

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO BILBAO AND THE BASQUE COUNTRY, SPAIN

LOCATION: Bilbao, the capital of the Basque province of Vizcaya, is located in northeastern Spain. The city is situated on the banks of the estuary of the Nervion River, usually called the Ria Bilbao along this stretch. Elevations are generally within a few hundred feet of sea level, although the city--especially the older parts--is quite hilly. The Atlantic Ocean is only a few miles down the estuary, and Bilbao is Spain's major port.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:23	10:29	11:54	13:23	14:40	15:21	15:03	13:58	12:34	11:05	9:46	9:03
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:28	3:06	3:57	4:36	5:53	6:27	6:19	6:04	5:00	4:05	2:36	2:13
AREA OF BLUE SKY	36%	38%	35%	34%	36%	38%	44%	46%	46%	39%	37%	34%
LOW FOR MONTH	31°	30°	32°	36°	41°	46°	52°	51°	48°	41°	33°	31°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	42°	42°	44°	46°	50°	56°	59°	59°	57°	52°	47°	44°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	54°	56°	61°	62°	67°	72°	77°	77°	75°	69°	61°	56°
HIGH FOR MONTH	66°	71°	77°	78°	85°	90°	96°	94°	94°	83°	75°	69°
FROSTY MORNINGS	9%	8%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	6%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	9%	6%	9%	1%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	62%	57%	56%	60%	59%	61%	59%	60%	58%	59%	61%	62%
NEARBY WATERS	54°	52°	52°	54°	58°	62°	66°	68°	66°	63°	58°	55°
DRY DAYS	51%	51%	54%	49%	54%	61%	69%	66%	62%	55%	53%	53%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	71%	72%	73%	69%	75%	80%	85%	84%	79%	73%	72%	71%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.70	0.70	0.66	0.72	0.58	0.47	0.31	0.28	0.57	0.74	0.77	0.91
LIKELY SNOWFALL	3.8"	1.9"	1.8"	0.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.1"	0.0"	0.7"	2.8"
SNOWY DAYS	5%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
THUNDER DAYS	3%	5%	6%	8%	9%	7%	9%	9%	6%	4%	4%	4%
FOGGY DAYS	7%	6%	6%	7%	7%	9%	10%	11%	12%	8%	8%	6%

COMMENTS: The region has a four-season temperate marine climate. The prevailing winds from the west off of the North Atlantic Ocean keep summer temperatures from getting as warm and winter temperatures from getting as cold as inland places at the same latitude. Summer afternoons are moderately sunny, humid, and warm rather than hot. Clear, calm days can get quite hot. Winter afternoons tend to be quite cloudy, humid, and generally cool rather than cold. About a dozen nights each year will drop below freezing--usually when the rest of Europe is in the Arctic Deep Freeze. Afternoons, however, are always above freezing--although not always by much. Snow flurries occur almost every winter, but snow on the ground in the city is rare. Over the course of the year, about one day in four or five is clear. September leads the pack, with April bringing up the rear.