

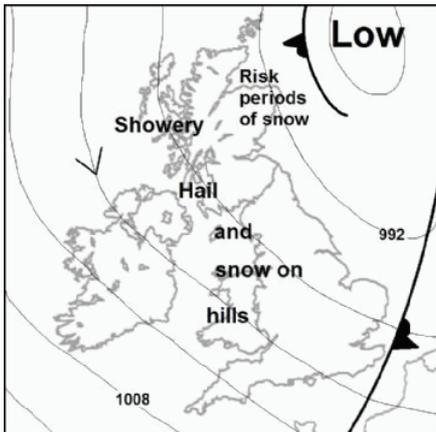
West Highlands

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 Saturday, 4 December, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 4 December, 2021

Showers running inland from western coasts on strong to gale force W-NW'ly winds, extending into western Peak & Pennines. Local clusters giving frequent hail or hill snow, chance of thunder. Also risk snow for periods N & E Scotland, may move southwards. Much terrain stays frozen above 600-700m, but locally snow to lower elevations.

Headline for West Highlands

Cold, squally winds. Snow & hail showers, most frequent west coast.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 4 December, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly, may change abruptly, often 20-30mph, brief lulls, but sudden squally gusts in showers over 40mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Beware of changing conditions: may be small at times, but risk of difficult walking and significant wind chill for periods.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow and hail showers Showery, most frequent precipitation on mountains near the west coast. Snow sometimes falling to lower slopes, but becoming mostly rain below 400-500m in west. Risk of hail, isolated thunder.
Cloud on the hills?	Often covering many tops Cloud bases varied, often covering higher mountains above 700-900m, sometimes forming below 600m in precipitation. Some breaks toward higher tops, mostly well inland toward the central highlands.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun. Visibility very good away from showers, but very poor in cloud and snow/hail.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to -2C. Wind chill in strongest winds below -15C on highest tops.
Freezing Level	600 to 900m, rising highest near west coast.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 5 December	Monday 6 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northerly 20 to 30mph early morning, but speeds likely to fall much lighter as day progresses. Prepare for marked wind chill early in the day, but conditions should ease.	South veering westerly, often in the range 30 to 50mph, perhaps a brief lull. Expect frequent buffeting across the hills, sometimes arduous walking conditions with significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Mostly dry Localised snow flurries possible, but most or all day likely to stay dry.	Snow, then showers with hail A period of widespread snowfall is likely, becoming sleet lower slopes, or rain near west coast perhaps to 600m or above. Then clusters of showers, heavy with hail and chance of thunder.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Many tops clear or clearing Banks of cloud across some slopes for a time in the morning, may come and go northern Lochaber, but will tend to break up further south and west, leaving many summits clear. 70%	Fairly extensive Cloud bases changing quickly, but often covering higher terrain through the day, extensive in precipitation. Brief glimpses of higher summits. Sometimes shafts of cloud forming to lower slopes. 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun, but southern areas may be much sunnier. Visibility excellent.	Brief if any sun. Visibility sometimes good, but very poor during precipitation, appalling if in snow and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C, up to -1C near coast. Most upland terrain frozen, from many glens upward inland, but near coast may be nearer 600m, perhaps 800m.	-2 to -4C, tending to rise for a time from the west, perhaps briefly nearer to 0C near coast. Much terrain frozen following overnight frost. Becoming 400m inland, but above 800m for a time near coast.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 5 December, 2021

Most mountain terrain is likely to stay frozen throughout the week ahead. Sometimes freezing conditions to lower slopes, although some day-to-day variations. Wind speed and direction will vary considerably, intermittent lulls, but then a deep low is expected to affect Britain by Tuesday-Wednesday, bringing stormy conditions, perhaps widely. Further lows are likely to follow later in the week. Extensive snowfalls possible on the hills, a mix of snow and rain lower down.

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Forecast issued at 15:55 on Friday, 3 December, 2021

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