

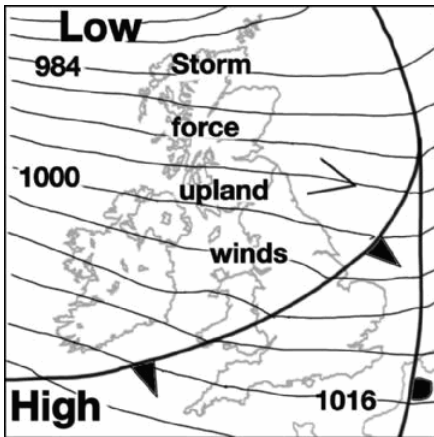
# West Highlands

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 Saturday, 21 December, 2024



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 21 December, 2024**

Widespread storm force upland winds, strongest far north, around an intense low centred north of Scotland. Snow showers very frequent across W and NW Scotland; whilst further south showers, of snow only on higher tops. Overnight rain will clear Wales from the north morning and middle of day.

### Headline for West Highlands

Storm force upland wind. Snow showers.

## Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 21 December, 2024

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Westerly 65 to perhaps 75mph on higher tops; squally near showers..
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Walking difficult where exposed on lower slopes; higher up severe wind chill and any mobility often difficult.</b> <b>You could be repeatedly blown over.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Frequent hail and snow.</b> Showers, often one after another and increasingly heavy and squally, particularly Lochaber. Hail, and above about 500m snow.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Very extensive: rare breaks on higher slopes.</b> Cloud base varying considerably; patches below 400m near precipitation (particularly western mountains), whilst at other times cloud base between 750 and rarely above 1050m.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of sunshine, mainly easternmost areas. Varied visibility; appalling in snow and blowing snow to sometimes very good.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	Dropping slowly to around -1C. Will feel as cold as minus 20C directly in the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Dropping slowly from 1000m at dawn to near 750m afternoon.

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 22 December	Monday 23 December
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Northwesterly around 60mph; particularly gusty near precipitation.	West backing southwesterly; a lull to around 20mph, before strengthening toward 30mph afternoon.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Arduous walking on lower slopes, whilst higher up severe wind chill and any mobility challenging, particularly near precipitation.</b>	<b>Mostly small; but anticipate a change to considerable wind chill and more strenuous walking.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Frequent hail and snow toward coast</b> Near, west of Loch Linnhe, Loch Etive south to Clyde sea lochs: Showers, sometimes one after another; mostly rain valleys. Risk of almost constant precipitation for a couple of hours Lochaber giving whiteout. Elsewhere: a few flurries.	<b>Rain spreading inland</b> The odd snow shower morning. Rain, or temporarily snow or refrozen rain above 700m, spreading inland most likely middle of the day onward.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Very extensive across many mountains; cloud base varying</b> Near, west of Loch Linnhe, Loch Etive south to Clyde sea lochs: Near precipitation cloud sometimes below 400m particularly near the coast, but breaks to 750m, perhaps fleeting breaks to higher tops. Elsewhere: patches above 900-1100m.	<b>Deteriorating as cloud later envelops lower slopes</b> Moderate confidence well inland of cloud lifting off summits below 900 to 1100m for a few hours (particularly well inland). But anticipate deterioration as cloud fills in from many lower slopes up, although well inland (from west) most cloud may remain above 500m.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>10% near coast to 50% well inland</b>	<b>30% dropping from west to 10%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sunshine, but often sunshine well inland. Very varied visibility, sometimes excellent, but appalling or near zero in snow/blowing snow.	Little or no sunshine. Visibility excellent, particularly well inland but poor in precipitation.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-2C, may rise marginally through the day. Will feel as cold as minus 20C directly in the wind.	-1C rising to 0 to 2C afternoon. Will feel as cold as minus 7C directly in the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	600m	700m, transitioning to above the summits, initially near the west coast, afternoon onwards.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 22 December, 2024

A change in the weather pattern from Tuesday as high pressure progressively envelops Wales and England. Here, as in S Scotland, extensively dry and much less windy. Mild - although frost in valleys some nights. Still windy Scottish Highlands, here very mild with lying snow substantially melting. Rain frequent NW Highlands, and less so W Highlands. Further east little or no rain.

### Forecast issued at 12:04 on Friday, 20 December, 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.