Where is the sun?

In tropical regions, the sun's position at local apparent noon can vary between being in the north or the south depending on the time of year, the latitude, and the sun's declination.

Therefore, throughout the year, the sun can be seen in either the north or the south.

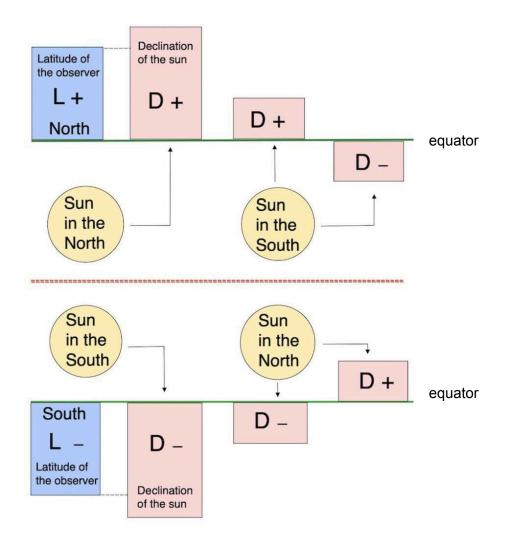
Remember, the Sun's declination cannot exceed 23.44° north or south.

In the Northern Hemisphere, at a latitude higher than 23.44° N, the Sun will always be seen in the southern part of the sky.

In the Southern Hemisphere, at a latitude higher than 23.44° S, the Sun will always be seen in the northern part of the sky.

However, in the tropics, between 23.44° N and 23.44° S, the Sun appears in the northern sky during part of the year and in the southern sky during another part of the year.

By comparing latitude (blue, between 23.44° N and 23.44° S) with the Sun's declination (red), we can determine whether the Sun is seen in the northern or southern sky at noon.



Of course, in practice, when taking a sun sight, you will see on your compass whether you are facing the sun in the north or in the south.