

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE PLAYA DEL CARMEN AREA, MEXICO

LOCATION: The resort community of Playa del Carmen is located in the state of Quintana Roo in southeastern Mexico. The small city is situated on the shores of the Caribbean Sea some sixty miles south of Cancun on the eastern coast of the Yucatan Peninsula. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level. The island of Cozumel lies a few miles offshore, opposite the beach, and provides somewhat of a natural breakwater for the white sands of “Playa”—as it is usually called. Passenger ferries run from Playa to Cozumel regularly during daylight hours.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:02	11:28	12:01	12:37	13:07	13:22	13:16	12:51	12:17	11:42	11:11	10:55
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:52	6:33	6:30	6:54	7:46	7:53	7:40	8:03	6:35	5:27	5:34	5:39
AREA OF BLUE SKY	48%	54%	56%	52%	48%	40%	42%	43%	39%	40%	45%	46%
LOW FOR MONTH	55°	56°	58°	59°	62°	65°	66°	65°	67°	65°	60°	56°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	66°	67°	69°	71°	74°	75°	75°	74°	74°	73°	70°	68°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	81°	82°	84°	87°	88°	88°	89°	90°	88°	86°	84°	82°
HIGH FOR MONTH	87°	90°	90°	92°	94°	92°	93°	95°	93°	91°	90°	88°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	1%	4%	18%	37%	47%	56%	65%	30%	10%	1%	1%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	72%	69%	68%	68%	70%	73%	72%	71%	74%	74%	74%	73%
NEARBY WATERS	79°	79°	79°	80°	82°	83°	84°	85°	85°	84°	82°	79°
DRY DAYS	76%	80%	88%	88%	76%	60%	63%	63%	49%	58%	69%	71%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	83%	86%	92%	91%	81%	68%	75%	74%	60%	67%	79%	81%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.54	0.43	0.30	0.39	0.92	1.32	0.75	0.91	1.56	1.34	0.71	0.60
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	3%	5%	8%	10%	14%	17%	17%	9%	4%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 55% of the year’s daylight hours. This might range from a low of 47% in October, to a high of 59% in May and June. The year’s lowest temperature should be close to 53° some January sunrise, and the highest should be near 97° some windless August afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be one or two degrees warmer than actual ones during the “winter” afternoons, but up to 10° hotter than actual ones during the humid summer afternoons. Nighttime and early morning sensible temperatures will be pretty much the same as actual ones. Once or twice every few years during the cooler months, cold winds from the north (“norteos”) can drop nighttime temperatures down into the 40’s and daytime temperatures into the 60’s. This only occurs when the North American mainland is in the icy grip of an Arctic air mass. You’re still better off here than there!