

# SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE COASTAL STRIP OF OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK, WASHINGTON

LOCATION: Olympic National Park takes up most of the Olympic Peninsula in west-central Washington state. The coastal strip section of the Park is completely separated from the major portion of the Park surrounding Mount Olympus. This strip starts just north of Cape Alava and runs south some fifty-seven miles along the coast to just north of Queets. Elevations are everywhere close to sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:53	10:12	11:52	13:37	15:09	15:58	15:37	14:19	12:39	10:54	9:21	8:29
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:02	3:11	4:18	5:25	6:14	6:20	7:01	6:14	6:00	3:58	2:11	1:46
AREA OF BLUE SKY	19%	22%	24%	23%	24%	24%	33%	34%	39%	30%	21%	21%
LOW FOR MONTH	21°	22°	26°	29°	33°	38°	41°	41°	36°	30°	25°	21°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	34°	35°	35°	37°	42°	47°	49°	50°	47°	41°	37°	35°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	45°	49°	51°	55°	60°	64°	69°	69°	67°	59°	51°	46°
HIGH FOR MONTH	55°	60°	64°	71°	79°	82°	86°	85°	84°	73°	60°	55°
FROSTY MORNINGS	41%	35%	30%	17%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%	10%	24%	39%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	83%	77%	72%	68%	66%	67%	65%	67%	67%	75%	84%	87%
NEARBY WATERS	46°	46°	46°	48°	51°	58°	56°	59°	55°	52°	49°	48°
DRY DAYS	28%	32%	33%	35%	47%	54%	63%	67%	60%	42%	26%	26%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	45%	46%	49%	54%	68%	76%	86%	86%	77%	58%	38%	42%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	2.36	2.18	1.80	1.23	0.81	0.51	0.38	0.46	0.85	1.67	2.35	2.51
LIKELY SNOWFALL	4.8"	2.9"	1.6"	0.3"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	1.0"	2.8"
SNOWY DAYS	8%	6%	3%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	6%
THUNDER DAYS	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%	6%	3%
FOGGY DAYS	15%	15%	12%	9%	11%	13%	19%	28%	24%	23%	16%	15%

COMMENTS: The area has a marine version of the mid-latitude four-season year. The steady winds off the Pacific keep temperatures from getting either very warm or vary cold. Bright sunshine occurs on 36% of the year's daylight hours, ranging from a low of 21% in December to a high of 45% in July. The low temperature for the year will be near 15° some windless winter sunrise, while the high will be around 92° some sunny summer afternoon. Precipitation is extremely heavy, and is concentrated during the winter months. A typical summer afternoon will be long, moderately cloudy, humid, and mild to warm. Hot days are rare, and usually occur only when the wind drops. Summer nights are damp and cool to chilly. A typical winter afternoon will be short, overcast, rainy, very humid, and chilly. Winter nights drop below freezing about one in three. When snow falls, it is almost always mixed with rain.