Middle East. Its reputation grew even more after monks and faithful pilgrims began work on the Mogao Caves in 366. Here in the midst of forbidding desert, the greatest gallery of Buddhist sculpture and art were created. Today, this remarkable desert has become the focus of an entire discipline – the study of Dunhuang or as it is now called, "Dunhuangology". For visitors who are fortunate to make the trek across the desert, Dunhuang and its artistic treasures are no less magical today than they were to the world of the 7th century.

Turpan

turpan



The “**sakura**” (cherry blossom) remains the most beloved of spring blossoms and to this day sitting under a tree in blossom, while drinking sake and enjoying friends and family, reminds each person of the ephemeral nature of life.



Capital of modern Japan and one of the world’s great cities, **Tokyo** is a dazzling conundrum; ancient and modern, traditional and avant garde – a city (and a country) coming to grips with its role in this brave new world order.



Part of the Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park, **Hakone** is celebrated throughout Japan for its hot springs, outdoor activities, natural beauty and unparalleled views onto sacred Mount Fuji as well as for its emerging role as an art centre with its internationally famous outdoor sculpture garden and Museum of Modern Art.

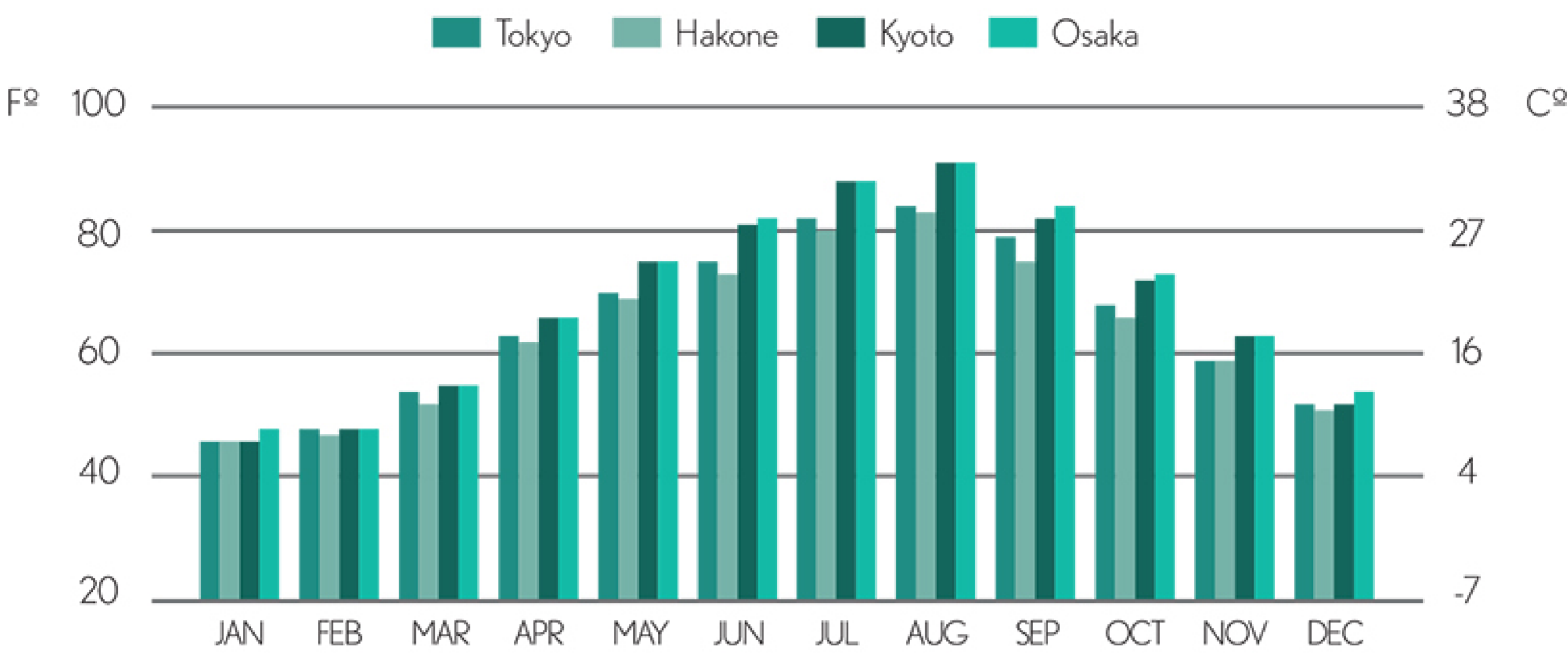


Kyoto is the greatest repository of Japanese history, art, and culture – capital from 794 until 1868 the city retains a regal ambiance present in her stately temples, ethereal gardens, and the gentle manner of her people.

