

TYPES OF CLIMATE IN BOLIVIA

Bolivia has almost all types of climate (tropical on the plains and polar climate in the mountainous areas of Bolivia). In addition to the variability of the weather in Bolivia, in many of areas of Bolivia are rapidly changing weather conditions during the year, which is difficult to predict. Climatic conditions in Bolivia are determined by several factors, among which the most important are: the geographical position of the area, height, terrain, wind direction and strength and climatic phenomenon called El Niño and La Niña. El Niño - Southern Oscillation is a quasiperiodic climate pattern that occurs across the tropical Pacific Ocean. The Southern Oscillation refers to variations in the temperature of the surface of the tropical eastern Pacific Ocean (warming or cooling known as El Niño and La Niña respectively), and in air surface pressure in the tropical western Pacific. The two variations are coupled: the warm oceanic phase, El Niño, accompanies high air surface pressure in the western Pacific, while the cold phase, La Niña, accompanies low air surface pressure in the western Pacific.

AREAS IN BOLIVIA WITH TROPICAL AND RAINY CLIMATE.

Constantly humid tropical climate in Bolivia:

- Zone of Chapare where annual rainfall recorded up to 8,000 mm;
- The border of Bolivia and Brazil;
- Pantanal in Bolivia. Pantanal is a vast wetland tectonic depression in Brazil, a small part of it is also located in Bolivia and Paraguay. The total area is about 150,000 km².

Humid tropical climate with a short dry period in Bolivia:

- The northern part of the department of La Paz;
- The whole territory of the department of Pando.

Tropical climate with dry winters in Bolivia:

- Large parts of the plains, located in the department of Beni.

AREAS IN BOLIVIA WITH ARID CLIMATE.

Steppe climate with cold and dry winters in Bolivia:

- Western Highlands;
- Foothills of Eastern Cordillera.

Steppe climate with hot and dry winters in Bolivia:

- Some central and southern parts of the Subandean region.

Steppe climate with very hot and dry winters in Bolivia:

- Arid plains that are based in the Chaco region;
- The central part of the Department of Santa Cruz (hot and dry winter, but when the south wind blows, bringing cold Antarctic air mass, temperatures can drop to 10 - 5 ° C above zero).

AREAS IN BOLIVIA WITH MESOTHERMAL OR TEMPERATE CLIMATE.

Temperate climate with mild and dry winters in Bolivia:

- Area of Los Yungas is located in the department of La Paz;
- Some areas are located in Cochabamba Department;
- Some areas are located in Santa Cruz Department;
- The southern part of the Subandean region.

Temperate climate with cold and dry winters in Bolivia:

- In the neighborhood of Lake Titicaca.

AREAS IN BOLIVIA WITH COLD CLIMATE.

Tundra climate in Bolivia:

- The lower slopes of Cordillera;
- Part of the high plains.

High mountain climate in Bolivia:

- The high peaks of Cordillera are located in the departments of La Paz, Oruro and Potosi (are covered with snow or ice most of the year).

TEMPERATURE, RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL IN AGRICULTURAL AREAS OF BOLIVIA

Average value for more than 15 years

N° Zone	Agricultural zone	Average temperature (°C)			Rainfall (mm)	Humidity (%)		
		Min.	Max.	Average		Min.	Max.	Average
1	Central highland	5.7	11.9	9.6	429.2	38.0	62.0	48.0
2	Northern highland	6.8	10.7	9.4	660.0	49.0	62.0	54.0
3	Southern highland	7.9	16.8	13.4	247.8			
4	Humid chaco	16.1	25.6	21.9	942.5	56.0	76.0	67.0
5	Dry chaco	17.3	26.1	23.2	738.0	55.0	76.0	67.0
6	Amazonia	24.7	27.0	26.1	1,802.0	71.0	84.0	79.0
7	Guarayos - Chiquitania	20.8	26.3	24.0	1,173.0	62.0	80.0	73.0
8	Plains of Santa Cruz	20.4	26.4	24.2	1,643.0	60.0	76.0	71.0
9	Pampas Moxos	23.6	27.5	26.1	1,788.0	69.0	83.0	77.0
10	Central valley	13.3	17.5	15.9	640.9	46.0	72.0	59.0
11	Enclosed valley	12.5	15.3	14.2	805.3	55.0	72.0	64.0
12	East valley	15.0	19.7	17.9	564.6	58.0	71.0	64.0
13	Southern valley	12.1	19.0	16.3	491.1	46.0	69.0	57.0
14	Northern Yungas	20.5	23.8	22.5	1,534.9	73.0	80.0	77.0
15	Southern Yungas	21.4	26.1	24.3	4,521.7	75.0	84.0	81.0

