

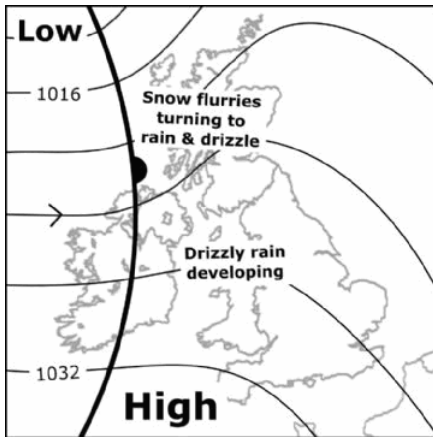
West Highlands

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 #ThinkWINTER

General Summary for Monday, 23 December, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 23 December, 2024

A warm front arriving from the west brings rain preceded by snow or freezing rain on higher slopes - later much milder, well above freezing to all tops. A brief lull, but winds strengthening during the day in Scotland. Windy from dawn Pennines & Wales then a brief lull develops here during day.

Headline for West Highlands

Wind increasing. Rain and lowering cloud from west.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 23 December, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	West soon backing southwesterly; a lull to around 20mph after dawn, then strengthening toward 40mph into afternoon.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small morning, but changing middle of day into afternoon to considerable wind chill and more strenuous walking.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain spreading inland, brief snow flurries Dry start, but during morning, rain arriving on coastal mountains - inland temporarily snow or refrozen rain above 600m, spreading inland during middle of day. Persistent drizzly rain through afternoon.
Cloud on the hills?	Deteriorating as cloud later envelops lower slopes Patches of cloud near the coast above 750m whilst well inland cloud briefly lifts off summits below 900 to 1100m. Deteriorating in precipitation as cloud fills in across the hills, forming on lower slopes near the coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% dropping from west to 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sunshine. Visibility starts very good well inland, but reducing in precipitation; very poor if in cloud and over lying snow on high terrain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C rising to 0 to 2C afternoon; then 6C+ into night. Will feel as cold as minus 8C directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	700m, or partly frozen lower down in morning. Through afternoon transitioning to above the summits, soonest near the coast.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 24 December	Wednesday 25 December
<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Southwesterly 45mph; perhaps a little less strong southward toward Loch Lomond and particularly Clyde sea lochs.</p> <p>Very difficult conditions where exposed on higher areas; significant wind chill and walking strenuous; balance/foot placement not easy.</p>	<p>Southwesterly 45 to 60mph; marked increase with height, sudden gusts in high passes and downslope near major tops.</p> <p>Arduous walking, balance very difficult on exposed higher terrain, gusts may knock you over. Significant wind chill.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Raining most of the day</p> <p>Raining almost constantly, although on more eastern mountains from Creag Meagaidh south near and north of Glen Spean, and near lochs Ossian and Treig, the rain on and off and total rainfall small.</p>	<p>Rain in the wind</p> <p>Feeling damp throughout the day on most mountains, but small amounts of rain in total; least toward central highlands.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p>	<p>Blanket of cloud across even most lower slopes.</p> <p>Cloud base widely below 200m west of Loch Linnhe, near and west of Loch/Glen Etive, to S & W Loch Lomond NP and Arran.</p> <p>Elsewhere, the cloud a little higher, but rarely above 600m.</p>	<p>Extensive</p> <p>Blanket cloud from lower slopes upward near west coasts, above 600m well inland, higher breaks northeast of Ben Nevis.</p>
<p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Almost nil</p>	<p>Almost nil</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Sunshine not expected. Widely poor visibility.</p>	<p>Overcast and dull. Visibility widely poor.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>7C. Will feel as cold as minus 8C where exposed to the wind</p> <p>Above the summits.</p>	<p>5C. Wind chill makes it feel as cold as -10C.</p> <p>Above the summits</p>

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 24 December, 2024

West to southwesterly winds prevail through Christmas, gales over higher terrain, strongest in Scotland. The wind likely eases into Boxing Day as high pressure expands northwards. Mild for all through midweek, damp across western hills with extensive very low cloud; recent snow cover continually melting. Higher cloud bases and brighter further east. A risk of westerly winds strengthening again into the weekend, particularly Scotland. Some indication of colder air returning from the northwest into the New Year period.

Forecast issued at 15:01 on Sunday, 22 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.