

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE ANGEL FALLS (SALTO ANGEL) AREA, VENEZUELA

LOCATION: Angel Falls (Salta Angel) is located in Canaima National Park in the Guayana Highlands area of southeastern Venezuela. The falls spring from the edge of the Auyantepui, a *tepu* (wet mesa) feeding several tributaries of the Rio Caron. The falls have the world's greatest total fall (3,212'), and the greatest free fall (2,648'). Elevations at the base of the falls are around 1,600 feet above sea level. Most visits are by air to Canaima, then by river boat.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:49	11:56	12:05	12:15	12:24	12:28	12:26	12:19	12:10	12:00	11:52	11:47
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:16	7:41	7:34	6:59	6:20	5:52	6:44	7:19	8:10	8:07	7:43	7:18
AREA OF BLUE SKY	35%	37%	35%	30%	24%	19%	24%	25%	33%	31%	30%	33%
LOW FOR MONTH	61°	62°	62°	63°	62°	63°	62°	63°	61°	62°	61°	63°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	67°	67°	68°	69°	70°	69°	68°	69°	68°	68°	68°	68°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	86°	88°	89°	89°	88°	85°	85°	86°	87°	88°	88°	86°
HIGH FOR MONTH	92°	94°	94°	94°	93°	90°	89°	91°	92°	95°	93°	91°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	18%	35%	45%	45%	36%	26%	23%	30%	34%	42%	37%	23%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	47%	43%	42%	45%	51%	58%	56%	54%	49%	47%	50%	50%
DRY DAYS	66%	73%	74%	68%	42%	27%	31%	36%	55%	65%	60%	60%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	85%	87%	87%	80%	64%	54%	55%	60%	73%	78%	76%	80%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.29	0.27	0.30	0.61	1.05	1.34	1.30	1.12	0.68	0.65	0.61	0.45
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	5%	6%	6%	10%	17%	18%	18%	24%	25%	25%	16%	9%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	0%	1%	2%	3%	5%	7%	4%	3%	4%	2%

COMMENTS: The area from Canaima up to the base of the falls is covered by this summary. Elevation controls climate in this part of the world, and you can expect temperatures to drop about 1° for each 300' increase in elevation. The top of Auyantepui (9,701'), will be about 27°F cooler. As you go down the river, temperatures will rise at the same rate. By the time you get to Ciudad Guayana, they will be about 5°F warmer. Rainfall will also increase in amount, duration, and frequency as you go up. The area's climate is typical of the rainy tropics. There are two rather vague seasons: a rainy season from May through August, and a less rainy but still wet season for the rest of the year. There is little temperature difference from one month to the other. The falls are most spectacular just after a rain. During dry spells, they can dwindle down to a slender thread that dissipates into mist before it reaches bottom.