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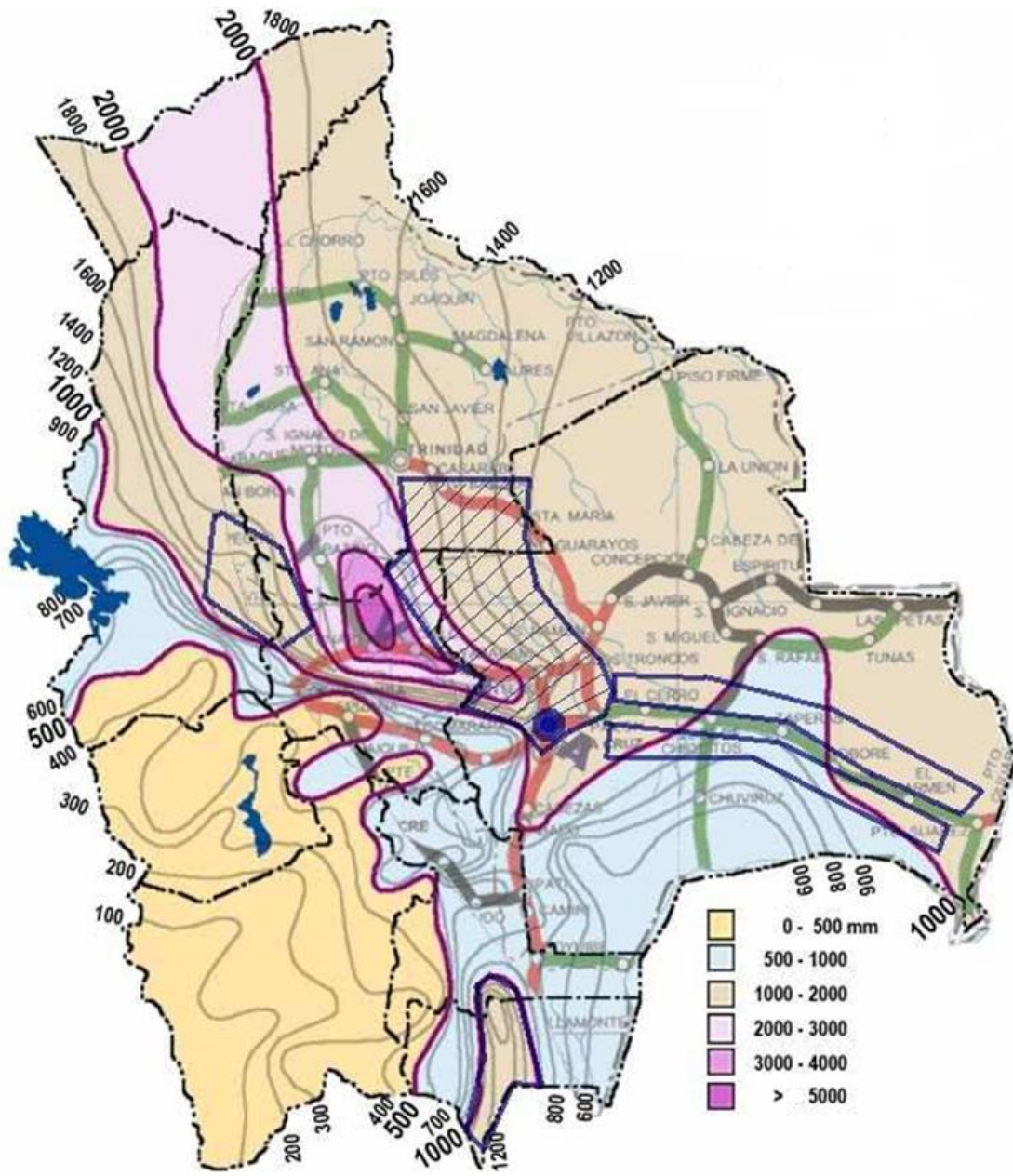
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MAP OF ANNUAL PRECIPITATION IN BOLIVIA



CLIMATE MAP OF BOLIVIA (Thornthwaite method)

