

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO VAASA AND THE BOTHNIAN COASTLINE, FINLAND

LOCATION: Vaasa (Vasa to those inhabitants who prefer Swedish) is located in southwestern Finland. The city is situated on a small, protected bay off the Gulf of Bothnia, with ferry connections to Sweden across the Gulf. Elevations are generally close to sea level. Both the city and the surrounding farmland have sizeable Swedish populations.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	5:54	8:40	11:43	14:54	18:01	20:09	19:11	16:14	13:06	9:58	6:56	4:56
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	0:52	2:29	4:26	6:22	9:16	10:15	9:25	7:17	4:43	2:30	1:24	0:32
AREA OF BLUE SKY	30%	33%	38%	40%	47%	48%	47%	41%	36%	30%	27%	27%
LOW FOR MONTH	-11°	-8°	-2°	13°	28°	37°	45°	40°	31°	21°	10°	-2°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	14°	13°	17°	28°	37°	47°	53°	50°	43°	34°	27°	19°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	25°	25°	31°	42°	54°	63°	69°	66°	56°	44°	35°	29°
HIGH FOR MONTH	39°	38°	43°	56°	69°	77°	81°	77°	66°	54°	46°	40°
FROSTY MORNINGS	94%	96%	90%	72%	22%	2%	0%	1%	8%	37%	69%	87%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	88%	85%	76%	67%	58%	59%	63%	68%	73%	82%	88%	89%
NEARBY WATERS	30°	31°	32°	34°	37°	43°	53°	56°	51°	45°	40°	36°
DRY DAYS	52%	54%	65%	65%	69%	65%	62%	55%	50%	50%	47%	49%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	85%	89%	89%	83%	85%	82%	81%	77%	74%	74%	75%	83%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.23	0.17	0.15	0.20	0.22	0.32	0.39	0.43	0.42	0.38	0.33	0.24
LIKELY SNOWFALL	18.9"	13.2"	11.2"	9.3"	2.6"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	6.5"	15.3"	17.8"
SNOWY DAYS	53%	51%	41%	27%	6%	0%	0%	0%	1%	14%	39%	50%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	6%	11%	7%	2%	0%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	9%	7%	6%	8%	4%	5%	5%	12%	14%	11%	12%	7%

COMMENTS: Vaasa has a Scandinavian version of the traditional mid-latitude four-season year. The combination of the prevailing winds from the west and its location on the eastern side of the Gulf, serves to delay the seasons somewhat over places farther inland. Spring runs from late April through early June, summer extends from late June through the end of August, and autumn lasts from early September through the middle of October. Winter (mid-October through mid-April) is the dominant season at these latitudes, and dictates many aspects of both the landscape and the lifestyles. Although well south of the Arctic Circle, the combination of long days and twilight gives the area virtually continuous daylight for about 55 days centered on Midsummer. Since at least part of the sun's disc appears above the horizon (even though usually obscured by clouds) every day of the year, there is no equivalent midwinter period of dark.