

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SANTIAGO DE CUBA AREA, CUBA

LOCATION: Santiago de Cuba, the nation's second largest city, is located on the eastern portion of the south coast of Cuba. It is situated at the head or the estuary of the Sierra Maestra River, well-protected from tropical storms. The city is the capital of the state of the same name, and is the site of a major university. Elevations within the city are close to sea level, with San Juan Hill (of Spanish-American War fame) rising just to the east. Santiago is the most Caribbean of Cuba's cities, with strong French and Haitian influences.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:04	11:29	12:02	12:36	13:05	13:20	13:13	12:49	12:17	11:43	11:13	10:57
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	8:26	9:35	9:45	10:03	8:10	7:52	7:52	8:07	7:09	6:17	7:23	7:32
AREA OF BLUE SKY	69%	69%	68%	64%	52%	48%	56%	55%	50%	50%	58%	65%
LOW FOR MONTH	63°	63°	65°	67°	70°	72°	73°	73°	73°	71°	69°	64°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	69°	68°	70°	72°	73°	75°	76°	76°	75°	74°	72°	70°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	82°	82°	83°	83°	84°	86°	87°	88°	87°	86°	85°	83°
HIGH FOR MONTH	88°	89°	89°	90°	91°	93°	94°	95°	94°	92°	92°	90°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	11%	26%	28%	24%	13%	6%	4%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	69%	69%	71%	71%	75%	76%	74%	74%	75%	75%	73%	72%
NEARBY WATERS	80°	79°	80°	81°	82°	83°	84°	85°	85°	84°	83°	79°
DRY DAYS	80%	82%	83%	78%	65%	70%	79%	71%	63%	55%	67%	77%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	90%	92%	91%	86%	75%	77%	87%	81%	73%	65%	79%	90%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.22	0.14	0.25	0.48	1.01	0.85	0.38	0.61	0.98	1.46	0.61	0.20
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	1%	1%	2%	5%	8%	11%	11%	17%	10%	3%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 67% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 54% in October, to a high of 83% in February. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 61° on some calm and clear winter sunrise during a *nortero*, and the highest should be near 96° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. The relatively high humidity makes sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be up to 9° warmer than actual ones during the heat of summer. Clear days are remarkably common for a Caribbean island, due to Santiago's position on the lee south side of the island, sheltered by the spine of mountains from the cloudiness of the north coast. January sees clear skies on 55% of its days, and even the cloudy summer months get one clear day in four. The best weather comes from January through April.