

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS, NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

LOCATION: The Cape Verde Islands are located in the North Atlantic Ocean some 400 miles west-northwest of the African nation of Senegal. The island nation consists of ten larger islands and eight smaller ones. Because of the absence of water, not all of the islands are inhabited. Most of the island's residents are descended from slaves brought over from the nearby African coast by the Portuguese. The islands are of volcanic nature, sparsely vegetated, and dry.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:15	11:36	12:03	12:31	12:55	13:07	13:02	12:42	12:15	11:47	11:22	11:10
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:57	6:33	6:52	7:27	6:58	6:13	5:00	5:12	6:17	6:39	6:30	5:13
AREA OF BLUE SKY	54%	62%	60%	60%	59%	53%	42%	36%	40%	46%	52%	46%
LOW FOR MONTH	62°	60°	63°	64°	66°	67°	69°	71°	72°	71°	68°	65°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	66°	65°	65°	66°	68°	70°	72°	74°	75°	75°	71°	68°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	75°	75°	76°	77°	77°	79°	81°	83°	85°	83°	81°	77°
HIGH FOR MONTH	80°	80°	82°	82°	82°	83°	85°	88°	89°	88°	85°	82°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	2%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	63%	65%	62%	66%	68%	70%	68%	71%	72%	71%	69%	65%
NEARBY WATERS	72°	70°	70°	71°	72°	73°	75°	78°	79°	79°	77°	75°
DRY DAYS	98%	98%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	94%	91%	97%	98%	99%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	96%	95%	98%	99%	99%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.12	0.23	0.06	0.02	0.03
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	1%	2%	2%	2%	0%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%

COMMENTS: The Cape Verde islands are true "desert" islands in the sense that they have a desert climate. Rainfall is both sparse and unreliable. This is due to the presence of the relatively cool Canary Current that bathes their shores. Note that what rain does fall usually comes when those waters are at their warmest. There is a two-season year, a relatively hot season from July through November, and a relatively cool season the rest of the year. The surrounding ocean waters keep both of these seasons quite moderate. Mountainous tropical islands tend to generate a "cloud cap" of cumulus clouds during the daylight hours. This cap will grow larger and thicker as the day warms up and the onshore breezes strengthen. It will usually dissipate or weaken greatly after sunset. The Cape Verde Islands share this characteristic, fed by the prevailing trade winds out of the east-northeast. Consequently, the morning hours will be clearer and sunnier than the afternoons, as a general rule.