



Welcome to Florida

<http://www.myflorida.com/taxonomy/visitor/> click on this website for more information @ Florida

MAJOR CITIES:

Middle Florida	Orlando
West Florida	Pensacola
East Florida	Jacksonville
South Florida	Miami

FLORIDA – CLIMATE

The climate of the north and central parts of the US state of Florida is humid subtropical. South Florida has a tropical climate.^[1] There is a defined rainy season from June through September, which are the months most at risk of landfalling tropical cyclones. Thunderstorms lead to several lightning-strike deaths per year statewide. Florida is one of the most tornado-prone states in the United States. During mid summer, dust emanating from Africa affects the state, turning skies white and decreasing air quality.^[2]

Between October and May, fronts regularly sweep through the state which keeps conditions dry, particularly over the peninsula. Towards the end of the dry season in the spring, brush fires become common statewide. In winters where an El Niño climate cycle exists, rainfall increases while temperatures are cooler statewide. In North Florida, snow and sleet have been witnessed as early as November and as late as April, though most areas do not experience any frozen precipitation during a typical year. Easterly winds off the warm waters of the Gulf Stream running through the Florida Straits keep temperatures moderate across the southern peninsula year round.

During the summer, minima range from near 70 °F (21 °C) in northern Florida to near 80 °F (27 °C) in the Keys. High temperatures during the summer average in the lower 90s Fahrenheit statewide. Relief from the heat during the summer comes in the form of afternoon and evening thunderstorm activity, late morning and afternoon sea breezes off the relatively cooler ocean, and during the passage of a tropical cyclone. The passage of a cold front through the state is rare during the warm season. The record high temperature for the state is 109 °F (43 °C) at Monticello in 1931

Averages

Statewide, the highest rainfall amounts occur during the summer months. In northern Florida, there is a weak winter secondary maximum while statewide the driest months of the year are during the spring. During El Niño, Florida sees greater rainfall between November and March. Due to the lack of the secondary maximum across the peninsula, a distinct dry season is seen in the averages from winter through spring. This dry season provokes brush fires annually as temperatures rise during the late spring, before they fade during early June as the rainy season gets underway.

Extremes

The heaviest rainfall to occur in 24 hours was measured in Yankeetown during Hurricane Easy (1950), 38.70 inches (98.3 cm). This is also the highest known point storm total maximum related to any tropical cyclone which has impacted Florida, and by itself would be the highest known rainfall total for any month from any location within Florida. This rainfall amount remained the national 24-hour rainfall record until Tropical Storm Claudette (1979). Heavy rainfall events have fallen due to stalled fronts near the state as well, and occur during the March through May and October through November timeframe.

The wettest month recorded at a Florida climate station was during May 1891 when Gainesville, Florida received 30.90 inches (78.5 cm). The wettest year on record for a Florida climate station was during 1879 when 127.24 inches (323.2 cm) fell at Pensacola, Florida. The driest year for a climate station statewide was during 1974 when only 19.99 inches (50.8 cm) fell at Key West.

One of the worst years for wildfires was in 1998, at the end of an El Niño cycle. 480 wildfires consumed 500,000 acres (2,000 km²) statewide. In 2010, the National Weather Service issued more fire alerts in Florida than anywhere else in the nation. In 2011, they are raising their criteria in order to drop the number reported to 1/15 of those reported in the past.

A statewide drought existed until 2009, that began in November 2005, a month after Hurricane Wilma's passage through the state. The previous significant drought occurred in 2000, which was the state's driest year on record.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_of_Florida
Florida climate.

click here for more information about

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

<http://www.visitflorida.com/en-us.html> Click on this site for more cultural activity ideas

Exploring Little Havana in Miami

- Located between 8th and 27th Avenues within the center of Miami, Florida, is a historic area known as "Little Havana" (littlehavana.biz), the home of many Cuban immigrants who thrive and work in this community. The attractions include authentic Cuban restaurants, small cigar stores, historic tree-lined parks where Cubans still play chess every day, and the famous Walk of the Stars, with its long list of Latin-American actors, artists, and musicians. A popular activity called "Cultural Friday" occurs on the last Friday of each month and is a Latin street party that includes food, dancing, music, and street performers.

First Friday Art Walk in St. Augustine

- The First Friday Art Walk (floridashistoriccoast.com) is located in the historic city of St. Augustine, in northeastern Florida. On the first Friday of each month, more than 20 art galleries offer extended hours from 5 to 9 p.m. where visitors can explore the galleries, attend artist receptions and stroll the brick-lined streets in the five thriving art districts. Parking is free at the San Sebastian Winery on King Street, and the city of St. Augustine provides free transportation on its Old Town Trolley.

