

SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE SNOQUALMIE PASS RECREATION AREA, WASHINGTON

LOCATION: The Snoqualmie Pass recreation area is located high in the Cascade Mountains of central Washington, some sixty miles east of Seattle, on I-90. The area contains four ski resorts within the Mount Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest. Elevations vary, but the Pass itself is about 3,700 feet above sea level. The area is extremely popular with Seattle residents, and can be quite crowded on both summer and winter weekends and holidays.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	8:57	10:15	11:53	13:35	15:04	15:52	15:32	14:16	12:38	10:56	9:24	8:34
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	1:45	2:18	3:14	4:06	5:27	5:54	8:58	7:40	6:12	3:41	1:43	1:07
AREA OF BLUE SKY	14%	15%	17%	19%	24%	27%	50%	47%	42%	28%	15%	11%
LOW FOR MONTH	5 °	9 °	16 °	22 °	27 °	32 °	37 °	39 °	33 °	26 °	15 °	9 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	20 °	23 °	25 °	30 °	36 °	41 °	47 °	47 °	43 °	36 °	27 °	21 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	28 °	32 °	36 °	42 °	51 °	58 °	66 °	65 °	59 °	48 °	35 °	31 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	42 °	44 °	51 °	61 °	71 °	76 °	81 °	81 °	77 °	65 °	49 °	44 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	96%	94%	88%	72%	35%	5%	0%	0%	4%	32%	83%	95%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	90%	86%	81%	75%	70%	68%	60%	62%	66%	75%	90%	92%
DRY DAYS	33%	32%	32%	37%	46%	49%	70%	65%	58%	50%	33%	31%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	42%	48%	52%	59%	68%	71%	87%	83%	74%	62%	46%	41%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	2.12	1.87	1.52	0.99	0.70	0.65	0.25	0.37	0.74	1.37	2.11	2.34
LIKELY SNOWFALL	81.8"	67.2"	64.5"	43.0"	14.1"	1.4"	0.3"	0.0"	1.5"	18.0"	65.1"	78.8"
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	41%	43%	45%	43%	17%	2%	1%	0%	1%	11%	34%	37%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	0%	0%	0%	1%	4%	5%	4%	6%	3%	1%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	76%	77%	73%	70%	69%	72%	55%	61%	52%	65%	75%	85%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 33% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 13% in cloudy December, to a “high” of 58% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to zero on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 84 ° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be pretty much the same as actual ones. Winds tend to blow strongly down the slopes at night, and rather weakly up the slopes during the daylight hours. 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 tremendous difference in how much sunshine and how much rain the slope gets, and therefore in its soil temperature and moisture content.