

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SANTA ROSA DE COPAN AREA, HONDURAS

LOCATION: Santa Rosa de Copan is located in the central part of western Honduras, less than thirty miles from the Guatemalan border. The town is situated on top of a hill at an elevation of some 3,350 feet above sea level. The more famous Ruinas Copan are some twenty miles to the west, and about 1,500 feet lower in elevation.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:22	11:40	12:03	12:28	12:49	12:59	12:55	12:37	12:14	11:49	11:28	11:17
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:14	6:14	7:25	7:11	7:02	5:32	5:44	5:52	5:31	4:40	4:27	4:51
AREA OF BLUE SKY	36%	43%	50%	45%	37%	23%	25%	26%	23%	23%	27%	33%
LOW FOR MONTH	48°	49°	50°	53°	55°	59°	60°	60°	60°	57°	53°	51°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	56°	56°	57°	59°	61°	64°	63°	63°	63°	62°	59°	57°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	72°	75°	80°	82°	82°	80°	78°	78°	78°	75°	73°	71°
HIGH FOR MONTH	81°	81°	87°	88°	87°	84°	82°	84°	83°	82°	79°	77°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	3%	8%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	64%	57%	54%	51%	55%	62%	65%	61%	65%	69%	69%	69%
DRY DAYS	79%	84%	87%	82%	59%	33%	40%	39%	31%	46%	67%	74%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	89%	92%	94%	90%	73%	48%	55%	60%	46%	66%	80%	86%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.25	0.18	0.16	0.28	0.92	1.98	1.48	1.30	2.07	1.00	0.50	0.39
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	1%	5%	15%	37%	47%	32%	37%	44%	18%	5%	2%
FOGGY DAYS	28%	33%	39%	48%	47%	35%	30%	32%	38%	28%	28%	30%

COMMENTS: Santa Rosa de Copan has a typical tropical two-season year. The rainy season will usually run from about the middle of May through the middle of October (note the lull in August). The dry season will usually extend from the middle of October through the middle of May. There is considerable variation from one year to another as to the start, duration, and ending of these seasons. Aside from the rainfall, there is not much difference from one season to another. The length of the daylight period changes only slightly, and temperatures don't change much more. Those temperatures reach their annual peak just before the rains start, that is, in April and May. The ruins at Copan are almost exactly 1,500 feet lower in elevation than Santa Rosa de Copan. Although generalizing in mountainous terrain is risky, you can expect the ruins to be about 5° warmer both day and night, a bit more humid, and a bit less rainy.