JAPAN

TEMPERATURE

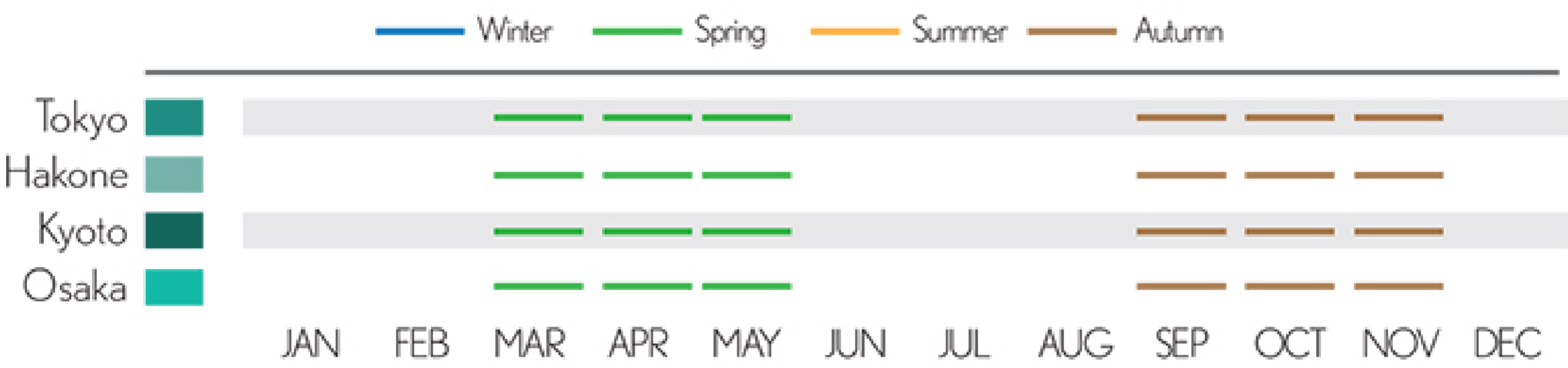
Average daily maximum temperature in Fº and Cº



Average days with rainfall

Tokyo	9	11	17	16	16	20	20	17	20	17	12	9
Hakone	10	12	16	16	15	19	20	17	19	15	11	8
Kyoto	19	17	17	14	13	15	14	11	15	12	12	15
Osaka	16	15	17	14	14	17	15	13	16	14	12	14
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL



Timezone GMT +9hr
Currency Japanese Yen

VISA INFORMATION

Nationals of the some countries do not require an entry visa for Japan. Visitors are granted tourist visas on arrival valid for stays within 60 or 90 days depending on nationality. Travelers from other countries should consult the Japanese embassy in their country for the latest travel requirements.

Tokyo

Capital of modern Japan and one of the world’s great cities, Tokyo is a dazzling mixture of the old and new. Anchored by imperial traditions (as embodied by the palace) in a bustling society which is at the forefront of international commerce and technology, Tokyo best represents the dichotomy of Japan - ancient and modern; traditional and avant garde - a country coming to grips with its role in the international community.

Hakone

Located as part of the Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park, Hakone is famous for its hot springs, outdoor activities, natural beauty and a view of nearby Mt Fuji. Hakone is also home to an open-air museum which is a must see if you are a sculpture fan. Set in a beautiful park setting in the hills of Hakone, the museum displays scores of sculptures from Japan and around the world.

Kyoto

Kyoto’s role in Japanese history is without equal. Capital of the Imperial Order (prior to the Meiji period in the late 19th century) from 794 until 1868, the city retains the trappings and atmosphere of its former status. Throughout Japan it is considered the classical Japanese city, a loving museum of the country’s rich historical and cultural traditions.

Osaka

Osaka is the commercial and industrial center of western Japan. It is home to traditional stage arts such as Bunraku and Joruri. Located in the Midwest Japan, it is a major transportation hub, both international and domestic.



