

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO COCHABAMBA AND TUNARI NATIONAL PARK, BOLIVIA

LOCATION: Cochabamba is the capital of the province of the same name, and Bolivia's third largest city (after La Paz and Santa Cruz). It is located just a bit west of central Bolivia, and is situated in an Andean basin between the eastern and central Andean chains. The city is not far from the shores of Lake Alalay. Elevations are more than 8,000 feet above sea level. Tunari National Park lies just to the north of the city.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	13:03	12:41	12:13	11:43	11:19	11:07	11:12	11:32	12:00	12:29	12:55	13:09
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	5:27	6:05	5:16	6:37	7:51	8:31	8:37	8:10	7:34	6:47	6:23	6:21
AREA OF BLUE SKY	24%	30%	32%	51%	68%	74%	77%	70%	58%	47%	38%	30%
LOW FOR MONTH	49 °	48 °	45 °	40 °	33 °	29 °	28 °	33 °	38 °	42 °	47 °	48 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	55 °	54 °	53 °	49 °	42 °	37 °	37 °	42 °	48 °	52 °	54 °	55 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	75 °	75 °	75 °	77 °	76 °	74 °	74 °	76 °	77 °	79 °	79 °	77 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	85 °	84 °	84 °	85 °	83 °	81 °	81 °	84 °	86 °	88 °	88 °	88 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	20%	19%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	46%	46%	44%	35%	28%	26%	24%	26%	29%	30%	34%	39%
DRY DAYS	47%	54%	64%	84%	95%	96%	98%	94%	85%	82%	72%	58%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	71%	76%	84%	93%	99%	99%	99%	98%	97%	93%	88%	74%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.73	0.69	0.42	0.15	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.13	0.29	0.59
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	26%	23%	16%	7%	2%	1%	0%	1%	5%	13%	20%	27%
FOGGY DAYS	8%	4%	5%	5%	4%	6%	4%	2%	5%	5%	3%	5%

COMMENTS: Cochabamba has a mountain version of the tropical wet-and-dry climate. Its elevation reduces both day and night temperatures over the same latitudes in the lowlands. The rainy season is not all that rainy, and can be expected from the middle of November through the end of March. The rest of the year is quite dry. As is common in the tropics, the range of temperatures from sunrise to mid-afternoon is much greater than averages from the warmest month to the coolest. Clear days will have a wide range of temperatures, cloudy ones will have much less of a range. In mountain areas, winds tend to blow down the slopes at night, and up the slopes during the daylight hours. Passing storm systems can easily override both of these local winds. Elevation and--to a lesser degree--slope orientation rule local climates. You can expect daytime temperatures to drop an average of 1°F for each 300'-increase in elevation--and vice versa going downhill. As in all mountains, the direction the slope is facing makes a tremendous difference in how much sunshine and how much rain the slope gets.