

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO SUVA AND THE WINDWARD SHORES, FIJI

LOCATION: Suva is located on the southeastern coast of Viti Levu, Fiji's largest and most populous island. Since the prevailing winds are out of the southeast, Suva is situated on the windward shore. In a land where there is a significant weather difference between windward and leeward shores, Suva's climate is also typical of that of windward shores in general. Elevations are close to sea level.

|                       | JAN   | FEB   | MAR   | APR   | MAY   | JUN   | JUL   | AUG   | SEP   | OCT   | NOV   | DEC   |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| HOURS OF DAYLIGHT     | 13:05 | 12:43 | 12:13 | 11:42 | 11:17 | 11:04 | 11:10 | 11:31 | 11:59 | 12:30 | 12:58 | 13:12 |
| HOURS OF SUNSHINE     | 5:40  | 5:30  | 4:57  | 4:51  | 4:30  | 4:17  | 4:16  | 4:25  | 4:15  | 4:43  | 5:16  | 6:26  |
| AREA OF BLUE SKY      | 30%   | 29%   | 29%   | 28%   | 30%   | 30%   | 29%   | 28%   | 26%   | 27%   | 29%   | 30%   |
| LOW FOR MONTH         | 70 °  | 71 °  | 71 °  | 68 °  | 66 °  | 63 °  | 62 °  | 62 °  | 63 °  | 64 °  | 65 °  | 68 °  |
| SUNRISE TEMPERATURE   | 74 °  | 74 °  | 74 °  | 73 °  | 71 °  | 70 °  | 68 °  | 68 °  | 69 °  | 70 °  | 72 °  | 73 °  |
| AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE | 86 °  | 87 °  | 86 °  | 85 °  | 82 °  | 81 °  | 79 °  | 79 °  | 80 °  | 81 °  | 83 °  | 85 °  |
| HIGH FOR MONTH        | 91 °  | 91 °  | 91 °  | 89 °  | 87 °  | 86 °  | 85 °  | 85 °  | 86 °  | 87 °  | 87 °  | 90 °  |
| FROSTY MORNINGS       | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    |
| AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °  | 0%    | 4%    | 3%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    |
| AFTERNOON HUMIDITY    | 74%   | 77%   | 76%   | 77%   | 79%   | 74%   | 73%   | 74%   | 73%   | 73%   | 74%   | 74%   |
| NEARBY WATERS         | 82 °  | 82 °  | 82 °  | 82 °  | 80 °  | 78 °  | 78 °  | 76 °  | 77 °  | 78 °  | 78 °  | 81 °  |
| DRY DAYS              | 28%   | 24%   | 24%   | 26%   | 35%   | 42%   | 44%   | 41%   | 40%   | 41%   | 38%   | 32%   |
| REASONABLY DRY DAYS   | 41%   | 39%   | 35%   | 44%   | 54%   | 63%   | 66%   | 62%   | 59%   | 59%   | 53%   | 48%   |
| 5-DAY PRECIPITATION   | 1.95  | 2.06  | 2.37  | 2.28  | 1.64  | 1.08  | 0.88  | 1.14  | 1.30  | 1.41  | 1.67  | 1.86  |
| SNOWY DAYS            | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    | 0%    |
| THUNDER DAYS          | 11%   | 13%   | 17%   | 9%    | 3%    | 3%    | 3%    | 3%    | 3%    | 3%    | 6%    | 8%    |
| FOGGY DAYS            | 2%    | 1%    | 1%    | 1%    | 2%    | 3%    | 2%    | 2%    | 1%    | 2%    | 1%    | 1%    |

COMMENTS: The Fiji Islands have a rainy tropical climate, and Suva has a windward (rainier) version of that. There is little variation from one month to another in length of the daylight period, percentage of sunshine, degree of cloud cover, or either daytime or nighttime temperatures. The chief variation, and the one that defines the seasons, is in the amount and frequency of rainfall. The very rainy season runs from December through May, with the remainder of the year being simply rainy. The annual range of temperature is usually from the low 60's to the low 90's. Suva averages about 120-inches of rain annually, with considerable variation from one year to another. Rainfall usually comes as a series of intense, fairly brief, showers. Periods of more prolonged rainfall are usually associated with nearby tropical storms. Both rainfall intensity and frequency increase with elevation, and the slopes inland of Suva can get more than twice the rain of Suva itself. Tropical cyclones (most less than hurricane strength) pass through the Fijis about two years out of three.