

The Seattle Times information for the almanac, maps, Northwest temperatures and forecasts, national and international forecasts, marine forecast and tides comes from WSI, a national forecasting service.

5-day Seattle-area forecast

Forecast table for Today, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Includes icons for weather conditions and high/low temperatures.

Puget Sound: Showers in the morning; then showers and a chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid-50s to lower 60s. Tonight: Showers likely. Lows near 50.

Coast: Showers in the morning; then showers and a chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs near 60. Tonight: Cloudy with a chance of showers. Lows near 50.

Mountains: Cloudy. Scattered rain showers in the morning. Widespread high mountain snow showers and scattered thunderstorms through the day. Numerous rain showers in the afternoon. High mountain snow accumulation up to 2 inches. Snow level 6,000 feet. Tonight: Cloudy.

Eastern Washington: Mostly cloudy. A chance of thunderstorms through the day. Scattered rain showers in the afternoon. Highs in the mid-60s to lower 70s. Breezy. Chance of precipitation 50 percent. Rainfall amounts less than a tenth of an inch. Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Breezy.

Seattle almanac

Unless noted, statistics for yesterday through 6 p.m. Readings taken at Sea-Tac airport.

Precipitation and Temperature tables with 24-hour totals, averages, and records.

Winds table showing today's forecast and historical data.

Tides table for Elliott Bay with high and low tide times and heights.

Port Townsend table with high and low tide times and heights.

Marine forecast for Puget Sound and Hood Canal.

Air-quality index table for Seattle, Everett, Tacoma, and Bellevue.

Pollen report table for grass, walnut, and oak.

Today's Northwest forecast

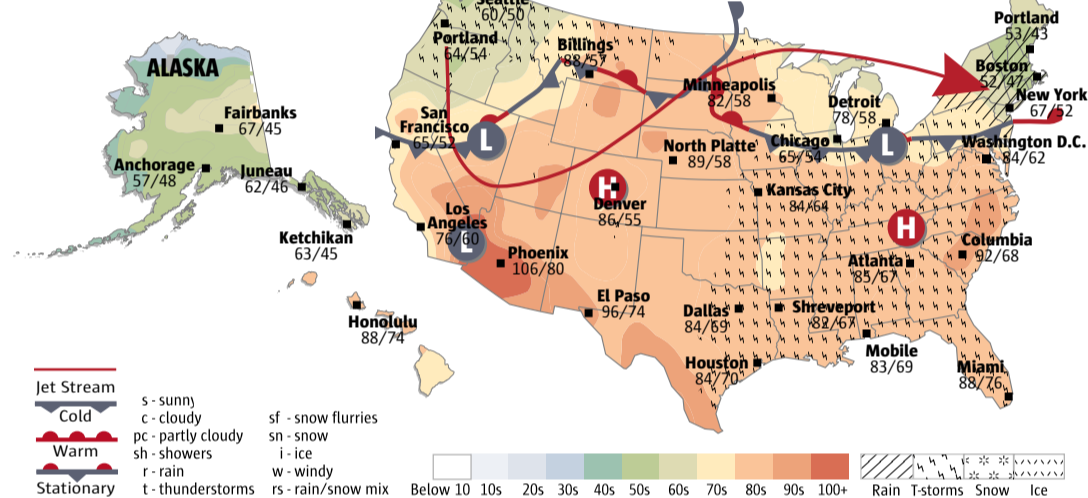


Regional temperatures

Table of regional temperatures for Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

National forecast

Figures for cities show today's high/low forecast.



National extremes (contiguous U.S.)

High: Death Valley, Calif. 117 Low: Yellowstone, Wyo. 29

National Today's forecast

Table of national weather forecasts for various cities across the country.

International Today's forecast

Table of international weather forecasts for major global cities.

Sun schedule

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for today and tomorrow.

Moon schedule

Table showing moon phases (New, First, Full, Last) and moon rise/set times.

Client Name: Circ - NIE
Advertiser: Local News/B010/METRO
Section/Page/Zone: NIE Jackson School 5.28
Description:

Ad Number: 414764
Insertion Number: 1
Size: 6 x 10
Color Type: N/A

This electronic tearsheet is provided as proof that the ad appeared in The Seattle Times. You may not create derivative works, or in any way exploit or repurpose any content.

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies and Newspapers In Education present

Week 5

EXPLORING ASIA: ASIAN CITIES — GROWTH AND CHANGE

EXTREME ARCHITECTURE, PUBLIC SPACE AND WEALTH IN CENTRAL ASIA'S CAPITAL CITIES

By Dr. Nathaniel Trumbull, Department of Geography, University of Connecticut

Editor's note: This article is the fifth of five featuring pieces by Dr. Anand Yang, Dr. Anu Taranth, Dr. H. Hazel Hahn and Dr. Kam Wing Chan

The cityscapes of Central Asia's two wealthiest capital cities are largely unknown in the West. Both Ashgabat and Astana; the capitals of Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan, respectively; lie far afield from the international tourist circuit.

The public spaces of these two cities have become the playgrounds of their leaders. With the assistance of some of the world's star architects, these capitals now arguably contain some of the world's most lurid architecture.

Ashgabat's new buildings and monuments are testaments to the supreme power of the Turkmen leader Saparmurat Niyazov, who died in 2007. There are many such symbols of power and self-aggrandizing demonstrations of authority.

Turkmenistan's current leader, President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow, has softened some of the

features of the previous leader's personality cult. For instance, he has allowed the opening of public Internet cafes. But Turkmenistan still tops world rankings in human rights violations.

Astana, which rises up from the open steppes that surround it, became the Kazakh capital in 1997, transforming it from a steppe village into a metropolis of nearly a million residents. President Nursultan Nazarbayev's decision to move his country's capital from Almaty, largely for geopolitical reasons, has resulted in a massive influx of peasants to the new city.

Examples of Astana's new architecture, such as the Norman Foster-designed Khan Shatyr shopping mall, project the wealth, power and eclectic taste of Nazarbayev's new Kazakhstan.

Are the public spaces of both Ashgabat and Astana becoming Disneyland versions of Central Asian cities? It is peculiar that both cities' public spaces, even those most expensively designed and constructed, are largely empty during the day and evening.

Only during nationally orchestrated public events do crowds gather in these public spaces. Even then, the crowds are reported to consist largely of invited

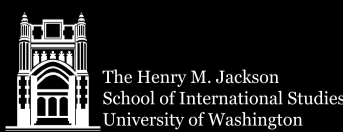


The Arch of Neutrality in the city of Ashgabat was a 75-meter rocket-shaped tower topped with a gold statue of Niyazov, which rotated throughout the day so that his face is always basking in the sun. It was demolished in November and December, 2013.

populations, either those newly arrived from the countryside or those brought in for a day to the city and organized in groups by the town of their origin.

Where are the wealthy urbanites? They leave these outdoor public spaces to residents newly arrived from the countryside and converge instead on the growing number of inside malls. Indeed, consumerism appears to be leaving its mark on the indoor malls of Astana in particular, whose wealthy population has adopted Western tastes.

Personality cults, monuments to legitimize state authority and large-scale public events were all standard features of the Soviet regime. The freshly garish public spaces of Ashgabat and Astana appear to be variations on this theme. At the same time, other new manifestations of urban life, including those of conspicuous consumption in indoor malls, provide a stunning representation of the desires of the individual consumer.



To register for NIE, visit us at seattletimes.com/nie or call 206.652.6290.