

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO TRUK (CHUUK) ATOLL, MICRONESIA

LOCATION: Truk (Chuuk) Atoll, part of the Federated States of Micronesia, is located in the western Pacific Ocean, some 500 miles north of the Equator, and some 400 miles west of the capital at Pohnpei. The atoll consists of a volcanic core, with surrounded by a lagoon and fringing coral islands and reefs. Mount Teroken rises to 1,214 feet above sea level, at the center. Its higher slopes are covered by tropical forest and an almost continuous cloud cap.

|                        | JAN   | FEB   | MAR   | APR   | MAY   | JUN   | JUL   | AUG   | SEP   | OCT   | NOV   | DEC   |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| HOURS OF DAYLIGHT      | 11:45 | 11:54 | 12:05 | 12:17 | 12:28 | 12:33 | 12:31 | 12:22 | 12:11 | 11:58 | 11:48 | 11:42 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE      | 6:11  | 6:52  | 6:57  | 6:28  | 6:09  | 5:56  | 6:13  | 6:10  | 5:48  | 5:10  | 5:21  | 5:22  |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY       | 9%    | 8%    | 9%    | 9%    | 10%   | 9%    | 9%    | 9%    | 9%    | 9%    | 10%   | 7%    |
| LOW FOR MONTH          | 73°   | 73°   | 73°   | 73°   | 73°   | 73°   | 73°   | 72°   | 72°   | 72°   | 73°   | 73°   |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE    | 77°   | 77°   | 77°   | 77°   | 77°   | 76°   | 75°   | 75°   | 76°   | 76°   | 76°   | 77°   |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE  | 86°   | 86°   | 86°   | 86°   | 87°   | 87°   | 87°   | 87°   | 87°   | 87°   | 87°   | 86°   |
| HIGH FOR MONTH         | 88°   | 88°   | 88°   | 89°   | 90°   | 90°   | 90°   | 90°   | 90°   | 90°   | 89°   | 89°   |
| FROSTY MORNINGS        | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90°    | 0%    | 0%    | 1%    | 2%    | 7%    | 7%    | 8%    | 9%    | 10%   | 9%    | 6%    | 1%    |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY     | 76%   | 75%   | 75%   | 77%   | 78%   | 78%   | 78%   | 77%   | 77%   | 78%   | 78%   | 79%   |
| NEARBY WATERS          | 83°   | 82°   | 82°   | 82°   | 83°   | 82°   | 84°   | 84°   | 85°   | 84°   | 85°   | 83°   |
| DRY DAYS               | 38%   | 43%   | 40%   | 32%   | 21%   | 20%   | 21%   | 21%   | 26%   | 25%   | 21%   | 26%   |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS    | 64%   | 68%   | 64%   | 56%   | 45%   | 43%   | 44%   | 42%   | 49%   | 49%   | 47%   | 53%   |
| 5-DAY PRECIPITATION    | 1.39  | 1.12  | 1.33  | 2.04  | 2.30  | 2.01  | 2.13  | 2.15  | 2.10  | 2.19  | 1.97  | 2.05  |
| DAYS WITH SOME SNOW    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    |
| DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER | 3%    | 1%    | 3%    | 4%    | 5%    | 5%    | 5%    | 4%    | 6%    | 7%    | 7%    | 5%    |
| DAYS WITH SOME FOG     | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    |

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 50% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 43% in rainy October, to a high of 58% in less rainy February and March. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 71 during some heavy tropical downpour, and the highest should be near 91 on some sunny, dry and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will average 10° to 12° warmer than actual ones, due to the high humidity. Mountainous tropical islands tend to generate a "cloud cap" of cumulus clouds during the daylight hours. This cap will grow larger and thicker as the day warms up and the onshore breezes strengthen. It will usually dissipate or weaken greatly after sunset. The volcanic center of the Truk atoll shares this characteristic, fed by the prevailing trade winds out of the east-northeast. Consequently, the morning hours will be clearer and sunnier than the afternoons, as a general rule.