Visiting the Salvador Dalí Museum in St. Petersburg

- The Salvador Dalí Museum (thedali.org) is located in downtown St. Petersburg on the central-west coast of Florida. Established in 1982, it offers the world's largest collection of the controversial artist Salvador Dalí, including 96 oil paintings, more than 100 watercolors and drawings, as well as 1,300 different graphics, photographs, and sculptures. Visitors can take a self-guided tour of the museum with an audio guide that is free with admission, or take a guided tour, which is offered every hour during operating hours. The museum also includes an on-site cafe that serves specialty dishes such as tapas and gazpacho, and a museum where visitors can purchase anything from posters to Dalí Wear.

Take a Historic Trolley Tour of Key West

- The city of Key West is located on the southernmost point in the continental United States, with a long, colorful history that dates back to 1822. With its beautiful sunsets and clear waters of the Gulf of Mexico, it has been the home of many well-known figures such as Ernest Hemingway and Harry Truman. Key West Tours (trolleytours.com) is a convenient way to explore all of Key West's major attractions, which include the former homes of many literary figures. The narrated tours cover more than 100 different points of interest, and allow passengers to hop on and off at any of the 12 stops through the city. The tickets are valid for one full day, and children under the age of 12 ride free.

GROCERY SHOPPING

<p>Save-A-Lot Albertsons Food Giant Harris Teeter IGA Tom Thumb Food Store Publix Super Market</p>	<p>Bi-Lo, LLC Food City Ingles Market Whole Foods Market, Inc. Trader Joe's Wal-Mart Costco</p>
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SHOPPING

Area	City	Mall
Central East Coast	Daytona Beach FL	Volusia Mall
Central East Coast	Ft Lauderdale FL	Coral Ridge Mall - Ft Lauderdale
Central East Coast	Ft Lauderdale FL	The Galleria Fort Lauderdale
Central East Coast	Jensen Beach FL	Treasure Coast Square
Central East Coast	Melbourne FL	Melbourne Square
Central East Coast	Merritt Island FL	Merritt Square Mall
Central East Coast	Palm Beach County FL	The Mall at Wellington Green
Central East Coast	Palm Beach Gardens FL	Downtown at the Gardens
Central East Coast	Vero Beach FL	Indian River Mall
Central East Coast	Vero Beach FL	Vero Beach Outlets
Central East Coast	Viera FL	The Avenue Viera
Miami area	Aventura FL	Aventura Mall
Miami area	Bal Harbour FL	Bal Harbour Shops
Miami area	Boca Raton FL	Mizner Park
Miami area	Boca Raton FL	Town Center at Boca Raton
Miami area	Boynton Beach FL	Boynton Beach Mall
Miami area	Coral Gables FL	Village of Merrick Park
Miami area	Coral Springs FL	Coral Square
Miami area	Florida City FL	Florida Keys Outlet Center
Miami area	Hialeah FL	Westland Mall
Miami area	Miami FL	Bayside Marketplace

Miami area	Miami FL	Dadeland Mall
Miami area	Miami FL	Dolphin Mall
Miami area	Miami FL	Miami International Mall
Miami area	Miami FL	Southland Mall - Miami
Miami area	Miami FL	The Shops at Midtown Miami
Miami area	Palm Beach Gardens FL	The Gardens Mall
Miami area	Pembroke Pines FL	Pembroke Lakes Mall
Miami area	Plantation FL	Westfield Broward Shopping Centre
Miami area	South Miami FL	The Shops at Sunset Place
Miami area	Sunrise FL	Sawgrass Mills
Miami area	West Palm Beach FL	CityPlace
Miami area	West Palm Beach FL	Palm Beach Outlets
NE & N Central FL	Gainesville FL	Butler Plaza
NE & N Central FL	Gainesville FL	The Oaks Mall
NE & N Central FL	Jacksonville FL	Regency Square Mall
NE & N Central FL	Jacksonville FL	St. Johns Town Center
NE & N Central FL	Jacksonville FL	The Avenues
NE & N Central FL	Lake City FL	Lake City Mall
NE & N Central FL	Ocala FL	Paddock Mall
NE & N Central FL	Orange Park FL	Orange Park Mall
NE & N Central FL	St Augustine FL	Ponce de Leon Mall
NE & N Central FL	St Augustine FL	St Augustine Premium Outlets
NE & N Central FL	St Augustine FL	St. Augustine Outlets
Orlando area	Altamonte Springs FL	Altamonte Mall
Orlando area	Kissimmee FL	The Loop - Loop West
Orlando area	Lake Wales FL	Eagle Ridge Mall
Orlando area	Lakeland FL	Lakeland Square
Orlando area	Leesburg FL	Lake Square Mall
Orlando area	Ocoee FL	West Oaks Mall
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Festival Bay Mall
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores

