

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SANDAKAN AREA (SABAH), MALAYSIA

LOCATION: The Malaysian province of Sabah is located on the northern tip of the large island of Borneo. Sandakan, the former capital of Sabah, is located in the eastern part of the province. The city is situated on a peninsula between Labuk Bay and Sandakan Harbor. The city proper faces the Harbor, while the airport looks northeast to the Turtle Islands and the Sulu Sea. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:50	11:57	12:06	12:15	12:23	12:28	12:26	12:19	12:10	12:00	11:52	11:48
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:01	5:45	7:01	8:14	8:02	6:54	7:08	7:09	6:30	6:09	5:49	5:09
AREA OF BLUE SKY	26%	30%	38%	43%	41%	33%	34%	34%	31%	30%	29%	26%
LOW FOR MONTH	72°	72°	73°	74°	74°	73°	73°	73°	73°	73°	73°	73°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	74°	74°	75°	75°	75°	75°	74°	74°	74°	75°	75°	74°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	85°	86°	87°	89°	90°	89°	89°	89°	89°	88°	87°	86°
HIGH FOR MONTH	88°	88°	90°	91°	93°	93°	92°	93°	92°	92°	91°	89°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	1%	3%	26%	53%	48%	40%	52%	36%	23%	10%	1%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	78%	76%	74%	71%	72%	72%	72%	72%	73%	74%	77%	79%
NEARBY WATERS	81°	81°	81°	83°	84°	84°	83°	83°	83°	83°	83°	81°
DRY DAYS	39%	49%	63%	70%	62%	53%	55%	54%	50%	44%	34%	33%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	39%	50%	66%	79%	74%	65%	66%	65%	61%	58%	43%	33%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	2.74	1.86	1.31	0.76	0.98	1.27	1.15	1.30	1.57	1.66	2.36	2.94
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	6%	6%	7%	14%	31%	34%	38%	40%	43%	37%	31%	20%
FOGGY DAYS	4%	5%	6%	4%	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	3%	4%

COMMENTS: Sandakan, less than six degrees from the Equator, has a rainy tropical climate. In truth, it has only a single season--hot, humid, and rainy. You could argue, however, for a rainy season (May through September) and a rainier one (October through April). It doesn't really matter, since the weather on any one day could just as easily occur (and probably does) in any other month of the year. Note that the temperature range from sunrise to mid-afternoon (some 13°F for the year as a whole) is three times as great as that from the coolest month (January, with a 79° mean) to the warmest (May, with an 83°F mean). Rain usually falls as a series of very intense showers lasting anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours. All-day persistent rains are rare. In between the showers will be rainless periods that always last longer than the showers. There may even be spells of sunny skies and sunshine. Throughout the year, rain is more common during the hours of dark than during the daylight hours.