

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO COIMBRA AND THE BEIRA LITTORAL, PORTUGAL

LOCATION: The Beira Littoral includes the area from the western foothills of the Serra de Estrella west to the coast. The university town of Coimbra is its chief city. Coimbra is situated on some steep hills on the banks of the Rio Mondego, at an elevation of roughly 400 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:40	10:39	11:55	13:15	14:24	14:59	14:44	13:46	12:31	11:11	10:01	9:23
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:42	5:21	6:06	7:08	8:01	8:52	10:05	9:50	7:45	6:02	4:49	4:25
AREA OF BLUE SKY	39%	40%	40%	41%	43%	49%	61%	64%	51%	43%	39%	38%
LOW FOR MONTH	31°	33°	38°	40°	43°	49°	52°	52°	49°	42°	38°	32°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	42°	43°	46°	48°	52°	56°	59°	59°	58°	53°	47°	43°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	57°	60°	64°	68°	72°	79°	84°	84°	81°	73°	64°	58°
HIGH FOR MONTH	66°	71°	77°	83°	87°	97°	101°	100°	94°	88°	74°	66°
FROSTY MORNINGS	6%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	10%	22%	20%	16%	3%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	66%	60%	60%	54%	56%	52%	47%	45%	50%	56%	65%	70%
DRY DAYS	52%	53%	53%	51%	59%	72%	84%	85%	74%	57%	55%	52%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	70%	70%	73%	73%	78%	85%	94%	93%	87%	75%	72%	70%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.86	0.82	0.70	0.55	0.49	0.29	0.09	0.10	0.31	0.58	0.76	0.86
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	3%	4%	6%	8%	9%	8%	3%	4%	7%	5%	4%	4%
FOGGY DAYS	20%	17%	16%	14%	16%	20%	22%	20%	21%	18%	19%	16%

COMMENTS: The area has a mid-latitude four-season year, with hot summers and mild winters. Precipitation is moderately abundant, and is unevenly distributed throughout the year. The area enjoys the traditions Mediterranean-type precipitation pattern, with its winter rains and summer drought. Summer afternoons are quite sunny, moderately dry in humidity, and generally free of rain except for the odd shower. Summer nights are cool to mild, and usually clear. Winter afternoons are still moderately sunny, fairly humid, and will see rain of some sort on about half the days. This rain is frontal in nature, and can be either an all-day soaker or a series of brief but intense showers. Winter nights are chilly, but only rarely drop below freezing. Snow flurries are not unknown, but are not common, either. Spring and autumn as seasons of transition, with alternating warm spells and cold spells. Spring is particularly delightful, as the days lengthen and much of the local vegetation bursts into bloom. Many residents do not accept the season of autumn, insisting instead that summer ends abruptly and winter starts just as abruptly with the first heavy rains of October.