

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO CANNES AND THE COTE D'AZUR, FRANCE

LOCATION: The *Cote d'Azur* ("Blue Coast") is that portion of the French Mediterranean coast that stretches from Antibes to the Italian border. It is also known as the French Riviera. Cannes is situated about midway along this coast. Elevations are generally within a few hundred feet of sea level. If the water and air temperatures in the table below strike you as a bit cool for a world-class "sun and sand" resort, keep in mind that the latitude is about the same as the central coast of Oregon. Compared to what they usually get, however, it strikes most Europeans as almost sub-tropical.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:21	10:28	11:54	13:24	14:42	15:23	15:05	13:59	12:34	11:04	9:45	9:02
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:23	5:01	6:14	7:33	8:32	9:42	11:03	9:51	7:42	6:15	4:44	4:19
AREA OF BLUE SKY	46%	44%	46%	47%	48%	54%	69%	64%	56%	51%	47%	49%
LOW FOR MONTH	28°	29°	33°	38°	45°	53°	58°	57°	51°	43°	36°	31°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	38°	39°	42°	46°	52°	58°	62°	62°	58°	51°	44°	40°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	54°	55°	58°	62°	68°	74°	80°	80°	75°	69°	61°	56°
HIGH FOR MONTH	63°	65°	68°	71°	77°	84°	91°	89°	84°	76°	69°	65°
FROSTY MORNINGS	17%	14%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	10%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	58%	57%	61%	64%	67%	67%	65%	63%	61%	63%	62%	61%
NEARBY WATERS	56°	56°	56°	58°	62°	67°	72°	74°	71°	67°	62°	57°
DRY DAYS	70%	71%	72%	71%	73%	82%	92%	85%	79%	72%	68%	72%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	82%	80%	82%	83%	86%	89%	97%	92%	86%	80%	75%	82%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.50	0.64	0.55	0.44	0.31	0.29	0.09	0.17	0.51	0.74	0.93	0.56
SNOWY DAYS	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	5%	4%	6%	9%	10%	7%	11%	9%	9%	7%	2%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	5%	5%	7%	4%	4%	5%	2%	5%	7%	5%	4%

COMMENTS: Cannes has a four-season year, although Autumn is barely perceptible as a distinct season. Spring (late March through early June) is primarily a transition season from the low temperatures and rains of winter to the dryness and warmth of summer. Cold spells alternate with warm spells, with the latter getting longer and more numerous as the season progresses. Summers (late June through early September) are warm and dry and sunny. Autumn (late September through November) starts with the first heavy rains, but still has quite a few sunny spells. It is the wettest time of year. Winter (December through early March) is mild, cloudy, and wet. All seasons on this south coast have much more sunshine than their counterparts in northern Europe. Local culture does not recognize autumn, but considers summer to end and winter to begin with the first heavy rains of the year.