Energetic, entertaining, and electric, **Seoul** has become the “it” city of East Asia - from movies to fashion, from music to hi-tech, and from art to innovation Seoul is a kinetic confection of the promise of tomorrow. Visit the DMZ, the world’s most politically charged border, discover Korean history and culture at her palaces, and marvel at the diversity of art and hi-tech wonders that make this such an unexpected highlight.



Jeju: Island of wonders that delights and surprises all who visit, Jeju is South Korea’s most enchanting travel surprise. Long a honeymoon mecca for young Koreans, the island is celebrated for its rugged natural beauty, pristine waters, and unique cultural traditions - the island is a blissful and beguiling experience - it is no wonder that it was called “one of the seven wonders of travel”.



Mongolian Festivals celebrate the essence of what it is to be Mongolian. From July 11 - July 14 all of Mongolia celebrates the **Naadam**, a festival drawing on the most beloved of traditions: horse racing, archery, wrestling, and music. A cacophony of sound and a kaleidoscope of images staged from the grand stadium in Ulaanbaatar to the most remote village in the high Altai, this is Mongolia.

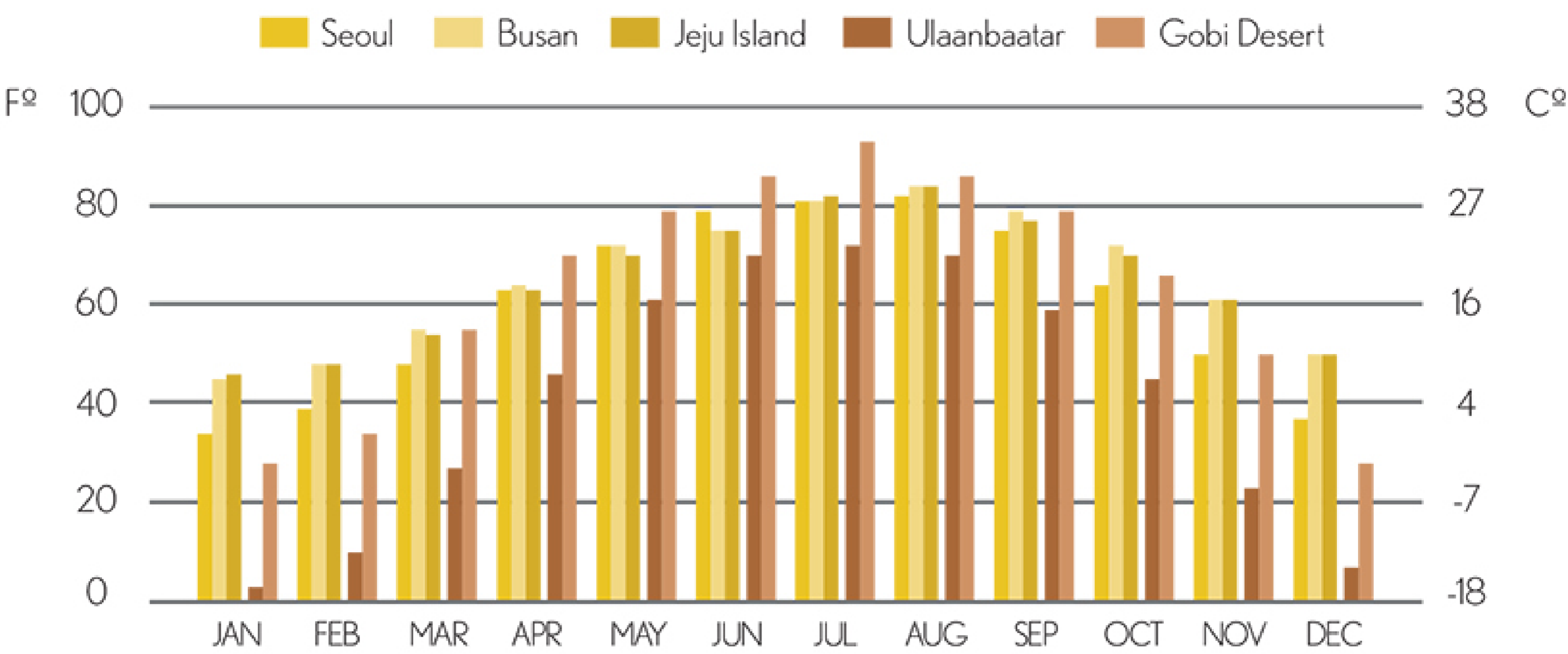


The **Golden Eagle Festival**, held each October, honours the Kazakh tradition of eagle hunting drawing competitors from across the rugged Altai country of the west. Rewarding speed, accuracy, and agility the hunters, dressed in their finest traditional costumes, continue an ancient tradition reflecting the deep ties the Kazakh have with the land and wildlife of Mongolia’s most remote region.

