

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SAN JOSE AREA, COSTA RICA

LOCATION: San Jose, the capital and primate city of Costa Rica, is located in the north-central part of that country. The city is situated in the mountains, and occupies part of the *Valle Central*, the upper valley of the Rio Grande. The city sits some 3,400 feet above sea level, with nearby mountains rising to more than 11,000 feet in elevation.

| | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| HOURS OF DAYLIGHT | 11:37 | 11:49 | 12:04 | 12:21 | 12:35 | 12:42 | 12:39 | 12:27 | 12:12 | 11:55 | 11:41 | 11:34 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE | 8:28 | 8:57 | 8:44 | 7:40 | 5:40 | 4:32 | 4:36 | 4:52 | 4:56 | 4:56 | 5:26 | 7:14 |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY | 57% | 61% | 58% | 45% | 27% | 20% | 20% | 24% | 24% | 23% | 32% | 47% |
| LOW FOR MONTH | 58° | 58° | 58° | 60° | 61° | 61° | 60° | 60° | 60° | 60° | 59° | 58° |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE | 63° | 62° | 63° | 64° | 64° | 64° | 64° | 64° | 63° | 63° | 63° | 63° |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE | 80° | 82° | 84° | 84° | 82° | 81° | 80° | 81° | 80° | 80° | 80° | 80° |
| HIGH FOR MONTH | 84° | 85° | 88° | 87° | 85° | 84° | 83° | 84° | 83° | 83° | 83° | 84° |
| FROSTY MORNINGS | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90° | 0% | 1% | 3% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY | 59% | 55% | 53% | 57% | 64% | 69% | 69% | 68% | 71% | 70% | 66% | 62% |
| DRY DAYS | 90% | 96% | 94% | 77% | 38% | 26% | 27% | 24% | 20% | 19% | 52% | 79% |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS | 96% | 98% | 97% | 88% | 58% | 48% | 52% | 50% | 40% | 42% | 68% | 90% |
| 5-DAY PRECIPITATION | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.09 | 0.35 | 1.52 | 1.79 | 1.33 | 1.64 | 2.26 | 2.06 | 0.97 | 0.26 |
| SNOWY DAYS | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| THUNDER DAYS | 1% | 1% | 5% | 8% | 17% | 25% | 16% | 17% | 28% | 17% | 6% | 2% |
| FOGGY DAYS | 2% | 5% | 17% | 12% | 11% | 12% | 9% | 10% | 16% | 14% | 13% | 7% |

COMMENTS: San Jose has an upland version of the tropical wet-and-dry climate. Neither the length of the daylight period nor the temperatures vary much from one month to another. The rainy season runs from May through November, the dry season from December through April. The dry season is far and away the more pleasant of the two. Visitors to San Jose have the opportunity of seeing the sun directly overhead at local noon on two days of the year. The first of these two days will come during the middle of April, the second during the last week in August. April has the clearest skies. Rain showers are most common in the afternoons and early evenings. Since the rain clouds are at a fairly high elevation, the rain coming from them is quite cold.