Orlando area	Orlando FL	Orlando Fashion Square
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Orlando Premium Outlets - International Dr
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Orlando Premium Outlets - Vineland Ave
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Outlet Marketplace
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Pointe Orlando
Orlando area	Orlando FL	The Florida Mall
Orlando area	Orlando FL	The Mall at Millenia
Orlando area	Orlando FL	Waterford Lakes Town Center
Orlando area	Oviedo FL	Oviedo Mall
Orlando area	Sanford FL	Seminole Towne Center
Panhandle	Destin FL	Destin Commons
Panhandle	Destin FL	Silver Sands Premium Outlets
Panhandle	Graceville FL	Factory Stores of America Graceville
Panhandle	Mary Esther FL	Santa Rosa Mall
Panhandle	Miramar Beach FL	Grand Boulevard at Sandestin Town Center
Panhandle	Panama City Beach FL	Pier Park
Panhandle	Panama City FL	Panama City Mall
Panhandle	Pensacola FL	Cordova Mall
Panhandle	Pensacola FL	University Mall
Panhandle	Tallahassee FL	Governor's Square
Panhandle	Tallahassee FL	Tallahassee Mall
Southwest FL	Estero FL	Coconut Point
Southwest FL	Estero FL	Miromar Outlets Florida
Southwest FL	Fort Myers FL	Edison Mall
Southwest FL	Fort Myers FL	Ft. Myers Tanger Outlet
Southwest FL	Fort Myers FL	Gulf Coast Town Center
Southwest FL	Fort Myers FL	The Bell Tower Shops
Southwest FL	Naples FL	Coastland Center
Southwest FL	Naples FL	Naples Outlet Center
Southwest FL	Naples FL	Waterside Shops
Southwest FL	Port Charlotte FL	Port Charlotte Town Center

Tampa-St Pete area	Brandon FL	Westfield Brandon Shopping Centre
Tampa-St Pete area	Clearwater FL	Westfield Countryside Shopping Centre
Tampa-St Pete area	Crystal River FL	Crystal River Mall
Tampa-St Pete area	Ellenton FL	Ellenton Premium Outlets
Tampa-St Pete area	Port Richey FL	Gulf View Square
Tampa-St Pete area	Sarasota FL	Sarasota Square Shopping Centre
Tampa-St Pete area	Sarasota FL	Westfield Southgate Shopping Centre
Tampa-St Pete area	Sebring FL	Lakeshore Mall
Tampa-St Pete area	St Petersburg FL	Tyrone Square Mall
Tampa-St Pete area	Tampa FL	International Plaza
Tampa-St Pete area	Tampa FL	University Mall
Tampa-St Pete area	Tampa FL	Westfield Citrus Park Shopping Centre
Tampa-St Pete area	Tampa FL	WestShore Plaza
Tampa-St Pete area	Wesley Chapel FL	The Shops at Wiregrass

PHARMACIES

Walgreens

CVS Pharmacy

Target

Tom Thumb (Kroger)

Rite Aid

Wal-Mart

<http://www.superpages.com/yellowpages/c-pharmacies/s-fl/>

POST OFFICES/SHIPPING



<http://www.postofficehours.net/state/FL.html>

click here for more information/type in your city and state.



<http://local.fedex.com/fl/florida-city/>

click here for more information/type in your city and state under "Find A Location"



https://www.ups.com/dropoff?loc=en_US

click here for more information/type in the city and state where you are living.

TIME ZONES

Florida Time Zone - Florida Current Local Time - Daylight Saving Time

Eastern Florida is in the Eastern Time Zone
Western Florida is in the Eastern Time Zone

<http://localtimes.info/search/?s=florida&x=0&y=0>

type in the state where you live by the "spy glass"

COST OF LIVING IN FLORIDA

Cost of Living	Florida, FL	United States
Overall	100	100
Grocery	104	100
Health	101	100
Housing	98	100
Utilities	97	100
Transportation	104	100
Miscellaneous	100	100

Our cost of living indices are based on a US average of 100. An amount below 100 means Florida, FL is cheaper than the US average. A cost of living index above 100 means Florida, FL is more expensive.

Overall, Florida, FL cost of living is 100.50.

http://www.bestplaces.net/cost_of_living/state/Florida click here for more information

MINIMUM WAGE

State	2018 Minimum Wage	2017 Tipped Wage
FL	\$8.25	\$5.23

<https://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/america.htm#stateDetails>

click here for more information/click on the state where you are currently living.

WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION

<http://www.myfloridacfo.com/division/wc/#.VRGO4fzF-lq>

Click here for more information

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Florida Bus Shuttle

Daytona Beach -- VOTRAN

Fort Myers – Lee Tran

Gainesville – Regional TX

Jacksonville –Jacksonville TA

Miami/Ft Lauderdale/W Palm Bch – Broward County Transit/Miami-Dade TA/Palm

Tran/South FL RTA

Orlando – Lynx

Tallahassee – Star Metro

Tampa/St Petersburg – HART/Pinellas Suncoast TA

<http://www.apta.com/resources/links/unitedstates/Pages/FloridaTransitLinks.aspx>

click here for more information