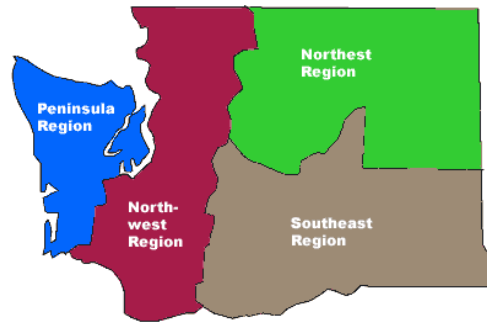




# WASHINGTON



<http://access.wa.gov/>

click on this website for more information about Washington

## MAJOR CITIES:

Northeast Washington  
Northwest Washington

Southeast Washington  
Peninsula Region Washington

Spokane  
Seattle, Olympia, Tacoma, Vancouver,  
Cascade Mountains  
Yakima  
Olympic Mountains

## WASHINGTON – CLIMATE

The Cascade Mountains divide Washington not only topographically but also climatically. Despite its northerly location, western Washington is as mild as the middle and southeastern Atlantic coast; it is also one of the rainiest regions in the world. Eastern Washington, on the other hand, has a much more continental climate, characterized by cold winters, hot summers, and sparse rainfall. Since the prevailing winds are from the west, the windward (western) slopes of the state's major mountains intercept most of the atmospheric moisture and precipitate it as rain or snow. Certain coastal areas, receiving more than 200 in (500 cm) of rain a year, support dense stands of timber in a temperate rain forest. But in the dry southeastern quadrant, there are sagebrush deserts.

Average January temperatures in western Washington range from a minimum of 20°F (−7°C) on the western slope of the Cascades to a maximum of 48°F (9°C) along the Pacific coast; July temperatures range from a minimum of 44°F (7°C) on the western slope of the Cascades to a maximum of 80°F (27°C) in the foothills. In the east the temperature ranges are much more extreme: in January, from 8°F (−13°C) in the northeastern Cascades to 40°F (4°C) on the southeastern plateau; in July, from 48°F (9°C) on the eastern slope of the Cascades to 92°F (33°C) in the south-central portion

of the state. The normal daily mean temperature in Seattle is 52°F (11°C), ranging from 40°F (4°C) in January to 65°F (18°C) in July; Spokane averages 47°F (8°C), ranging from 27°F (−3°C) in January to 69°F (21°C) in July. The lowest temperature ever recorded in the state is −48°F (−44°C), set at Mazama and Winthrop on 30 December 1968; the highest, at Ice Harbor Dam on 5 August 1961, was 118°F (48°C).

In Seattle average annual precipitation (1971–2000) was 37 in (94 cm), falling most heavily from October through March; in the same period, Spokane received an average of only 16.7 in (42.4 cm) annually, more than half of that from November through February. Snowfall in Seattle averages 11.4 in (29 cm) annually; in Spokane, snowfall averages 49.4 in (125.5 cm). Paradise Ranger Station holds the North American record for the most snowfall in one season, when 1,122 in (2,850 cm) of snow fell during the winter of 1971–72. High mountain peaks, such as Mt. Adams, Mt. Baker, and Mt. Rainier, have permanent snowcaps or snowfields of up to 100 ft (30 m) deep.

## **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

<http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g28968-Activities-Washington.html>

