

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE MADEIRA ISLANDS, ATLANTIC OCEAN

LOCATION: The Madeira Islands, an integral part of the nation of Portugal, are located in the North Atlantic Ocean some 500 miles southwest of Lisbon, and some 400 miles due west of Morocco. There are two major inhabited islands, Madeira and Porto Santo, and a number of uninhabited islets. Elevations range from sea level to some 6,109 feet above it at the summit of Pico Ruivo on Madeira.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:16	11:01	11:58	12:58	13:50	14:16	14:05	13:22	12:25	11:25	10:32	10:04
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:51	5:28	6:09	6:34	6:37	5:50	7:31	7:53	7:02	6:10	5:16	4:52
AREA OF BLUE SKY	41%	42%	44%	43%	46%	46%	55%	57%	52%	46%	43%	42%
LOW FOR MONTH	51°	50°	51°	52°	54°	58°	61°	63°	62°	59°	55°	52°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	56°	55°	56°	57°	59°	62°	65°	66°	66°	64°	61°	57°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	66°	66°	67°	67°	69°	72°	75°	77°	77°	75°	71°	68°
HIGH FOR MONTH	70°	70°	72°	72°	75°	77°	80°	84°	83°	80°	75°	72°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	65%	64%	65%	63%	64%	67%	65%	65%	65%	65%	64%	65%
NEARBY WATERS	60°	59°	59°	61°	63°	66°	70°	72°	71°	68°	65°	63°
DRY DAYS	66%	66%	70%	80%	87%	93%	95%	95%	85%	71%	65%	62%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	80%	79%	82%	89%	94%	97%	99%	99%	92%	82%	77%	79%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.56	0.62	0.47	0.28	0.14	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.19	0.53	0.68	0.57
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: The islands have a marine version of the Mediterranean-type climate, with its “winter rain and summer drought”. Surrounded by the ocean waters, they do not get as warm in the summer or in the afternoon nor do they get as cool in the winter or at night. In addition, afternoon humidities are always moderately high, deriving as they do from the prevailing west winds off the North Atlantic Ocean. August and September are the warmest and sunniest months, with moderately sunny afternoons that are warm more often than hot. Nights are mild at this time of year. The coolest months are January and February, when afternoons will usually be mild and nights cool. “Winter” is not a cold season, but is characterized by moderately frequent (about one day in three) rains. Below-freezing temperatures do not occur at sea level.