

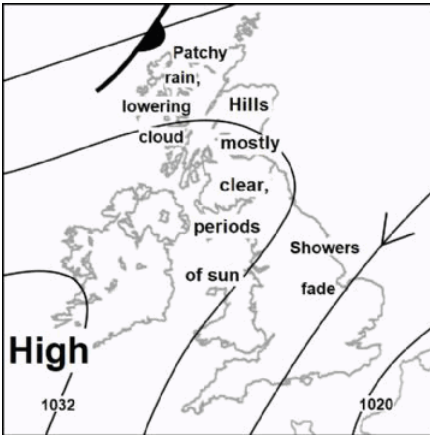
West Highlands

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



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General Summary for Tuesday, 21 November, 2023



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 21 November, 2023

Many places dry during the day with some sun. Light winds in morning for the Highlands, but will increase, gales into evening. Cloud thickening ahead of a warm front, some patchy rain developing for NW Scotland. Brief showers for eastern Pennines fade. Windy for England and Wales in morning.

Headline for West Highlands

Wind increasing, gales by evening. A little drizzle arriving west.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 21 November, 2023

How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly 15mph by midday, then increasing to 15 to 25mph in afternoon, reaching 40mph+ after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small at first, then increasingly blustery in afternoon, considerable wind chill. Deteriorating after dark.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Mostly dry, drizzly rain develops from west. Dry for several hours under a transient ridge of high pressure, most of the day inland and southern areas. A weak warm front brings patchy rain to areas near Mull during afternoon, drizzle pushing inland and south by evening.
Cloud on the hills?	Low cloud, lifting and clearing for a time. Areas of low cloud from dawn, some hills clear or between cloud layers. Low cloud mostly clearing for a time, before lowering again near coastal mountains.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%, lowering to 30% west coast later.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A little weak sun for a time, but soon overcast as increasingly cloud layers move in from the west. Visibility good, mistier in west later.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1C lifting to 3C by midday
Freezing Level	1000m, lifting above the tops by midday.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 22 November	Thursday 23 November
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly 50 to 70mph; considerable increase of speed with height; likely increasing, risk 80mph later on Ben Nevis. Challenging conditions and significant wind chill at mid elevations; severe conditions higher up, any mobility very difficult.	West later northwesterly, 60 to 80mph from overnight into the daytime, only gradually easing toward 40-50mph. Ongoing very difficult conditions and significant wind chill from mid-heights upward much of day. Severe on tops.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Persistent rain and drizzle Rain and drizzle continuous all day for much of the region, heaviest falls likely focused on Ben Nevis range westwards, streams in spate. Smaller amounts Loch Lomond NP to Arran.	Heavy rain, later snow tops Rain continuing from overnight into morning, heavy falls setting in for a few hours. Fading later from north, turning to snow on the Munros as it eases. Later showers with snow falling to 700m, possible hail. Streams in spate.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Blanket low cloud over the mountains, from lower slopes upward near coast. Highest bases well inland, rarely above 900m.	Extensive Shrouding the mountains extensively most or all day, lowest near to coast. As rain eases, bases starting to rise from the north, some breaks late in the day inland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little if any sun. Hazy, poor visibility due to rain.	Overcast, hazy most of daylight. Visibility may improve late in day.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	6C. Wind chill feels near -10C on tops. Above the summits.	As high as 6C at first, dropping during day, later toward 0C, soonest in Lochaber. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C. Above the summits perhaps most of the day, but likely to start lowering from north, later in day possibly to 800-1000m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 22 November, 2023

Wednesday into Thursday brings widespread gale force westerly winds over the mountains - increasingly severe. Very wet for western Scotland, particularly in northwest. Smaller amounts of rain further south and east. Colder air moves in from the northwest later Thursday into Friday, dipping below freezing on most high tops of Britain, showers with hail and snow falling to lower elevations in Scotland. Likely to stay chilly into the weekend, sub-zero on tops plus frost overnight into valleys and glens. Some local upland snowfalls possible, although high pressure nearby is likely to bring a fair amount of dry and bright weather plus wind speeds tending to ease.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Monday, 20 November, 2023

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, 2023.