

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE PUERTO MALDONADO AREA, PERU

LOCATION: Puerto Maldonado is located in southeastern Peru, in the department of Madre de Dios. The town is situated in the eastern foothills of the Andes Mountains, at the junction of the Madre de Dios and Tambopata Rivers. These waters eventually flow into the Amazon River. Elevations in town are between 800 and 900 feet above sea level. Once covered by dense rain forest, the area around town has been almost completely logged off.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	12:47	12:31	12:11	11:50	11:33	11:24	11:28	11:42	12:02	12:23	12:42	12:52
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:07	5:11	5:23	5:56	6:28	7:17	8:31	8:44	7:49	6:43	6:01	5:31
AREA OF BLUE SKY	25%	27%	30%	38%	45%	55%	68%	68%	56%	43%	34%	29%
LOW FOR MONTH	59°	64°	63°	59°	52°	53°	51°	53°	53°	61°	56°	65°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	71°	70°	69°	69°	66°	63°	62°	64°	66°	68°	70°	71°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	87°	87°	88°	87°	86°	84°	86°	89°	90°	89°	89°	87°
HIGH FOR MONTH	94°	92°	94°	93°	92°	93°	93°	95°	97°	97°	96°	95°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	27%	30%	35%	29%	27%	19%	25%	55%	57%	56%	46%	35%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	75%	74%	73%	71%	70%	65%	57%	54%	59%	63%	69%	73%
DRY DAYS	52%	50%	63%	73%	80%	87%	91%	93%	86%	75%	63%	60%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	53%	51%	64%	80%	86%	91%	93%	94%	89%	79%	69%	60%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.90	1.98	1.56	0.80	0.58	0.32	0.30	0.24	0.49	0.92	1.26	1.68
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	6%	5%	6%	5%	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	5%	5%	6%
FOGGY DAYS	9%	15%	14%	13%	18%	21%	18%	15%	17%	11%	5%	7%

COMMENTS: The area has a tropical two-season year based on rainfall. Temperatures do not vary much from one month to another. Nor is there much difference in the length of the daylight period from one month to another. As far as weather goes, any particular day could just as easily occur in any month of the year. The major differences in the seasons is rainfall. The rainy season runs from October through April, the dry season from May through September. The *friajes* are cold spells brought in by frigid winds from the south. They can drop the temperatures by up to 40° in a very short time, and frequently bring frost to the higher elevations. Under these conditions, a windbreaker and a sweater feel very comfortable. Visitors who bring only lightweight clothing can be in for an uncomfortable session if their visit and a visit by one of the *friajes* happen to coincide.