

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO PUERTO RICO'S EAST COAST

LOCATION: The east coast of Puerto Rico stretches from Cabeza San Juan on the northeast corner of the island, down in a general southwesterly direction to Punta Tuna at the more rounded southeastern corner. Since the prevailing winds come out of the east and northeast, this coast gets their full force, resulting in somewhat higher rainfall than the other coasts. Elevations range up to more than 3,500 feet above sea level at the summits of El Yunque and El Toro in the Sierra de Luqillo. The area includes the major U. S. Naval installation at Roosevelt Roads. The Caribbean National Forest (HQ at Portal) contains the only tropical rain forest area (some 43 square miles) in the U. S. National Forest system. It is extremely popular with hikers, campers, and birders.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:10	11:33	12:02	12:33	12:59	13:13	13:07	12:45	12:16	11:45	11:18	11:04
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:54	8:15	8:59	9:05	8:31	8:50	9:00	9:03	8:21	7:47	7:31	7:36
AREA OF BLUE SKY	55%	54%	54%	52%	42%	43%	45%	49%	45%	45%	49%	52%
LOW FOR MONTH	66°	65°	66°	68°	70°	72°	72°	72°	71°	71°	69°	67°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	69°	69°	70°	71°	74°	75°	76°	75°	75°	74°	72°	70°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	83°	83°	84°	85°	86°	88°	88°	88°	88°	88°	86°	84°
HIGH FOR MONTH	86°	86°	87°	88°	89°	90°	90°	91°	91°	90°	89°	87°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	1%	5%	8%	17%	23%	28%	30%	21%	8%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	66%	65%	66%	70%	69%	70%	70%	71%	70%	70%	69%
NEARBY WATERS	79°	79°	79°	79°	81°	82°	83°	83°	84°	83°	82°	79°
DRY DAYS	46%	49%	60%	55%	43%	43%	36%	40%	37%	39%	40%	39%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	73%	77%	81%	75%	65%	65%	63%	61%	60%	60%	62%	66%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.54	0.45	0.36	0.64	1.19	0.90	0.88	1.13	1.21	1.28	1.09	0.80
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	1%	3%	10%	16%	16%	15%	24%	19%	10%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 69% of the year's daylight hours. This might range from a low of 66% in May and October, to a high of 75% in March. The year's lowest temperature should be close to 63°, and the highest should be near 92°. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be substantially higher than actual ones (especially during the warmer months), due to the relatively high afternoon humidity. The prevailing winds are generally onshore, which helps to keep down the flying insect population. Wind speeds average about twelve miles per hour, a bit more in midday, a bit less in the wee hours of the night. The area was badly battered by Hurricane Georges in 1998, and some parts are slow in recovering.