

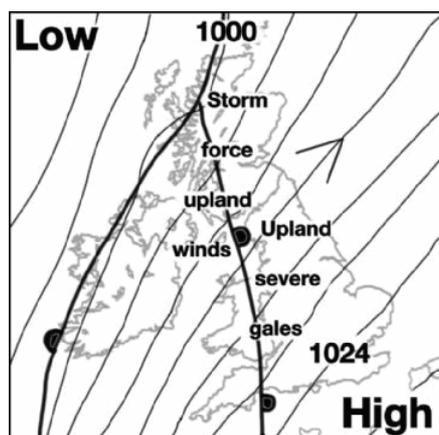
West Highlands

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 Tuesday, 23 February, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 23 February, 2021

Active fronts edging east across Britain will bring widespread severe conditions: Storm force upland winds and incessantly heavy rain (initially snow Scottish Highlands) to most western mountains. Conditions a little less severe E/S Wales and S Pennines, where little rain but gales still severe.

Headline for West Highlands

Storm force upland winds; snow then torrential rain.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 23 February, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, 50 to 80mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Rapid increase of speed with height will make mobility very difficult or tortuous where exposed on higher terrain. Even on lower terrain ferocious gusts may blow you over. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain rarely ceasing; widely heavy or torrential Rapidly deteriorating from dawn as relentless, heavy or torrential rain sets in. Initially snow above 700m - will all turn to rain. Least precipitation toward and north of Glen Spean.
Cloud on the hills?	Very extensive and low Mull, Jura and Loch Lomond NP: soon fog from lower slopes up. Elsewhere: cloud base lowering to 500 to 850m morning, but north near and north of Glen Spean, only fragments forming below 800m, and often confined above 1050m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A few pockets of weak sun near Glen Spean. Widely very poor visibility, but often good near and north of Glen Spean.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1C rising to 2C. Will feel as cold as minus 16 Celsius directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	600 to 800m at first, but will rise above all summits.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 24 February	Thursday 25 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly mostly 30-40mph, but risk 50mph higher Lochaber and Mull. Walking difficult on higher areas and wind chill significant.	Southwest to westerly 40mph higher summits, mainly on Lochaber to 30mph Arran & lower summits Loch Lomond NP. Walking widely arduous on higher areas, and in places difficult, particularly near showers.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Isolated showers Occasional showers near/west of Loch Linnhe, of snow above 950m and risk periods steady rain Loch Lomond NP & Arran. Very wet underfoot with burns in spate, some flooding of rivers and paths.	Snow and hail showers Succession of mostly brief showers: hail and above 500m snow. Few showers toward central belt.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Extensive on higher areas Cloud base typically 650m. On central highlands and toward and north of Glen Spean, most cloud by late morning above 1050m. 20%	Extensively shrouding higher tops Cloud base will change quickly as showers come and go. Typically toward the coast, cloud rarely below 500m and most frequently base 800m. Well inland, cloud rare below 600m and typically 1000m, but breaking off higher tops 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sunshine. Very good visibility.	Bursts of sunshine, most widely lower slopes well inland. Frequently excellent visibility, but abruptly poor in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2C 1200m	-1C 800m

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 24 February, 2021**

Very much drier later this week as pressure rises markedly, initially across southern Britain. Fronts may bring occasional rain, mainly to the NW highlands (where also windy) until the weekend, but then all areas will probably become dry - and the wind dropping. Temperature wise, the Scottish Munros frequently sub-freezing, but summits elsewhere mostly above freezing point.

Forecast issued at 14:50 on Monday, 22 February, 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.