

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO AJACCIO AND SOUTHERN CORSICA, FRANCE

LOCATION: Ajaccio is located on the southwestern coast of the French island of Corsica. The city is the seat of government of the southern half of the island (Bastia takes care of the north), and is situated on the north shore of the Gulf of Ajaccio. Elevations are generally close to sea level. Most of the French visitors to the city and its environs are seeking sunshine for their annual vacation. Ajaccio has more sunshine than any other French city. The island boasts a tremendous range of landforms and scenery. The city, of course, is also the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:31	10:34	11:55	13:20	14:32	15:11	14:55	13:53	12:32	11:08	9:53	9:12
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:18	5:00	6:09	7:36	9:15	10:47	11:55	10:45	8:49	6:50	4:54	4:03
AREA OF BLUE SKY	35%	32%	36%	39%	45%	54%	74%	66%	55%	45%	37%	33%
LOW FOR MONTH	32 °	32 °	35 °	40 °	43 °	52 °	56 °	57 °	52 °	45 °	39 °	34 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	39 °	41 °	43 °	47 °	52 °	59 °	62 °	63 °	60 °	54 °	48 °	43 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	56 °	57 °	61 °	65 °	71 °	78 °	83 °	84 °	80 °	72 °	64 °	59 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	63 °	65 °	70 °	75 °	83 °	87 °	93 °	93 °	88 °	82 °	73 °	66 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	13%	11%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	8%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	6%	6%	2%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	67%	67%	67%	66%	68%	64%	63%	63%	64%	65%	68%	69%
NEARBY WATERS	56 °	55 °	56 °	58 °	62 °	68 °	72 °	74 °	72 °	67 °	62 °	58 °
DRY DAYS	62%	62%	67%	69%	76%	86%	95%	92%	80%	69%	62%	60%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	80%	81%	82%	83%	88%	93%	97%	96%	89%	81%	76%	79%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.49	0.43	0.41	0.35	0.26	0.15	0.11	0.11	0.29	0.60	0.71	0.50
SNOWY DAYS	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	7%	9%	9%	9%	8%	10%	8%	10%	14%	15%	13%	8%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%

COMMENTS: The island has a climate typical of the northern Mediterranean. Summers are long, very sunny, hot, and dry. Winters are short, still fairly sunny, cool, and fairly wet. Spring is notable for the blossoming of a variety of native plants, whereas autumn is hardly recognized as a true season at all. Most of the native woody plants are evergreen (both broadleaf and needleleaf), so there is no “fall” of leaves. Nor do most native plants enter into any season of dormancy. Vegetative growth continues unhindered throughout the year. Winter is a cool wet season, rather than a cold snowy one. Only about a dozen mornings in the year will start out below freezing. Snow in the city is pretty much restricted to flurries, and rarely remains on the ground for more than a few hours. In the mountains back of the city, it is a different matter entirely, and the peaks often remain snow-capped well into the early summer. Summers are the prime season.