

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE DURBAN AREA, SOUTH AFRICA

LOCATION: Durban, the vacation capital of South Africa, is located on the coast of the Indian Ocean in the southeastern part of the country. The city is situated around the shores of Natal Bay, on a narrow coastal strip between the mountains and the magnificent beaches. Elevations in the city proper are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	13:50	13:10	12:18	11:24	10:39	10:16	10:26	11:03	11:54	12:48	13:36	14:02
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	6:13	6:38	6:31	6:53	7:15	7:23	7:22	7:05	5:59	5:25	5:30	6:05
AREA OF BLUE SKY	38%	46%	49%	59%	65%	71%	70%	63%	48%	35%	35%	38%
LOW FOR MONTH	63 °	63 °	62 °	56 °	49 °	44 °	44 °	46 °	50 °	54 °	58 °	60 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	70 °	70 °	69 °	65 °	58 °	53 °	53 °	56 °	60 °	63 °	66 °	68 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	81 °	82 °	81 °	78 °	75 °	73 °	72 °	72 °	73 °	75 °	77 °	79 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	89 °	89 °	88 °	86 °	85 °	83 °	83 °	85 °	86 °	85 °	87 °	88 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	3%	3%	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	71%	71%	71%	68%	63%	57%	58%	63%	68%	70%	72%	71%
NEARBY WATERS	77 °	78 °	77 °	76 °	73 °	71 °	69 °	69 °	70 °	70 °	73 °	74 °
DRY DAYS	52%	54%	55%	69%	80%	85%	85%	79%	65%	52%	45%	50%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	73%	71%	71%	81%	89%	92%	92%	89%	80%	72%	68%	72%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.72	0.85	0.83	0.53	0.33	0.22	0.19	0.25	0.46	0.68	0.79	0.76
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	11%	7%	8%	7%	3%	2%	2%	2%	5%	14%	16%	15%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%

COMMENTS: Durban has a two-season sub-tropical year. The rainy season is only moderately rainy, and runs from October through early April. Some rains falls on about three days in each week. This usually comes as a series of showers with dry spells in between. The dry season is only moderately dry, and extends from the middle of April through the end of September. Days are a bit shorter, much sunnier, and the rains come only about one day a week. Afternoons are pleasantly warm without being oppressive. This is the most popular season for holiday-makers. The *berg* (Afrikaans for “mountain”) winds blow down from the Drakenberg escarpment throughout the year, but especially during the cooler months. At Durban, they usually come from the northwest, and can blow for two or three days at a time. They serve to raise temperatures significantly and to drop humidities. All of the really hot days of the year come during the *berg* winds.