

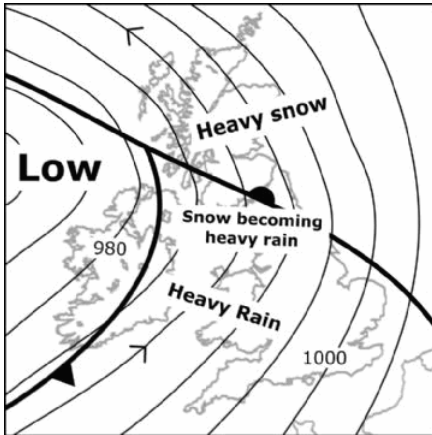
# West Highlands

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.



If you love Scotland's mountains, join [Mountaineering Scotland](http://www.mountaineering.scot)  
[www.mountaineering.scot](http://www.mountaineering.scot) #ThinkWINTER

## General Summary for Saturday, 23 November, 2024



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 23 November, 2024

Severe weather widely with storm-force upland winds; heavy snow over the Highlands giving sustained blizzard conditions to lower elevations. A rapid switch from snow to rain up to high tops for northern England, already by dawn in Wales - here prolonged heavy rain with flooding likely.

### Headline for West Highlands

Stormy; heavy snow & whiteout, becoming rain, rapid thawing later.

## Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 23 November, 2024

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Southeasterly 50 to 80mph; ferocious gusts reaching lower slopes, particularly turbulent west of major mountain groups. Speeds lowering from south afternoon, but increasing again into night, turning southerly.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Severe conditions, any activity on the exposed ridges highly dangerous regardless of experience. Difficult even on lower hills, gusts may knock you over.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Heavy snow, changing to rain; rapid thaw starting.</b> Heavy snow soon becoming extensive in morning, lasting onward into afternoon to low elevations inland areas. Rapid switch to rain near to coast during morning, soonest Arran. Turning to sleet then rain up to higher tops inland later afternoon then fading. Further periods of rain to tops into the night.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Hills covered extensively</b> Hills fully covered, very likely all day, from lower slopes up southern areas. Highest cloud bases northwest of Ben Nevis group, at times 700m or above.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>Almost nil</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Overcast, zero visibility, whiteout; visibility staying very poor even as rain develops.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	Rising from -5C early morning, to +4C afternoon, sooner Arran; higher after dark.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Variable, at first all terrain frozen inland, 300-500m near coast. Rising erratically from south; above summits near SW coast by midday, then inland up to dusk.

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 24 November	Monday 25 November
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>  <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Southwesterly 45 to 55mph, up to 60-65mph higher tops.  <b>Difficulty maintaining stability, easily blown over by gusts or unsure footing. Significant wind chill.</b>	South to southwesterly, switching west to northwesterly; 45 to 60mph, to 70mph higher mountains, risk 80mph south.  <b>Difficult conditions across the mountains, severe where exposed on higher areas. Significant wind chill even on mid-slopes.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Persistent rain on coastal mountains</b> Morning rain, some heavy, on the coastal mountains from Isle of Mull and north. Showery rain continuing on southwest facing slopes. Snow falling on higher tops in Ben Nevis range above 1000m.	<b>Persistent rain, some snow tops</b> Frequent to near-constant precipitation, of snow on the Munros in the morning, becoming increasingly all rain. Heavy bursts, risk of hail especially toward coast.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Tops in cloud most or all day</b>  Fairly extensive low cloud, though potential for breaks forming in the afternoon. Highest bases near/north of Glen Spean. Mountain tops likely within cloud.	<b>Varied, but extensive higher areas</b>  Cloud base rapidly changing, but often shrouding the mountains above 800m, or 600m near coast. Brief higher breaks well inland, rarely above 1000m.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun on southern islands and inland, overcast on the coast. General haze, visibility reduced in rain.	Overcast. Visibility briefly good, though slight haze; suddenly very poor due to precipitation.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	2 or 3C, slightly warmer around dawn. Feeling like -10 to -15C in wind.  Above the summits at first, dropping to 1200m during the morning and towards 1000m into the evening.	1 to 4C. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C.  1000 to 1200m in morning, but likely lifting to 1300m or slightly higher during the day, soonest near to west coast.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 24 November, 2024

A powerful area of low pressure continues to influence all areas Sunday into Monday, bringing sustained gales from lower hills upward, storm-force on higher mountains. After a rapid period of thaw in all areas late Saturday, by Sunday-Monday the Scottish high tops are back just below freezing point. Frequent showery rain, or snow on the Munros, most persistent in the west. Into midweek, higher pressure tries to expand over Britain bringing drier conditions, with temperatures nearer the seasonal average compared to the current very cold spell. Periods of rain and milder southerly air later in the week - above freezing to all tops. Early December shows signs of chillier northerlies returning.

### Forecast issued at 16:00 on Friday, 22 November, 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.