

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO TIKAL NATIONAL PARK, GUATEMALA

LOCATION: Tikal National Park is located in the department of El Peten in northern Guatemala. It is situated in the jungle some 30 miles northeast of Flores, the provincial capital and normal base of operations for most visitors. The archeological site of Tikal covers several square miles, and has been only partially cleared and excavated. Elevations are less than a thousand feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:13	11:35	12:02	12:32	12:57	13:09	13:04	12:43	12:15	11:46	11:21	11:07
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:24	6:57	7:42	7:38	6:45	6:10	6:31	6:44	6:00	5:39	5:40	5:47
AREA OF BLUE SKY	46%	50%	55%	51%	41%	33%	37%	41%	36%	35%	37%	40%
LOW FOR MONTH	58°	56°	57°	59°	65°	66°	68°	65°	68°	66°	59°	57°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	64°	65°	66°	69°	72°	73°	71°	72°	72°	71°	68°	66°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	81°	84°	89°	92°	94°	91°	89°	89°	89°	87°	84°	82°
HIGH FOR MONTH	89°	94°	102°	99°	102°	100°	95°	94°	94°	92°	92°	89°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	3%	19%	54%	69%	81%	62%	43%	44%	39%	19%	7%	2%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	71%	67%	60%	59%	55%	64%	71%	68%	71%	70%	70%	71%
DRY DAYS	68%	82%	86%	90%	73%	45%	38%	47%	42%	47%	70%	65%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	81%	89%	90%	91%	81%	61%	57%	66%	57%	63%	75%	78%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.51	0.33	0.33	0.47	0.76	1.34	1.31	1.04	1.57	1.28	1.01	0.67
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	2%	6%	8%	19%	35%	37%	36%	40%	17%	5%	3%
FOGGY DAYS	22%	23%	28%	42%	44%	14%	19%	14%	13%	17%	22%	23%

COMMENTS: The area has a tropical wet-and-dry climate based on rainfall. The rainy season runs from May through November. During this season, rain falls on roughly half of the days, afternoons are hot to very hot and afternoon humidities are high. The months of December and January are transitional from the rainy season to the dry season, with gradually diminishing rainfall. The dry season runs from February through April. At this time, afternoons are moderately sunny, hot, and humid. There really isn't all that much difference in any given day in either season. Weather conditions on any day of the year could just as easily occur in any month without cause for comment. The effect of afternoon humidities is to make the sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) some 1° (January) to 10° (August) hotter than those shown on the thermometers or in the above table. Occasional cold spells (high 40's) during the low-sun period are caused by *nortes*, cold air masses that cross the Gulf from mainland North America.