

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SOUTH FORK OF THE TRINITY RIVER, CALIFORNIA

DESCRIPTION: The south fork of the Trinity River is located in Trinity County in northwestern California. The Trinity River is a tributary of the Klamath. The South Fork has its origins in the *Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness* in the *Shasta-Trinity National Forest*. It flows north to join the main course of the Trinity at Salyer. Elevations vary from about 600 feet above sea level at Salyer to 7,863' in the North Yolla Bolly Mountains. This *Guide* assumes an elevation of roughly 2,400 feet above sea level. Communities along the river (some quite small) include Salyer, Hyampom, Hayfork, Peanut, and Forest Glen. This stretch of the river is popular with fishermen, river-runners, hunters, campers, and hikers.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:39	10:39	11:55	13:16	14:24	15:01	14:45	13:47	12:31	11:11	10:00	9:22
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:16	5:30	6:31	7:37	9:10	10:26	10:59	9:58	9:06	7:18	5:20	4:30
AREA OF BLUE SKY	32%	34%	34%	36%	42%	51%	61%	59%	60%	52%	40%	37%
LOW FOR MONTH	10°	17°	22°	25°	29°	35°	38°	37°	32°	26°	20°	9°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	26°	30°	31°	33°	38°	43°	46°	45°	41°	36°	32°	28°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	45°	51°	56°	64°	73°	82°	91°	91°	84°	70°	53°	45°
HIGH FOR MONTH	59°	63°	69°	76°	87°	96°	101°	102°	96°	84°	67°	65°
FROSTY MORNINGS	79%	74%	67%	50%	17%	2%	0%	0%	5%	30%	54%	71%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	28%	63%	64%	38%	5%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	80%	63%	57%	45%	37%	30%	25%	25%	29%	43%	65%	81%
DRY DAYS	61%	61%	58%	70%	81%	90%	97%	94%	90%	81%	63%	61%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	64%	63%	65%	79%	90%	94%	99%	97%	94%	87%	69%	64%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.88	1.72	1.28	0.70	0.31	0.12	0.03	0.04	0.17	0.51	1.32	1.74
LIKELY SNOWFALL	11.9"	5.9"	3.9"	1.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.0"	7.2"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	4%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	18%	14%	13%	9%	5%	3%	1%	3%	5%	12%	18%	15%

CLIMATE: Bright sunshine is likely on 61% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 44% in cloudy and wet January, to a high of 74% in sunny July. Sites deep in narrow valleys will get somewhat less than this, whereas sites on the ridges and summits might get more. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 8° at some clear and calm winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 104° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 5° cooler than actual ones from April through October, due to low humidity. Winds tend to blow down the slopes and valleys at night, and up the slopes and valleys during the daylight hours. Strong regional winds or passing storm systems can easily override both of these local winds. Elevation and—to a lesser degree—slope orientation rule local climates. You can expect daytime temperatures to drop an average of 1°F for each 300'-increase in elevation—and *vice versa* going downhill. As in all mountains, the direction the slope is facing makes a difference in how much sunshine and how much rain the slope gets, and therefore in its temperature and humidity.