

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE PANTANAL REGION, BRAZIL

LOCATION: The Pantanal is a vast, periodically-flooded, alluvial plain in west-central Brazil, near the border with Bolivia and Paraguay. Most of it is part of the watershed of the River Paraguai, and elevations are generally within a few hundred feet of sea level. Points of departure to view the area are Corumba, Cuiaba, and Caceres. Most of the Pantanal proper is uninhabited and virtually inaccessible.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	13:08	12:44	12:13	11:41	11:14	11:01	11:07	11:29	11:59	12:31	13:00	13:15
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:03	7:06	7:00	7:16	7:09	6:59	7:52	8:15	7:18	7:24	7:53	7:21
AREA OF BLUE SKY	41%	45%	49%	55%	56%	55%	65%	67%	58%	52%	50%	45%
LOW FOR MONTH	68°	66°	66°	62°	53°	46°	46°	49°	51°	60°	62°	65°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	74°	73°	74°	72°	67°	63°	62°	64°	68°	71°	73°	73°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	91°	90°	91°	90°	86°	82°	84°	86°	89°	92°	92°	91°
HIGH FOR MONTH	97°	96°	96°	95°	94°	91°	93°	97°	101°	100°	100°	98°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	44%	40%	33%	28%	10%	1%	10%	21%	34%	52%	55%	55%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	58%	61%	57%	54%	53%	53%	45%	43%	44%	47%	53%	57%
DRY DAYS	62%	65%	68%	80%	85%	91%	94%	93%	87%	81%	76%	70%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	67%	71%	77%	85%	90%	94%	97%	95%	91%	85%	80%	73%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.14	1.04	0.77	0.61	0.43	0.24	0.10	0.16	0.43	0.65	0.84	1.06
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	16%	18%	13%	7%	3%	3%	3%	3%	10%	13%	13%	16%
FOGGY DAYS	3%	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: The Pantanal has a tropical wet-and-dry climate based on rainfall. Temperatures vary little from one month to another, and the length of the daylight period does not vary much more than two hours from June to December. The rainy season runs from October through the middle of April. The driest part of the dry season runs from late May through early September. There is tremendous variation from one year to another as to when this dry season starts, when it finishes, and--indeed--whether it occurs at all. Winter cold snaps, the *friagem*, are a part of local folklore. Unprepared visitors, especially those camping out, will find them bitterly cold. The average annual low temperature is 41°, and is most likely to occur in June. Hazy days, *nevoa seca*, are common during August and September. The causes are not well known, but are probably due in part to the burning of scrub and brush in the lands upwind.