

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE CARACAS METROPOLITAN AREA, VENEZUELA

LOCATION: Caracas is the capital and primate city of Venezuela. The city is located on an eastward thrusting spur of the great Andes Mountains, in the north-central part of the country. The city is situated at an elevation of about 3,400 feet above sea level. The beach areas of the metropolitan area are known as *El Litoral*, and stretch along the Caribbean coast both east and west of the city.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:35	11:48	12:04	12:22	12:37	12:44	12:41	12:29	12:12	11:55	11:40	11:32
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:27	7:56	7:45	6:19	6:17	6:31	7:16	7:24	7:17	6:49	6:46	6:51
AREA OF BLUE SKY	41%	43%	38%	27%	24%	22%	26%	29%	29%	29%	30%	34%
LOW FOR MONTH	52°	53°	55°	58°	60°	60°	59°	59°	59°	59°	58°	53°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	59°	60°	62°	64°	66°	66°	65°	64°	64°	64°	63°	61°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	77°	79°	81°	83°	82°	80°	80°	80°	81°	81°	79°	79°
HIGH FOR MONTH	82°	85°	87°	88°	87°	85°	82°	84°	86°	85°	84°	82°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	2%	4%	5%	5%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	54%	51%	49%	51%	54%	58%	59%	60%	58%	59%	60%	58%
NEARBY WATERS	79°	78°	78°	79°	80°	80°	81°	82°	83°	83°	82°	79°
DRY DAYS	81%	90%	90%	84%	67%	51%	49%	51%	55%	58%	55%	67%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	92%	96%	96%	91%	81%	71%	71%	72%	73%	74%	75%	86%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.13	0.09	0.08	0.26	0.53	0.74	0.69	0.73	0.69	0.74	0.56	0.28
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	0%	1%	2%	6%	8%	9%	12%	17%	16%	9%	1%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: Caracas has a mountain version of the tropical two-season year. Its elevations keep temperatures about 11° cooler than would be the case at sea level. The rainy season is not really very rainy, and runs from May through November. The dry season is fairly dry, and extends from December through April. There is little difference from one month to another in terms of either temperatures or the length of the daylight period. Rainfall sets the seasons apart. This being the case, a dry day in August is not much different than a similar day in February. Although "verano" means "summer" in other parts of the Spanish-speaking world, here it refers to the cooler part of the year which happens to be dryer. It is also the sunnier of the two seasons, so perhaps there is some justification. Similarly, "invierno" is generally taken to mean "winter" elsewhere, but here it simply means the wet season.