Click on this site for more cultural activity ideas

- **Woodland Park Zoo- Seattle, WA**
- Nationally award-winning Woodland Park Zoo is a 92-acre zoological garden featuring more than 1,000 animals representing nearly 300 species from around the world. New exhibits include Zoomazium, an indoor, nature-themed play space for kids, and our award-winning Humboldt penguin exhibit, replicating the desert coasts of their native Peru.
- **Seattle Aquarium- Seattle, WA**
- The heartbeat of hands-on marine experience and preservation education in the Pacific Northwest, the Seattle Aquarium offers fun, exciting ways to discover more about the amazing Puget Sound that surrounds you! Join us in our mission: Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment.
- **EMP Museum- Seattle, WA**
- Visit a museum like no other on earth. EMP Museum, located next to Seattle's historic Space Needle, houses some of the world's most legendary pop culture artifacts. Test your DJ skills in Sound Lab, take over the spotlight in On Stage, and get the scoop on the world's most mesmerizing producers of pop culture. Hands-on experiences, iconic artifacts, and award-winning exhibitions featuring luminaries in the fields of music, literature, television, and film make EMP a destination unlike any other.
- **Riverfront Park- Spokane, WA**
- With one of the best urban falls in the nation, Riverfront Park's ideal downtown location that is surrounded by the Spokane River offers a variety of activities from biking the Centennial trail, walking paths, attractions such as a 1909 Looft Carrousel and Gift Shop, Sky Ride Over the Falls, IMAX Theatre, Tour Train, Amusement Rides and an outdoor covered ice rink make this park a destination. The Red Wagon and Rotary Interactive Fountain provide hours of fun. With plenty of easy parking, the region's best events are also hosted on this 100 acre green space including Hoop fest (World's Largest 3 on 3 basketball tournament), Blooms day Road Race, 4th of July Celebration, Pig Out in the Park Food and Music Festival and many more. The Spokane Convention Center, Spokane Arena, River Park Square, many downtown eateries and hotels border the park making this a great place to visit. The Sculpture Walk also highlights the best art in Spokane.
- **Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium- Tacoma, WA**
- Treat your family to a special day at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. Where else can you see seahorses and sharks, peacocks and penguins, wolves and walrus, all in one place? The 29-acre Zoo is large enough to offer an awesome array of animals yet small enough to let you get

really close to them. Our keepers often roam the grounds, taking animals on strolls so you can see them up close. Who knows? You might run into a lynx on your way to see the polar bears! Be sure to visit Kids Zone. This fanciful exhibit engages children in active learning through play. The focus is on fun, movement and learning what animals need to thrive. The breathtaking views of Puget Sound, Mount Rainier and the Olympic Mountains are free - and so is the parking. So what are you waiting for? Bring your family to see ours. Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is open at 9:30 a.m. daily. Closing times vary. Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is just minutes off of I-5 in beautiful Point Defiance Park in Tacoma, WA.

- **Tacoma Nature Center- Tacoma, WA**

- This is a public park with a lake to walk around, a kids' play area and an interpretive center with a reading area for kids, turtles and snakes in tanks and a gift shop. Part of the Tacoma Parks system but deserves special mention.

- **Vancouver Lake Park- Vancouver, WA**

A 234-acre regional park, Vancouver Lake is home to many mating pairs of bald eagles, and serves as a refuge for many types of waterfowl. Located in the Western part of Vancouver, along Lower River Road and Lakeshore Drive, Vancouver Lake Park is about 2.5 miles long. The lake was deeded to Port Vancouver in 1919, and became one of the major recreation centers of Vancouver, which it still remains today - serving kayaking, canoeing, windsurfing, birdwatching, swimming, and rowing competitions. It is a shallow lake, not more than 15 feet deep, and adjoins popular Frenchman's Bar Park.

- **Olympic Flight Museum- Olympia, WA**

- Small accessible aviation museum with interesting planes and helicopters and historical perspective. Run by friendly volunteers with admirable enthusiasm. Recommended as a stop for an hour or so, even if not particularly interested in aircraft, for the history.

## **GROCERY SHOPPING**

Wal-Mart IGA Target Whole Foods Market	Trader Joe's Grocery Outlet WinCo Foods Safeway Grocery
---	--

[http://www.manta.com/mb\\_44\\_B619B\\_48/grocery\\_stores/washington](http://www.manta.com/mb_44_B619B_48/grocery_stores/washington)

Click on this site for more grocery stores in Washington.

## **TIME ZONES**

### **Washington Time Zone – Washington Current Local Time - Daylight Saving Time**

Washington is in the Pacific Time Zone

[http://localtimes.info/North\\_America/United\\_States/Washington/](http://localtimes.info/North_America/United_States/Washington/)

Click here for more information

## **SHOPPING**

Central WA East Wenatchee WA [Wenatchee Valley Mall](#)

---

Central WA Kennewick WA [Columbia Center](#)

---

North WA Bellingham WA [Bellis Fair](#)

---

North WA Burlington WA [Cascade Mall](#)

---

North WA Burlington WA [Outlet Shoppes at Burlington](#)

