

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE FUKUOKA AREA (KYUSHU), JAPAN

LOCATION: Fukuoka is located on the northern shore of the island of Kyushu. The city is situated on the shores of Hakata Bay, a small inlet off of the Korea Strait. The Strait connects the East China Sea (to the southwest) with the Sea of Japan (to the northeast). Across this strait lies Korea and the mainland of Asia. Elevations in Fukuoka are close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:12	10:58	11:58	13:00	13:53	14:21	14:09	13:25	12:25	11:23	10:28	9:59
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:17	4:06	5:17	5:53	6:21	5:25	6:10	7:11	5:28	5:50	4:51	3:38
AREA OF BLUE SKY	27%	27%	32%	34%	32%	22%	28%	38%	32%	43%	40%	32%
LOW FOR MONTH	28°	27°	32°	39°	46°	52°	65°	67°	56°	44°	37°	31°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	35°	36°	40°	49°	57°	65°	74°	74°	67°	55°	46°	39°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	49°	50°	57°	66°	74°	79°	87°	88°	81°	73°	63°	54°
HIGH FOR MONTH	59°	61°	68°	77°	80°	86°	93°	94°	88°	81°	73°	63°
FROSTY MORNINGS	26%	27%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	10%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	40%	48%	9%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	60%	59%	58%	61%	62%	69%	70%	67%	67%	60%	59%	59%
NEARBY WATERS	54°	52°	53°	57°	62°	68°	75°	79°	75°	70°	64°	59°
DRY DAYS	61%	61%	61%	63%	64%	58%	61%	66%	59%	74%	70%	67%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	80%	79%	77%	75%	76%	62%	61%	73%	67%	83%	81%	83%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.46	0.54	0.62	0.84	0.86	1.73	1.62	1.07	1.37	0.63	0.52	0.44
SNOWY DAYS	19%	17%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	3%	4%	3%	4%	13%	16%	7%	1%	1%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: The area has a humid continental climate, with a strong marine influence. The area has abundant precipitation in all months, with a very strong summer maximum (the “plum rains”). Residents see their year as having six seasons: winter (December through February), spring (March through May), *Bai-U* (the “plum rains”, June and July), summer (August), *shurin* (September, the month of maximum typhoons) and autumn (October and November). The distinction is primarily based on rainfall, and only secondarily on temperature and the solar cycle. The typhoon season runs from June through October, reaching a peak in August and September. Fukuoka's position on the northwest coast of the island gives it some protection, but it still is subject to the heavy rains and local flooding associated with these tropical storms.