

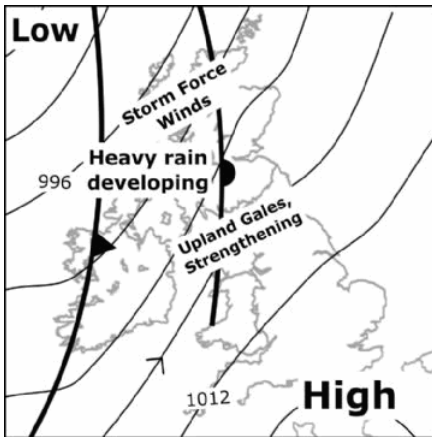
West Highlands

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 Friday, 18 October, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 18 October, 2024

Southerly winds strengthening for all regions, widely upland gales, reaching storm-force on higher Scottish mountains. Rain extending in from the west becoming persistent, heavier over west and southwest Scotland. Lowest cloud on south-facing hills.

Headline for West Highlands

Storm-force winds soon developing. Rain moving in, becoming heavy.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 18 October, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, starting 40-45mph; deteriorating during morning to become 50 to 70mph widely by later morning onward; stronger gusts over higher tops.
Effect of wind on you?	Difficult conditions: wind chill soon severe and walking sometimes hardly possible on exposed paths; you could be blown over.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Dry start, persistent rain afternoon Morning: Largely dry; rain here and there, starting to turn more persistent coastal hills and islands. Afternoon: Heavy rain soon enveloping region - although some breaks north of Glen Spean and Loch Treig.
Cloud on the hills?	Persisting all day - highest cloud base toward the north Generally persistent cloud above 500 to 750m, but cloud base lowering in rain in afternoon - forming on lowest slopes near coast (including Clyde sea lochs). Highest cloud base will be north of Glencoe where mostly 800 to 1050m
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little to no sun except for early morning, weak through upper cloud layers. Becoming dull with poor visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5 to 7C, locally 9C if out of cloud. Wind chill feeling well below freezing.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 19 October	Sunday 20 October
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25mph, may ease a little into afternoon. Strengthening into night. Mostly fairly small; although noticeable wind chill higher up. Strengthening into night.	Southerly, 50 to 60mph most of the day, but at times intensifying to 65-70mph especially on coastal hills. Severe conditions, walking hardly possible on higher terrain but arduous even lower down. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showery Showers mainly near and west of Loch Linnhe where sometimes frequent; elsewhere often dry.	Heavy rain Persistent rain on all hills, heavy much of the day, later clusters of heavy showers. By the evening on highest summits it may change to sleet. Very wet underfoot, possible local flooding. Chance for isolated thunder.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Mostly confined to higher summits; lowest cloud along the coast. Broadly cloud base varying between temporarily below 500m and mostly 700m on the coast, including west of Loch Linnhe. Elsewhere as cloud base rises, by midday occasionally 600m, but mostly 800 to 1000m (highest base central highlands and 30%	Extensive Shrouding higher areas most or all day, lowest and most persistent near to south-facing coasts; may lift a little through the day, but lowering again in showers. Highest breaks near Glen Spean & Loch Treig. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of sun - most sun central highlands and near and north of Glen Spean. Generally hazy; poor visibility in heavier showers.	Overcast: glimpses of sun mainly afternoon. A general haze, visibility poor in constant rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C. Will feel colder than freezing point directly in the wind. Above the summits.	4C, tending to lower in afternoon. Feeling close to -10C directly in the wind. Above the summits, but up to dusk may drop close to Ben Nevis summit.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 19 October, 2024**

South to southwesterly winds will prevail through the weekend and early next week with centres of low pressure passing northwest of Scotland. Unsettled and windy, upland gales or at times stormy over the mountains. Periods of rain, heaviest and most persistent over western mountains. Temperatures will fluctuate, often fairly mild, some cooler days at least for Scotland, but staying above freezing to highest tops, so no remaining lying snow. Into midweek, higher pressure over England and Wales gives some drier conditions here. Subtle pattern changes later in the week may alter the prevailing wind direction, but low pressure nearby maintains an unsettled outlook.

Forecast issued at 15:48 on Thursday, 17 October, 2024

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, 2024.