SOUTH KOREA & MONGOLIA

TEMPERATURE

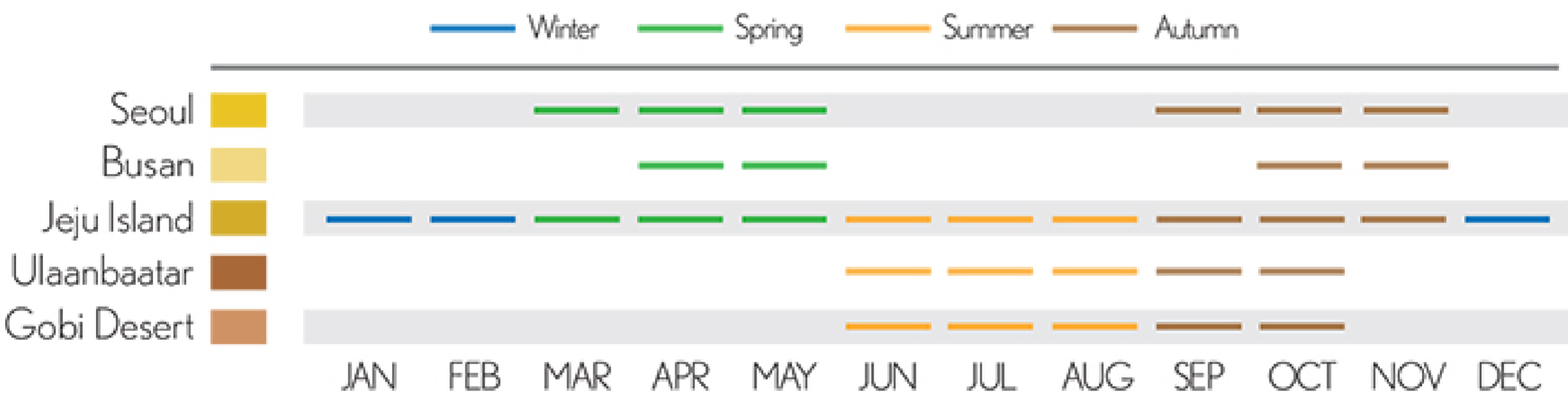
Average daily maximum temperature in F° and C°



Average days with rainfall

Seoul	7	6	7	8	8	10	16	13	9	6	10	7
Busan	7	6	9	9	11	12	15	13	11	7	6	5
Jeju Island	12	10	12	11	12	13	12	12	12	7	9	11
Ulaanbaatar	3	3	3	5	8	13	16	16	9	6	4	4
Gobi Desert	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	4	2	0	0	0
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL



SOUTH KOREA VISA INFORMATION

All visitors are required to carry a passport that is valid for six months beyond the intended length of stay. There should be sufficient blank pages for entry stamps upon arrival. A valid South Korea visa is required to enter South Korea.

Timezone GMT +9hr
Currency South Korea won (KRW)

MONGOLIA VISA INFORMATION

All visitors are required to carry a passport that is valid for six months beyond the intended length of stay. There should be sufficient blank pages for entry stamps upon arrival. A valid Mongolian visa is required to enter Mongolia.

Timezone GMT +8hr
Currency Mongolian Tugrik

Seoul

seoul

Busan

busan

Jeju Island

jeju

Ulaanbaatar

Mongolia’s eclectic capital, Ulaanbaatar is the gateway to the country. The pristine forests and alpine meadows of the Altai are thome to moose, deer, wolf, fox, ermine, bear, and the elusive snow leopard.

Gobi Desert

Mongolia recalls the thundering armies of Genghis Khan, the sand and stone plains of the vast Gobi Desert, and a sea of grassland on which live noad bands who tend to flocks of sheep, camel, and ponies.



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