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Introduction

Sequim is a small, scenic city on the northeast corner of the Olympic Peninsula, known for its mild climate and beautiful views of both the Salish Sea and the Olympic Mountains. The town is often referred to as "Sunny Sequim," as it enjoys significantly less rainfall than surrounding areas due to its position in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains. This unique weather pattern has made Sequim a popular choice for retirees, outdoor enthusiasts and those looking for a more relaxed lifestyle than can be found in (relatively) nearby Seattle. "There are a lot of things that draw people here, so many that it's actually kind of hard to narrow down," says Michael McAleer, Managing Broker at Re/Max Prime and Sequim resident since 2002. "The slow pace, the views in all directions, the hiking, the golf, the water access. And even though it's a small city, there's a lot of shopping and some great restaurants. Plus, it's all centrally located, so it's relatively easy to get to from just about anywhere in the area."

Houses

Sequim's housing stock is extremely varied. First incorporated in 1913, the city features everything from early 20th-century farmhouses and bungalows to midcentury ranch-style homes and contemporary two-story builds to an increasing stock of spacious luxury homes. That said, single-family homes built in the mid-to-late 20th century predominate. Properties in the city center often feature modest lot sizes, while homes on the outskirts may sit on several acres, offering more privacy and space. Sequim is also known for its retirement communities, with developments such as Sunland and Bell Hill catering to retirees with amenities like golf courses and walking paths. Waterfront properties are highly sought after, providing scenic views and access to private beaches. On the budget-friendly end, manufactured units and condos can go for \$120,000 to \$400,000. Single-family homes near the center of town typically go for \$400,000 to \$600,000, while more spacious contemporary properties on the outskirts of town can go for anywhere from \$500,000 to \$2 million.

Parks and Recreation

Sequim's outdoor spaces are probably its strongest draws. "Everyone here shares a love for the outdoors and natural beauty," says McAleer. Within the city limits, spots like Dungeness River Center and Railroad Bridge Park offer well-maintained walking trails and a nature center. Just outside the city, The Dungeness Spit, part of the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge, is a popular spot for walking, birdwatching, and exploring the area's unique coastal environment. The spit is one of the longest natural sand spits in the world, extending nearly six miles into the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and offering views that stretch all the way to the San Juan Islands and Canada. The city is also just a few miles north of Olympic National Park, and while it can take some time to drive to a trailhead (the only roads into the park near Sequim are gravel), the views within the park are absolutely stunning. The town is also home to some top-notch golf courses. "Cedars at Dungeness is the driest golf course in Western Washington," says McAleer. "That would be a bad thing if this were, say, Arizona, but out here it's actually perfect."

Shopping and Dining

Shopping and dining in the area is concentrated in Downtown Sequim. Sequim Avenue and Washington Street are the primary commercial corridors, where residents can find big box stores—including Costco

and Walmart—multiple supermarkets and a wide assortment of boutiques and local shops. As for dining, Sequim has a range of options, from casual cafes to more upscale eateries. A number of restaurants fall somewhere in between, including well-loved local lunch spot the Oak Table Cafe. The city hosts a seasonal farmers market on Saturdays, where residents can shop for fresh produce, baked goods, and handcrafted items.

Schools

The Sequim School District oversees 5 schools in the area, Sequim High School and Middle School, Hellen Haller Elementary and Greywolf Elementary, and the Olympic Peninsula Academy alternative school. Sequim High School offers college credit through its Running Start Program, which partners with Peninsula College Community College in Port Angeles.

Events

The city of Sequim hosts a number of popular local events throughout the year, including the Sequim Irrigation Festival in May, the Sequim Lavendar Festival in July, which celebrate local farmers, and the Sequim Sunshine Festival in October, which celebrates the city's climate.

Transportation

Transportation in Sequim primarily relies on personal vehicles, as the city's layout and surrounding rural areas make driving the most practical option. U.S. Route 101 runs through Sequim, connecting it to Port Angeles to the west and the Kitsap Peninsula to the east. Clallam Transit provides bus service along 101 as well, though it mostly just connects town centers. It's a 17-mile drive to Port Angeles and 30 miles to Port Townsend. While Sequim's branch of Olympic Medical offers a range of medical care, the Port Angeles Branch has the nearest emergency room. For longer trips, the Port Angeles Ferry Terminal provides service to Victoria, British Columbia, and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is about two hours away by car. It's also about 2 hours by car to Downtown Seattle.

Script

VO NOTE: {Text in brackets indicates to our editors this section will be used in the future as the photography dept. has not been able to film that section. Please read as if there were no brackets.}

[Tone/Mood: Conversational]

[Pronunciation: Sequim is "squim" (e is silent)]

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Set on the scenic northeast corner of the Olympic Peninsula, the city of Sequim is known for its mild climate and beautiful views of both the Salish Sea and the Olympic Mountains. Known as "Sunny Sequim," as it enjoys significantly less rainfall than surrounding areas due to its position in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains.

Houses

The local housing market is varied, offering potential buyers everything from condos in 55-plus communities to midcentury ranch-style homes and contemporary two-story builds. There are also a growing number of luxury homes available in the area. Manufactured units and condos can go for \$120,000 to \$400,000. Single-family homes near the center of town typically go for \$400,000 to \$600,000, while more luxury homes sell for \$700,000 to \$2 million.

Parks and Recreation

Local spots like Dungeness River Center and Railroad Bridge Park offer scenic walking trails. Just outside the city, Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge is a popular spot for walking, birdwatching and exploring the coast. Olympic National Park is just south of the city, and while it can take some time to drive to a trailhead, the views make this absolutely worth it. The area is also home to some top-notch golf, including the Cedars at Dungeness Golf Course, the driest golf course in Western Washington.

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Outro

Although it may seem remote, Sequim is well-positioned for those looking to enjoy beautiful scenery and world-class hiking without sacrificing access to modern amenities.