

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SAN SALVADOR AREA, EL SALVADOR

LOCATION: San Salvador is the capital and largest city of the nation of El Salvador. The city is located in a mountain basin drained by the Rio Acelhuate. The basin is known as the *Valle de las Hamacas*, or "Valley of Earthquakes", because of the frequency and severity of these earth tremors. Elevations average about 2,200 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	11:25	11:42	12:03	12:26	12:46	12:56	12:52	12:35	12:13	11:51	11:31	11:21
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	9:45	9:56	9:32	8:09	7:16	5:54	7:51	8:20	6:06	6:53	8:54	9:30
AREA OF BLUE SKY	76%	71%	62%	47%	34%	25%	28%	30%	24%	34%	57%	72%
LOW FOR MONTH	55°	55°	58°	60°	64°	64°	63°	64°	63°	62°	58°	56°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	61°	62°	63°	66°	68°	67°	66°	67°	67°	66°	64°	62°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	88°	90°	92°	91°	89°	86°	87°	87°	85°	86°	86°	87°
HIGH FOR MONTH	93°	94°	96°	97°	95°	92°	92°	92°	91°	90°	90°	91°
FROSTY MORNINGS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	4%	14%	24%	33%	11%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	45%	43%	46%	51%	62%	67%	61%	63%	70%	66%	56%	50%
DRY DAYS	96%	97%	95%	86%	60%	38%	40%	38%	36%	50%	85%	94%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	99%	99%	98%	91%	71%	49%	48%	52%	49%	62%	91%	98%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.32	1.18	2.05	1.94	1.88	2.05	1.50	0.26	0.06
SNOWY DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
THUNDER DAYS	1%	2%	4%	19%	38%	55%	64%	67%	56%	41%	11%	6%
FOGGY DAYS	0%	3%	3%	9%	7%	4%	5%	2%	5%	4%	1%	1%

COMMENTS: San Salvador has an upland version of the standard tropical wet-and-dry climate, with two seasons based on rainfall. The length of the daylight period does not vary much from one month to another, nor does the temperature. The city's 2,200-foot elevation keeps temperatures somewhat cooler than similar latitudes down on the coast. The rainy season usually starts in May and lasts through October. Skies are cloudy, most days get at least some rain, and afternoon humidities are high. The dry season normally runs from November through April. Skies are sunny, four out of five days get no rain at all, and afternoon humidities are moderate to low. The clear sunny skies raise afternoon temperatures to their annual peak, especially in March and April. Smog is a problem in San Salvador, as it is in almost all mountain basins containing large cities. It is most noticeable and most severe during the latter part of the dry season. Heavy rains tend to wash it out of the air, but it soon returns. Most of it is caused by automotive exhausts.