

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO MISTY FIORDS NATIONAL MONUMENT, ALASKA

LOCATION: Misty Fiords National Monument is located snug up against the Canadian border at the extreme southern end of the Alaskan “panhandle”. The Monument covers some 3,480 square miles of wilderness within the Tongass National Forest. Unlike the rest of the Forest, it is currently off-limits to the clear-cutting that mars much of the Tongass. Elevations range from sea level to 8,014 feet above it at the summit of Mount Stoeckl. The major service center for the Monument is at Ketchikan. The Monument is popular with kayakers, hikers, climbers, hunters, fishermen, and birders. There is no road access.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	7:51	9:38	11:49	14:05	16:08	17:17	16:47	15:00	12:49	10:34	8:30	7:18
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:38	2:33	3:30	4:55	5:53	5:32	4:46	4:39	3:32	2:07	1:43	1:13
AREA OF BLUE SKY	19%	19%	20%	20%	23%	19%	21%	23%	22%	14%	17%	16%
LOW FOR MONTH	15°	19°	23°	29°	35°	42°	46°	46°	40°	31°	25°	18°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	29°	32°	33°	37°	43°	48°	52°	52°	48°	42°	35°	32°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	39°	41°	44°	49°	56°	60°	64°	65°	60°	51°	44°	40°
HIGH FOR MONTH	49°	51°	53°	62°	72°	76°	78°	79°	71°	61°	54°	50°
FROSTY MORNINGS	57%	49%	40%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	32%	48%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	78%	76%	71%	69%	67%	70%	72%	74%	76%	81%	80%	82%
SEA TEMPERATURES	44°	44°	43°	43°	48°	51°	55°	55°	53°	51°	49°	46°
DRY DAYS	36%	33%	36%	39%	45%	51%	55%	52%	41%	23%	26%	27%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	51%	48%	55%	55%	64%	69%	73%	68%	55%	38%	41%	45%
TOTAL PRECIPITATION	10.2"	8.9"	8.7"	8.4"	6.3"	4.9"	4.8"	6.8"	9.8"	16.4"	12.8"	12.0"
MOST LIKELY SNOWFALL	12.7"	10.7"	8.9"	2.3"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.2"	3.2"	11.1"
SNOWY DAYS	22%	21%	15%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	7%	19%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	3%	3%	2%	1%	3%	5%	7%	8%	11%	5%	3%	2%

COMMENTS: The area is wet under the best of conditions. Visitors should count on getting rained on, and rained on frequently. Just make up your mind that you are going to be continually damp and you’ll survive quite nicely. Although snow is common enough during the winter months, rain is three times as common. Frequently, you will get both in the same squall. Consequently, snow does not stay on the ground for any length of time in town or at the lower elevations. The higher elevations have living glaciers and are much cloudier, colder, and (it *is* possible) wetter.