

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE MAIZE ISLANDS, NICARAGUA

LOCATION: The Maize (Corn) Islands are located in the Caribbean Sea some forty miles east of Bluefields, off the coast of Nicaragua. There are two inhabited islands, the larger being some two-and-a-half square miles, the smaller about one-fourth that size. Elevations are everywhere within a few hundred feet of sea level. Facilities are limited, and the islands are not yet ready for the jet-set.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:29	11:44	12:04	12:25	12:42	12:52	12:48	12:33	12:13	11:52	11:34	11:25
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	9:03	9:52	10:18	10:09	8:58	8:03	8:30	8:24	7:40	7:25	7:22	8:00
AREA OF BLUE SKY	65%	69%	70%	65%	52%	44%	48%	48%	43%	44%	46%	55%
LOW FOR MONTH	71°	74°	73°	76°	74°	70°	72°	73°	73°	73°	72°	73°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	78°	78°	78°	80°	80°	80°	80°	80°	80°	79°	79°	79°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	83°	83°	83°	84°	85°	85°	84°	85°	85°	85°	84°	83°
HIGH FOR MONTH	88°	91°	90°	89°	90°	90°	91°	92°	91°	90°	90°	90°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	77%	76%	75%	75%	79%	81%	81%	82%	81%	82%	81%	78%
NEARBY WATERS	81°	80°	81°	82°	83°	83°	83°	83°	84°	84°	83°	81°
DRY DAYS	60%	68%	77%	82%	65%	47%	39%	43%	44%	36%	42%	45%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	72%	86%	90%	87%	78%	61%	60%	65%	60%	53%	53%	63%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.86	0.26	0.18	0.49	0.75	1.41	1.15	0.98	1.33	1.78	1.83	1.18
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	0%	0%	8%	21%	20%	21%	27%	24%	10%	2%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 71% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 63% during the summer rainy season, to a high of 85% in dry and sunny March. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 68° on some calm and clear January sunrise, and the highest should be near 104° on some sunny and windless January or February afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be from 5° to 7° warmer than actual ones, due to the high humidity. Being in the direct sunlight makes these seem even hotter. Despite the occasional torrid temperature, the best weather comes from January through April, before the rains and storms of summer and fall. The tropical storm season runs from May through November, with September and October as the most likely months. The Maize Islands get one of these storms about once every fifteen or twenty years.