

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO CONSTANZA AND THE CORDILLERA CENTRAL, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

LOCATION: Constanza is a charming one-time “hill station” located in Cordillera Central some 75 miles northwest of Santo Domingo. The town is situated in a fertile well-farmed valley, completely surrounded by mountains. Major crops are garlic, strawberries, lettuce, apples, and potatoes. Much of the land is owned by Japanese farmers brought in to establish commercial agriculture in the 1950's. Its elevation is around 3,530 feet above sea level, but the mountains rise to more than ten-thousand feet in elevation at Pico Duarte. There are several National Parks accessible from Constanza, the most notable of which is the Jose del Carmen Ramirez, about five miles to the west. Most of the former good hotels are now closed, but several budget hotels remain.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:08	11:31	12:02	12:34	13:01	13:15	13:09	12:47	12:16	11:44	11:16	11:02
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:49	5:19	5:31	5:22	5:20	6:06	6:21	6:28	5:37	5:21	4:39	4:02
AREA OF BLUE SKY	57%	58%	59%	56%	48%	50%	52%	54%	54%	54%	54%	54%
LOW FOR MONTH	40 °	40 °	41 °	45 °	48 °	50 °	47 °	50 °	51 °	50 °	45 °	41 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	48 °	49 °	50 °	52 °	54 °	54 °	55 °	55 °	55 °	54 °	52 °	50 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	74 °	75 °	76 °	76 °	77 °	78 °	78 °	79 °	79 °	78 °	76 °	74 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	79 °	81 °	83 °	85 °	85 °	83 °	84 °	83 °	84 °	85 °	81 °	80 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	71%	70%	70%	70%	71%	71%	70%	70%	71%	72%	73%	72%
DRY DAYS	62%	66%	70%	68%	64%	73%	71%	70%	70%	66%	58%	58%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	84%	85%	86%	81%	70%	79%	82%	81%	78%	76%	77%	80%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.32	0.29	0.24	0.52	1.35	0.83	0.50	0.58	0.82	0.85	0.52	0.42
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	1%	1%	5%	21%	22%	25%	28%	35%	27%	11%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	1%	2%	4%	8%	7%	16%	18%	14%	7%	3%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 45% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 37% in December, to a high of 51% in August. The surrounding mountains shade the town in both the early morning and the late afternoon. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 36° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 89° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty close to actual ones. Winds tend to blow strongly down the slopes at night, and rather weakly 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, and therefore in its soil temperature and moisture content.