

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO FORT ROSS STATE HISTORIC PARK, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Fort Ross State Historic Park is located in Sonoma County, on the Pacific coast of northern California. The Park covers some five square miles of countryside off of CA-1; and the reconstructed fort, visitor's center, campground, and day-use area are situated on a narrow terrace between the coastal mountains and the sea. Elevations vary but are within a few hundred feet of sea level. The fort (1812) marks the southernmost limit of nineteenth-century Russian activity in California. The campground is not suited for large vehicles, and is closed from November through mid-March. The fort itself and the visitor's center are open daily throughout the year. Conditions are similar at *Salt Point State Park*, a few miles up the coast, and at the *Kruse Rhododendron State Reserve*.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:49	10:44	11:56	13:11	14:15	14:49	14:35	13:41	12:29	11:14	10:08	9:33
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:28	5:13	6:35	7:49	8:50	9:33	8:42	7:44	7:37	6:44	5:15	4:36
AREA OF BLUE SKY	35%	35%	38%	42%	47%	52%	53%	50%	54%	52%	43%	39%
LOW FOR MONTH	29°	30°	30°	30°	31°	35°	38°	40°	38°	34°	32°	29°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	42°	42°	42°	42°	44°	47°	48°	49°	49°	47°	44°	41°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	57°	58°	59°	61°	63°	66°	66°	67°	68°	66°	62°	58°
HIGH FOR MONTH	70°	72°	74°	78°	81°	81°	79°	81°	85°	87°	76°	70°
FROSTY MORNINGS	5%	3%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	7%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	63%	63%	63%	59%	63%	60%	64%	64%	64%	64%	68%	67%
NEARBY WATERS	52°	52°	51°	50°	49°	50°	52°	52°	54°	54°	54°	53°
DRY DAYS	58%	61%	65%	77%	87%	93%	97%	94%	93%	81%	67%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	64%	69%	74%	84%	93%	97%	99%	97%	95%	87%	76%	70%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.47	1.26	0.93	0.51	0.24	0.10	0.01	0.02	0.11	0.40	0.88	1.17
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	24%	24%	15%	15%	22%	32%	50%	50%	41%	37%	19%	18%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 70% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 53% in December, to a high of 85% in June. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 27° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 89° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and calm airs tend to make the high temperatures higher and the low ones lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be about 3° cooler than actual ones due to the cool winds off the Pacific, the humidity, and the fog and low cloud. The coast almost always has some degree of haze, mist, or fog. Local hours of sunshine, temperatures, and humidity vary considerably, depending upon how much fog and low cloud they get. This, in turn, is dependent upon distance from the sea, elevation, and peculiarities of local topography.