

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE VIENTIANE (VIANCHAN) AREA, LAOS

LOCATION: Vientiane (Viangchan), the capital and primate city of Laos, is located in the southwestern part of the country, on the border with Thailand. The city is situated on the Mekong River. Elevations are close to 500 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:11	11:33	12:02	12:33	12:58	13:12	13:06	12:45	12:16	11:45	11:19	11:05
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:03	7:33	6:51	7:30	6:33	4:59	4:34	4:25	5:29	7:46	7:46	8:05
AREA OF BLUE SKY	63%	68%	75%	59%	36%	32%	25%	23%	39%	48%	57%	54%
LOW FOR MONTH	49°	57°	61°	69°	72°	73°	73°	74°	72°	66°	58°	53°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	64°	68°	71°	76°	77°	77°	77°	77°	74°	74°	70°	66°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	85°	88°	91°	92°	89°	89°	89°	86°	88°	88°	86°	84°
HIGH FOR MONTH	90°	95°	99°	102°	98°	95°	93°	94°	94°	93°	90°	88°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	11%	39%	70%	80%	72%	62%	51%	40%	42%	38%	25%	4%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	50%	50%	48%	51%	64%	70%	70%	72%	71%	62%	55%	51%
DRY DAYS	95%	93%	86%	76%	49%	39%	40%	33%	46%	78%	96%	98%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	98%	96%	92%	83%	60%	51%	52%	48%	51%	84%	97%	99%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.04	0.11	0.23	0.64	1.68	1.95	1.69	2.00	2.25	0.63	0.11	0.03
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	1%	7%	13%	32%	21%	15%	19%	19%	4%	3%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	42%	41%	42%	36%	13%	7%	7%	7%	6%	17%	27%	33%

COMMENTS: The area has a tropical wet-and-dry season. Below-freezing temperatures occur perhaps once a century. In most years, the high 40's is as cold as it will get. Temperatures of that sort can be expected some January sunrise following a clear, still night. The rainy season corresponds to the Southwest Monsoon, and will run from May through September in most years. The dry season takes up the rest of the year, and corresponds mostly with the Northeast Monsoon. The hottest time of year usually comes in March and April, just before the onset of the rainy monsoon. At the beginning of the rainy season, rains are more common in the afternoon and early evening. As the rains progress, they occur at any time of the day or night. Since it does lie within the tropics, the area does experience the sun directly overhead at local noon. This occurs twice. The first time will be during the second week in May, the second during the first week in August. The area gets about 45 minutes per day of twilight, half at dawn and half at dusk.