---

Portland & North OR Vancouver WA [Westfield Vancouver Shopping Centre](#)

---

Seattle area Auburn WA [Outlet Collection Seattle](#)

---

Seattle area Bellevue WA [Crossroads Bellevue](#)

---

Seattle area Bellevue WA [Marketplace at Factoria](#)

---

Seattle area Everett WA [Everett Mall](#)

---

Seattle area Kent WA [Kent Station](#)

---

Seattle area Lake Forest Park WA [Lake Forest Park Towne Centre](#)

---

Seattle area Lynnwood WA [Alderwood](#)

---

Seattle area North Bend WA [North Bend Premium Outlets](#)

---

Seattle area Puyallup WA [South Hill Mall](#)

---

Seattle area Redmond WA [Redmond Town Center](#)

---

Seattle area Seattle WA [Broadway Market](#)

---

Seattle area Seattle WA [Northgate Mall](#)

---

Seattle area Seattle WA [University Village](#)

---

Seattle area Seattle WA [Westfield Southcenter Shopping Centre](#)

---

Seattle area Seattle WA [Westlake Center](#)

---

Seattle area Silverdale WA [Kitsap Mall](#)

---

Seattle area Tulalip WA [Seattle Premium Outlets](#)

---

Southwest WA Aberdeen WA [SouthShore Mall](#)

---

Southwest WA Centralia WA [Centralia Outlets](#)

---

Southwest WA Kelso WA [Three Rivers Mall](#)

---

Spokane Spokane WA [NorthTown Mall](#)

---

Spokane Spokane WA [Spokane Valley Mall](#)

---

Tacoma Federal Way WA [The Commons at Federal Way](#)

---

Tacoma Olympia WA [Capital Mall](#)

---

Tacoma Tacoma WA [Tacoma Mall](#)

---

Click here for more information on shopping.

## **PHARMACIES**

Walgreens

CVS Pharmacy

Target

Safeway Pharmacy

Rite Aid

Wal-Mart

<http://www.superpages.com/yellowpages/C-Pharmacies/S-WA>

Click here for locating other pharmacies in Washington.

## **POST OFFICES/SHIPPING**



<http://www.postofficehours.net/state/WA.html> click here for more information



<http://local.fedex.com/wa/seattle/> click here for more information



[https://www.ups.com/dropoff?loc=en\\_US](https://www.ups.com/dropoff?loc=en_US) click here for more information

## **MINIMUM WAGE**

State	2017 Minimum Wage	2017 Tipped Wage
WA	\$11.00	\$11.00

<http://www.minimum-wage.us/states/washington>

click here for more information

## **WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION**

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/ClaimsIns/Rules/WorkersComp/default.asp>

click here for more information

## **COST OF LIVING IN WASHINGTON**

<b>Cost of Living</b>	<b>Seattle, WA</b>	<b>United States</b>
<a href="#"><u>Overall</u></a>	177	100
<a href="#"><u>Grocery</u></a>	110.2	100
<a href="#"><u>Health</u></a>	116	100
<a href="#"><u>Housing</u></a>	315	100
<a href="#"><u>Utilities</u></a>	94	100
<a href="#"><u>Transportation</u></a>	113	100
<a href="#"><u>Miscellaneous</u></a>	113	100

Our cost of living indices are based on a US average of 100. An amount below 100 means Seattle, WA is cheaper than the US average. A cost of living index above 100 means Seattle, WA is more expensive.

Overall, Seattle, WA cost of living is 176.50

[http://www.bestplaces.net/cost\\_of\\_living/city/washington/seattle](http://www.bestplaces.net/cost_of_living/city/washington/seattle)

Click here for more information

## **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Intercity Transit (Olympia)  
Community Transit (Seattle-Tacoma)  
King County Metro (Seattle-Tacoma)  
Pierce Transit (Seattle-Tacoma)  
Seattle City Monorail (Seattle-Tacoma)  
Sound Transit (Seattle-Tacoma)  
Spokane TA (Spokane)  
Clark County C-Tran (Vancouver)  
WA State Ferries

<http://www.apta.com/resources/links/unitedstates/Pages/WashingtonTransitLinks.aspx#a1>

Click here for more information