

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE PANAMA CITY AREA, PANAMA

LOCATION: Panama City, Panama's capital and largest city, lies on that country's Pacific Coast. The city is situated on the shores of the Bay of Panama, near the southeastern terminus of the Panama Canal. Elevations are close to sea level. The unfenced ruins of the original city (Panama Viejo) can be seen to the east of the current city, and make an interesting day's visit. Panama City, itself, is a thriving, modern city. Some of islands in the Bay have luxury resorts.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:40	11:51	12:05	12:20	12:32	12:39	12:36	12:25	12:11	11:56	11:44	11:37
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:36	8:33	8:21	7:25	5:23	4:53	4:10	4:15	4:40	4:37	4:46	6:27
AREA OF BLUE SKY	59%	63%	59%	44%	26%	19%	15%	18%	18%	22%	24%	43%
LOW FOR MONTH	68°	68°	69°	70°	71°	71°	71°	71°	71°	71°	70°	70°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	72°	72°	73°	74°	74°	74°	74°	74°	74°	73°	73°	73°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	88°	89°	90°	91°	88°	87°	87°	87°	86°	86°	86°	87°
HIGH FOR MONTH	91°	92°	93°	94°	93°	91°	92°	91°	91°	90°	90°	91°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	41%	57%	72%	69%	36%	22%	25%	22%	15%	7%	11%	24%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	61%	56%	56%	59%	71%	74%	73%	74%	74%	76%	76%	69%
NEARBY WATERS	80°	79°	80°	81°	82°	83°	82°	82°	83°	83°	82°	79°
DRY DAYS	82%	91%	93%	76%	42%	38%	38%	37%	40%	30%	30%	55%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	91%	96%	97%	85%	61%	58%	59%	59%	59%	51%	50%	72%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.22	0.09	0.11	0.49	1.31	1.33	1.19	1.30	1.28	1.69	1.65	0.84
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	3%	2%	1%	13%	43%	52%	53%	56%	53%	48%	41%	15%
FOGGY DAYS	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	5%	7%	5%	2%

COMMENTS: Panama City has a two-season tropical climate based on rainfall. There is little difference from one month to another in either the length of the daylight period or in temperatures. The city has hot and humid days followed by warm and even more humid nights throughout the year. However, the sea breezes provide a measure of welcome relief. The rainy season runs from May through December, the dry season from January through April. Although *verano* means "summer" in other parts of the Spanish-speaking world, here it refers to the cooler part of the year. This season just happens to be the drier of the two seasons (as summer is in Spain). Similarly, *invierno* is generally taken to mean "winter" elsewhere. Here, it simply means the wet season. This goes to accentuate the importance of rainfall over temperature in the minds of the early Spanish settlers. The rains peaking in May and June are largely thundershowers, and are typically intense but brief. The rains of October and November are more persistent, less violent, and longer lasting.