

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE N. S. A., WASHINGTON & OREGON

LOCATION: The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is located along the Columbia River in southwestern Washington and northwestern Oregon. The Scenic Area is situated along the river between I-5 to the west and US-97 to the east. Most of the land in the NSA lies in the state of Washington. Elevations vary with the height along the river, but most facilities are within a thousand feet of sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:08	10:21	11:53	13:30	14:54	15:39	15:20	14:08	12:36	11:00	9:34	8:46
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:25	3:35	5:17	6:51	8:22	9:12	11:16	9:47	7:46	5:02	2:39	1:59
AREA OF BLUE SKY	20%	23%	28%	31%	36%	42%	61%	59%	53%	38%	23%	18%
LOW FOR MONTH	3 °	5 °	19 °	31 °	35 °	41 °	44 °	44 °	35 °	28 °	12 °	2 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	27 °	30 °	34 °	38 °	44 °	49 °	53 °	52 °	46 °	40 °	30 °	30 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	40 °	45 °	53 °	59 °	68 °	74 °	81 °	80 °	74 °	63 °	49 °	42 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	52 °	57 °	67 °	75 °	82 °	89 °	93 °	94 °	86 °	76 °	61 °	54 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	69%	57%	40%	18%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	16%	43%	60%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	7%	18%	15%	5%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	73%	66%	56%	50%	47%	44%	38%	39%	43%	56%	72%	78%
DRY DAYS	47%	52%	58%	70%	81%	86%	97%	96%	84%	74%	50%	48%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	65%	68%	74%	85%	90%	93%	99%	95%	93%	82%	68%	63%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.88	0.68	0.53	0.28	0.18	0.13	0.03	0.06	0.18	0.39	0.85	0.96
LIKELY SNOWFALL	19.4 "	7.9 "	2.6 "	0.4 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.0 "	0.1 "	3.1 "	8.8 "
SNOWY DAYS	18%	10%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	8%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	1%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	1%	1%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	15%	12%	6%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	7%	13%	17%	16%

COMMENTS: The area has a four-season climate. There is significant variation from east to west in weather types and frequencies. The table data are typical of the middle section. Look for bright sunshine on about half of the year's daylight hours. December will get sunshine on about a quarter of the daylight hours, while July will get it on about three-quarters. Expect winter temperatures to drop below zero at least once a year, and expect summer temperatures to rise above 100° about as often. Precipitation drops as you go westward, but is mostly in the moderate range. Almost all of it comes during the six cooler months. Typical summer afternoons are very sunny, moderately arid, and warm to hot. Summer nights are chilly to cool. Typical winter afternoons are cloudy, humid, and chilly more often than cold. About a dozen times each winter, afternoon temperatures will fail to warm above freezing. More winter precipitation falls as rain than as snow, but significant snowfalls are common and may persist for days at a time.