SUNSHINE GUIDE TO MONT-DE-MARSAN AND GASCONY, FRANCE

LOCATION: Gascony is located in southwestern France, just north of the Basque Country. Its traditional capital is at Auch, but Mont-de-Marsan has much the better climatic data. Mont-de-Marsan is situated at the junction of the Douze and Midour Rivers, on the great alluvial plain that borders the Bay of Biscay. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:19	10:27	11:54	13:25	14:44	15:25	15:08	14:01	12:34	11:04	9:43	8:59
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:51	3:53	5:25	5:53	6:35	7:04	7:56	7:07	6:16	4:57	3:11	2:28
AREA OF BLUE SKY	28%	32%	36%	33%	33%	36%	44%	42%	41%	38%	30%	26%
LOW FOR MONTH	19°	20°	25°	31°	38°	44°	47°	47°	41°	35°	26°	22°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	34°	35°	38°	42°	48°	54°	58°	57°	53°	46°	39°	36°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	50°	53°	59°	63°	69°	75°	80°	80°	76°	67°	56°	51°
HIGH FOR MONTH	61°	67°	73°	75°	81°	89°	94°	91°	89°	80°	69°	64°
FROSTY MORNINGS	40%	37%	27%	11%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	22%	34%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0 %	0 %	0 %	1%	4 %	13%	11%	5%	0 %	0%	0 %
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	72%	65%	59%	57%	58%	58%	56%	56%	59%	67%	70%	72%
DRY DAYS	47%	47%	51%	47%	49%	58%	67%	64%	62%	57%	52%	49%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	75%	74%	75%	72%	73%	78%	83%	81%	79%	76%	73%	74%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.55	0.56	0.51	0.52	0.54	0.44	0.35	0.39	0.45	0.53	0.57	0.61
SNOWY DAYS	4%	5%	2%	0%	0%	0 %	0 %	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	2 %	4 %	7%	14%	15%	15%	17%	12%	4 %	2%	2 %
FOGGY DAYS	20%	15%	14%	13%	11%	12%	16%	18%	25%	25%	26%	23%

COMMENTS: The area has a four-season year. Precipitation is more than adequate in all months, with a distinct cool season maximum. December gets the most precipitation, June the least. Summers are fairly sunny, hot, and moderately humid. Summer afternoon thundershowers are a feature of the area. You can expect one about once a week in that season. Winters are cloudy, cool to chilly, and very humid. About a third of the winter days start out below freezing, and they almost always warm up well above that point. Snow flurries are common during the cooler months, but snow on the ground past noon of the next day is quite rare. Spring and autumn are seasons of transition. Warm spells and cool spells alternate as the various frontal systems move in off the Bay and proceed on their eastward course across the continent of Europe. Fogs, ground fogs, and heavy mists are common on the cooler days throughout the year.