

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO MEDELLIN AND THE PUEBLOS PAISAS, COLOMBIA

LOCATION: Medellin is located in the valley of the Aburra River, an upper tributary of the Magdalena River. The city is situated at an elevation of about 4,800 feet above sea level in a fairly hilly landscape.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:49	11:56	12:05	12:16	12:25	12:29	12:27	12:20	12:10	12:00	11:51	11:47
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:24	5:45	4:43	4:18	5:10	5:57	6:46	6:39	6:15	4:47	4:15	4:27
AREA OF BLUE SKY	35%	32%	25%	19%	22%	27%	34%	31%	29%	22%	21%	24%
LOW FOR MONTH	56°	58°	58°	59°	60°	60°	58°	58°	58°	59°	59°	57°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	60°	61°	61°	62°	62°	61°	60°	61°	61°	61°	61°	61°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	81°	81°	82°	81°	81°	81°	82°	81°	81°	79°	80°	80°
HIGH FOR MONTH	85°	86°	88°	85°	86°	86°	86°	86°	86°	85°	84°	87°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	48%	48%	52%	58%	60%	51%	45%	48%	56%	64%	62%	58%
DRY DAYS	76%	69%	65%	41%	39%	54%	61%	53%	46%	36%	44%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	87%	83%	79%	64%	62%	72%	76%	71%	66%	59%	66%	80%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.34	0.44	0.55	1.02	1.13	0.82	0.69	0.83	0.98	1.18	0.89	0.48
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	9%	15%	23%	32%	34%	21%	18%	19%	32%	39%	30%	19%
FOGGY DAYS	6%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%	3%	4%	3%	5%	6%	5%

COMMENTS: Medellin has an upland version of the tropical wet-and-dry climate. Its elevation makes afternoons one or two degrees cooler than similar places at sea level, but it makes the nights some ten to fifteen degrees cooler. Its tropical location ensures that there is little difference in either the length of the daylight period or in temperatures from one month to another. The year is divided into two seasons, based on almost entirely on rainfall. The rainier season is called *invierno* (winter), even though it occurs during the higher sun period. It runs from April through November. The less rainy season is called *verano* (summer), even though it occurs during the northern hemisphere low-sun period. It runs from December through March. Both times of occurrence and the amounts of rain vary considerably from one year to another. Mountains tend to generate their own local clouds. These start to form as the day warms, and reach their greatest number and thickness in the late afternoon. However, mountains are also sources of cooler air which tends to flow down their slopes during the nighttime hours. This cooler air may pool in the valleys, giving rise to fog or low cloud. The result of these two processes is that Medellin gets most of its sunshine at mid-day.