

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO PONCE AND PUERTO RICO'S SOUTH COAST

LOCATION: Ponce is located on Puerto Rico's south coast, and is the Commonwealth's third largest city (after San Juan and Bayamon). Ponce is often termed the "New Orleans of Puerto Rico", and is culturally as distinct from San Juan as "The Big Easy" is from "The Big Apple". Ponce also has more than a thousand buildings of some historic and architectural importance, and what is probably the most pleasant plaza (La Plaza de Delicias) in all of North America. This is the driest major city in Puerto Rico, with only about half the rainfall of its sister cities. Moreover, travelers will find that prices are substantially lower for equivalent goods and services south of the Cordillera Central than to the north of it—although this is changing.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:11	11:33	12:02	12:33	12:59	13:12	13:06	12:45	12:16	11:45	11:19	11:05
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:54	8:53	9:42	9:47	8:55	9:38	10:13	10:00	8:35	8:20	8:33	8:55
AREA OF BLUE SKY	62%	58%	59%	56%	45%	47%	51%	54%	47%	49%	56%	61%
LOW FOR MONTH	62°	63°	63°	66°	69°	70°	69°	70°	71°	69°	65°	63°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	66°	67°	67°	70°	72°	74°	74°	73°	73°	72°	70°	68°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	86°	85°	86°	87°	88°	89°	89°	90°	90°	89°	88°	87°
HIGH FOR MONTH	90°	89°	89°	90°	91°	92°	94°	94°	93°	93°	92°	90°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	2%	2%	4%	7%	15%	37%	51%	58%	55%	36%	26%	7%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	56%	56%	56%	59%	60%	59%	59%	61%	62%	63%	61%	59%
NEARBY WATERS	80°	79°	79°	80°	81°	82°	83°	83°	84°	84°	83°	79°
DRY DAYS	85%	82%	83%	77%	69%	75%	76%	71%	64%	62%	69%	82%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	94%	93%	94%	86%	85%	86%	82%	82%	72%	76%	85%	92%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.29	0.55	0.53	0.49	0.69	0.83	0.88	0.61	0.19
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	0%	2%	10%	11%	15%	20%	28%	26%	9%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 76% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 69% in May (the island's cloudiest month), to a high of 81% in March (the island's clearest month). The year's lowest temperature should be close to 61°, and the highest should be near 96°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 5° warmer than actual ones—especially during the warmest weather. Most of the rain falls as a series of brief but intense showers, with the late afternoon, evening, and night being the preferred times. In actuality, the weather on any given day could just as easily occur in any month of the year. The official hurricane season runs from June through November, but the average visitor stands a small chance of actually seeing one of these storms. In any case, early warning systems are excellent.