

West Highlands

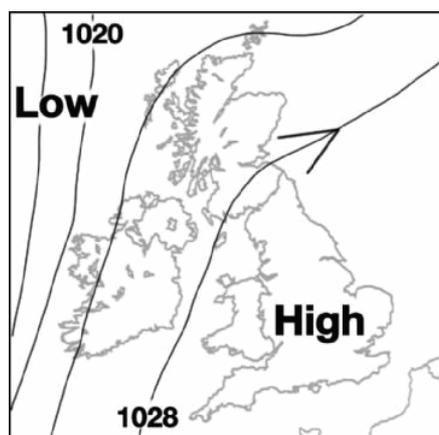
Western Highlands accessible from, and south of, Glenfinnan (Road to the Isles) and Glen Spean (includes Creag Meagaidh). This area include Ben Nevis and the mountains around Glencoe. In the east, includes Ben Alder south to Loch Lomond and Trossachs NP. Includes Arran and Mull.



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General Summary for Friday, 15 January, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 January, 2021

A very transient ridge of high pressure will bring a fine day with sunshine on the hills. Fog and murk will persist many lower areas. Much mountain terrain frozen; and in some areas very icy (after the recent mix of snow and rain in sub-freezing temperatures).

Headline for West Highlands

Terrain frozen. Sunshine. Later windy near the coast.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 15 January, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	Little wind at first, By midday southerly 15 to near the coast north from Jura 25mph. By dusk 35mph Mull and west of Loch Linnhe.
Effect of wind on you?	Negligible at first, likely to deteriorate, may result in buffeting and significant wind chill westernmost mountains.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Precipitation not expected
Cloud on the hills?	Summits extensively cloud free Here and there patches of cloud lingering on higher slopes, particularly in corries, but overall the mountains free of cloud - whilst ribbons of fog persist in some glens. Cloud may be more persistent higher slopes near Clyde sea lochs, Jura and Mull.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive bright sun before high level cloud progressively weakens the sun. The air very clear indeed on the mountains.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or -1C. Note little variation in temperature with height.
Freezing Level	Poorly defined: by midday 300 to 1000m, highest near the coast. Much terrain frozen although some daylight thawing mainly sunlit slopes.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 16 January	Sunday 17 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South veering westerly during morning, typically 40mph; nearer 35mph near Clyde sea lochs. There may be a temporary lull. Walking often difficult where exposed and wind chill significant.	Westerly 30 to perhaps 40mph, very likely strongest in the afternoon. Increasingly significant buffeting and wind chill where exposed on higher areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent precipitation Overnight snow will have given way to showers by soon after dawn, but for an hour or two the precipitation frequent and heavy. Level to which snow penetrates varied, mostly rain lower slopes near coast	Snow, may well become frequent Snow and hail showers, although mostly rain below 450m. Moderate to high threat of a deterioration to almost constant precipitation over 2 to 4 hours. Risk whiteout.
Cloud on the hills?	Blanket fog, covering even lower hills Some higher areas mainly Lochaber may start cloud free. Otherwise, blanket of low cloud, base typically 400 to 600m, generally lowest base near the coast.	Persistent across higher areas Cloud base will vary, at times as high as 650 to 850m generally highest central highlands. Near precipitation will deteriorate with areas of cloud above 450m, or sometimes lower near the coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun well inland. Frequently hazy, and visibility poor in precipitation.	A few glimpses of sun, mainly well inland. Very varied visibility; generally hazy and for periods very poor visibility in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0C, dropping toward -2C afternoon. Varied; new coast 1000m later 750m. Well inland 200 to 600m (where little change in temperature with height).	-1C 800m

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 16 January, 2021**

Precipitation will fall at some stage most days over the next week or more; mostly falling as snow. In Scotland, the Munros will remain almost persistently sub-freezing, whilst further south, temperatures on higher summits will fluctuate either side of freezing point.

Forecast issued at 15:19 on Thursday, 14 January, 2021

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering Scotland with the support of sportscotland. Forecasts are issued daily by 16:30 and are kept under review and amended as necessary. However, expected conditions can still change after issue. © Copyright Mountain Weather Information Service, 2021.