

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO PUNTA ARENAS AND THE MAGALLANES REGION, CHILE

LOCATION: Punta Arenas is located in extreme southern Chile. The town is the most southerly settlement of any size in Chile (the hamlet of Puerto Williams is farther south), and is situated on the Straits of Magellan side of the Brunswick Peninsula. The city sits on a narrow coastal strip between the mountains to the west and sea to the east. Elevations are close to sea level in town, but rise sharply to the west.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	16:20	14:37	12:34	10:28	8:38	7:39	8:04	9:38	11:38	13:45	15:43	16:52
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:57	6:02	4:26	3:22	2:57	2:24	2:33	3:40	4:08	5:14	5:23	5:13
AREA OF BLUE SKY	23%	32%	31%	32%	35%	40%	38%	39%	35%	33%	31%	28%
LOW FOR MONTH	37°	37°	32°	30°	26°	23°	21°	23°	26°	30°	32°	34°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	45°	44°	41°	38°	35°	32°	32°	32°	35°	38°	40°	43°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	59°	58°	54°	50°	44°	40°	40°	42°	46°	51°	54°	57°
HIGH FOR MONTH	69°	70°	65°	59°	53°	49°	48°	50°	57°	60°	63°	68°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	1%	6%	13%	32%	51%	55%	46%	30%	12%	4%	2%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	64%	62%	67%	73%	80%	82%	81%	77%	70%	64%	63%	63%
NEARBY WATERS	48°	48°	47°	46°	44°	43°	42°	42°	42°	43°	44°	46°
DRY DAYS	63%	64%	62%	57%	61%	64%	64%	67%	64%	72%	65%	60%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	86%	87%	83%	79%	81%	83%	85%	84%	85%	87%	85%	87%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.23	0.20	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.18	0.16	0.19	0.20
LIKELY SNOWFALL	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.2"	3.5"	4.7"	5.6"	6.0"	3.0"	1.8"	1.0"	0.0"
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	1%	3%	8%	13%	15%	16%	10%	5%	3%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	1%	2%	2%	3%	4%	5%	5%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: Punta Arenas has a sub-polar marine version of the mid-latitude four-season climate. The climate is analogous to that of the Alaskan Panhandle or the Atlantic coast of Norway. Summers are cloudy, short, windy, cool, and somewhat wet. Winter are a bit less cloudy (but days are a lot shorter), windier, cooler, biting raw, and somewhat wet. Spring and autumn are usually a mixture of the two basic seasons. Snow can also occur in any month, but is more common from April through November. The combination of high winds, rain, and the normally light snowfall keep the ground free of snow at sea level except on rare occasions. This is one of the windiest places on earth. Violent storms (locally known as "williwaws") of gale force are common, especially during the winter months. This persistent and often violent wind can cause sensible temperatures (the ones you feel) to be up to 30° colder than those shown on the thermometer.