

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO LES CAYES AND MACAYA NATIONAL PARK, HAITI

LOCATION: Les Cayes is located on the south shore of Haiti's southwestern peninsula, in the province of Sud. The town is situated on a small bay, sheltered by the offshore islands that give it its name. Back of town the Massif del la Hotte reaches elevations of 7,700 feet at the summit of Pic Macaya. This peak and much of the surrounding mountains are part of Macaya National Park. The Park is covered by virgin rain and cloud forests, and is home to much of Haiti's indigenous wildlife. The University of Florida has a research camp outside of Les Cayes, but it is not easy to reach.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:11	11:33	12:02	12:33	12:59	13:13	13:07	12:45	12:16	11:45	11:18	11:04
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	7:20	8:16	8:55	9:01	8:21	7:45	8:10	8:37	8:20	7:22	7:20	6:36
AREA OF BLUE SKY	60%	60%	63%	59%	49%	46%	52%	54%	51%	49%	55%	55%
LOW FOR MONTH	63°	64°	64°	66°	67°	70°	67°	69°	71°	69°	67°	64°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	69°	69°	70°	72°	74°	75°	75°	75°	74°	74°	72°	70°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	85°	85°	85°	86°	87°	88°	89°	89°	88°	88°	87°	86°
HIGH FOR MONTH	89°	91°	90°	91°	93°	94°	94°	94°	95°	94°	94°	91°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	5%	5%	7%	14%	25%	40%	56%	54%	47%	35%	22%	11%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	65%	66%	66%	68%	71%	71%	69%	72%	73%	74%	71%	67%
NEARBY WATERS	80°	80°	80°	80°	82°	83°	84°	84°	85°	84°	83°	82°
DRY DAYS	72%	70%	73%	67%	59%	64%	64%	61%	58%	58%	65%	71%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	82%	81%	78%	74%	64%	72%	73%	69%	65%	61%	73%	84%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.52	0.59	0.81	1.09	1.73	1.09	0.93	1.25	1.49	2.00	1.04	0.46
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	2%	2%	3%	4%	22%	24%	38%	47%	56%	42%	20%	4%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 66% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 59% in June, to a high of 74% in March. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 60° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 98° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be from 3° to 10° warmer than actual ones, due to humidity. Unless overwhelmed by passing storms, there is a regular daily alternation of land and sea breezes along the coastline, and for a short distance inland. During the day, the winds are off the sea. These sea breezes start before noon and will reach a peak in the late afternoon, when the temperature contrast between the land and the sea is greatest. Before midnight, the gentler land breezes start and blow from the land out to sea. They will reach their peak just about sunrise. This timing accounts for the common practice of sailing ships leaving port at dawn. The best weather comes from January through March.