

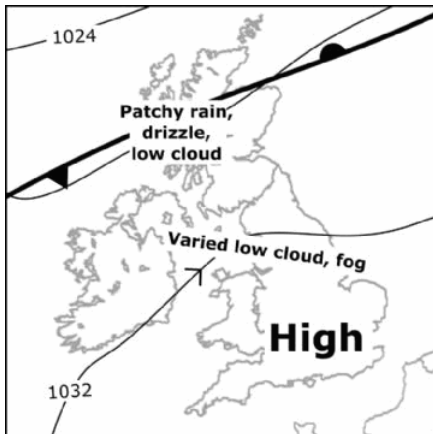
# West Highlands

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, 27 December, 2024



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 27 December, 2024**

A weak front draped across the Highlands brings low cloud and rain to western areas, but the far north may remain clearer. Scottish hills rather windy and gusty in places. In England & Wales, low cloud covering most west coastal hills, clearer northeast of major hill groups; least wind toward south.

### Headline for West Highlands

Dull and damp, rain most frequent coasts. Windy, gusty in places.

## Detailed Forecast for Friday, 27 December, 2024

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Southwesterly 25 to 30mph, at times gusty 35-40mph around tops in Ben Nevis range.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Blustery over higher terrain, affecting balance where exposed on ridges and summits; marked wind chill on tops.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Frequent or persistent light rain</b> Rain and drizzle much of the day, amounts generally small, but locally persistent near and west of Loch Linnhe. Smaller amounts well inland and may fade out at times southernmost areas.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Extensive low cloud</b> Blanket low cloud across the mountains, to lower slopes near the coast, widely from mid-slopes up inland. Highest bases from Creag Meagaidh to Loch Ossian, but rarely above 900m.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>Below 10%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and dull, poor visibility in rain. Local brighter breaks and better visibility northeast of Ben Nevis group, may improve also toward south.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	3 to 5C. Feeling like -7C where exposed to wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Above the summits

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	<b>Saturday 28 December</b>	<b>Sunday 29 December</b>
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	West to southwesterly, 25 to 40mph, speeds may vary, strongest in Lochaber; then likely to strengthen further into night. <b>Frequent buffeting over higher terrain, arduous walking where exposed on tops in Lochaber. Considerable wind chill.</b>	Westerly 25-35mph near Lochaber and Mull. 40-55mph southward, strongest in the far south. <b>Walking becoming impeded, difficult south of Mull. Strongest gusts may blow you over. Significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Showery rain and summit snow</b> Rain from overnight may not clear until an hour or so after dawn Loch Lomond to Arran. Then scattered showers, snow falling on Munros, particularly Lochaber.	<b>Rain nearly constant</b> Rain most of the day, often heavy, likely constant in areas north of Mull across Lochaber. Higher tops around Ben Nevis to see snow. May be smaller amounts Loch Lomond NP.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Varied over higher slopes</b> Early low cloud particularly southern hills tending to rise to upper slopes with breaks forming. Then varying, but often capping tops above 800-1000m. Some higher breaks more often well inland.	<b>Widespread low cloud</b> Lowest coastal slopes shrouded in cloud. Bases closer to 700m inland, through regularly lowering as spells of heavier rain come and go.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>Almost nil</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun mainly inland. Visibility good when dry, but poor in showers, very poor if in snow on tops.	Overcast. Visibility mostly poor, very poor in snow on higher mountains.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	1 to 3C. Wind chill feeling like -10C on tops.  1200m, may drop to 1000m locally in Lochaber.	2C in from Lochaber north, up to 4C south of Mull.  1100m near Ben Nevis range. Localized patches down to 1000m. Above the summits south of Mull.

**Planning Outlook****All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 28 December, 2024**

Heavy rain is likely to affect many western mountains from Sunday into early next week - the most sustained heavy rain focused on western Scotland, but may extend south into northern England with time. Risk of flooding developing. On the northern side of a slow-moving frontal zone, much colder air likely moves into northern Scotland resulting in snow over the mountains. West to southwesterly gales widely over the mountains up to New Year, risk of severe gales for periods. Colder air is expected to advance south across all of Britain by New Year's Day, leaving much upland terrain frozen and showers of snow and hail likely. Cold conditions are likely to be sustained into the first weekend of January.

**Forecast issued at 14:50 on Thursday, 26 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.