

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE INSIDE PASSAGE & TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST, ALASKA

LOCATION: The Alaska Marine Highway is not a road, it is a ferry service connecting many of the coastal towns of the state. The portion that runs from Bellingham, Washington, to Skagway, Alaska, follows a tortuous path between the Pacific coastal islands and the mainland. This is the famous Inside Passage. The first stop in Alaska heading north is Ketchikan, the last is Skagway. Naturally, elevations throughout are at sea level. Almost the entire area lies within the Tongass National Forest.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	7:33	9:29	11:48	14:13	16:25	17:41	17:08	15:12	12:51	10:28	8:15	6:57
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	2:23	3:11	4:18	5:16	6:19	6:17	5:45	5:19	4:07	2:34	2:19	1:51
AREA OF BLUE SKY	21%	21%	21%	21%	22%	20%	20%	22%	20%	14%	18%	18%
LOW FOR MONTH	13°	14°	20°	28°	34°	41°	46°	44°	38°	29°	22°	14°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	26°	29°	31°	36°	42°	48°	51°	51°	46°	40°	34°	30°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	36°	38°	42°	48°	55°	61°	64°	64°	58°	50°	42°	38°
HIGH FOR MONTH	48°	49°	51°	60°	70°	76°	77°	77°	70°	59°	51°	48°
FROSTY MORNINGS	68%	62%	53%	26%	4%	0%	0%	0%	2%	12%	42%	60%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	78%	74%	68%	64%	64%	66%	70%	73%	76%	80%	80%	81%
NEARBY WATERS	44°	44°	43°	43°	47°	51°	54°	55°	53°	51°	48°	45°
DRY DAYS	40%	41%	40%	40%	46%	51%	52%	46%	37%	25%	31%	31%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	60%	58%	63%	65%	67%	71%	71%	65%	54%	43%	51%	54%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	1.41	1.31	1.18	1.18	0.94	0.75	0.82	1.15	1.67	2.31	1.88	1.60
LIKELY SNOWFALL	19.8"	16.7"	12.1"	3.4"	0.1"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.7"	5.4"	17.3"
SNOWY DAYS	36%	34%	30%	13%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	22%	35%
THUNDER DAYS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FOGGY DAYS	5%	6%	4%	2%	3%	2%	4%	6%	10%	8%	7%	4%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely to occur on 33% of the year's daylight hours. This will probably range from a low of 26% in December, to a high of 38% in May. The expected lowest temperature for the year will be around 5° on some windless winter sunrise, and the most probable highest will be near 81° on some long and sunny summer afternoon. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will generally be close to actual ones. Rugged mountains, spectacular glaciers, lush forests, waterfalls, wildlife both on shore and in the sea, and interesting towns make this trip a favorite. Weather along the Inside Passage is generally cloudy, cool, and wet. If you get a clear and sunny day, treasure it.