

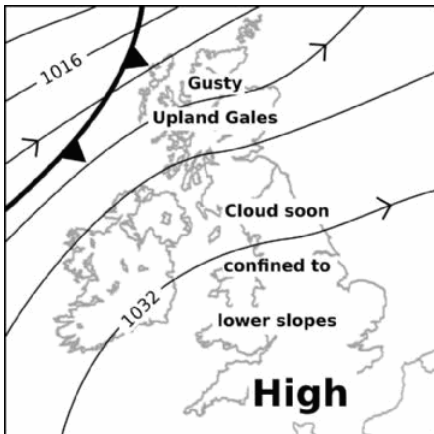
West Highlands

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.



Fort William Mountain Festival - 13th-16th February 2025
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General Summary for Wednesday, 15 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 January, 2025

Strong upland gales and powerful gusts over the Highlands; wind getting increasingly lighter further south. Extensive cloud possible in the morning but will very soon be confined to the lower slopes and many summits will be cloud free and dry. Superb visibility on high ground, above haze layer. Feeling mild, especially where wind is light.

Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales and gusts. Cloud clearing.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 15 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly widely 40-55mph on higher exposed areas. Sudden gusts on some lower slopes. Nearer 35mph close to central belt. Wind easing a little after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	Marked strengthening with height will lead to arduous or difficult walking and significant wind chill where exposed.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain on and off Risk of occasional drizzle near Lochaber coast and perhaps into Loch Lomond NP. Little or no rain Arran.
Cloud on the hills?	Inversion developing Lochaber; soon all clearing Loch Lomond NP Extensive in the morning, particularly near the coast where cloud will reach lower slopes. Cloud thinning from above through the day and mostly clearing Loch Lomond NP. The top of cloud deck will drop to 500 to 700m in Lochaber.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Becoming 70%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy and very hazy near the Lochaber coast. Well inland and further south, sunshine becoming widespread with superb visibility on higher slopes.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Varied: mostly between 5 and 8C but perhaps 3C hills closest to the Lochaber coast. Will feel as cold as minus 9C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits with continued thaw of snow and still partly frozen terrain.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 16 January	Friday 17 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southwesterly; strengthening markedly with height to 45, locally 55mph Lochaber. A little less windy near central Difficult walking conditions and severe wind chill, particularly Lochaber. Expect considerable buffeting in powerful gusts.	Southwesterly 50-70mph, highest in Lochaber. Wind probably easing through the day to around 50mph Lochaber. Mobility incredibly difficult where exposed to the full strength of the wind, especially in the morning. Powerful downslope gusts may blow you over.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain not expected	Rain and drizzle on and off Rain and drizzle on and off through the day, most often around Lochaber and the Loch Lomond NP. Will be most persistent near the west coast with only a little reaching Creag Meagaidh and the Central Highlands.
Cloud on the hills?	Nearly all summits cloud free - low cloud Mull to Arran Most mountains cloud free. From Arran to Mull, areas of cloud from lowest slopes up - but the top of the cloud 600 to 800m. There may also be fragments on some slopes Loch Lomond NP.	Extensive Cloud will shroud summits from lower slopes up near the west coast. Cloud base rising progressively to the east and on Creag Meagaidh will be around 600m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive bright sunshine and excellent or superb visibility; perhaps dull and misty Mull to Arran.	Little or no sunshine. Very poor visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	8C (but as low as 3C below 900m where in cloud). Will feel as cold as minus 10C directly in Above the summits.	6C. Feeling as cold as -10C in the wind. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 16 January, 2025**

Persistent thaw through the week as very mild air arrives from the southwest and later south. There will be a little drizzly rain near the west coasts - possibly wetter in some areas from the weekend. However, from time to time, mountains, most frequently in England and Wales will clear (sometimes above fog on lower slopes). Winds sometimes fairly light, particularly Wales, but windier progressively northwards with periods of upland gales Scottish Highlands.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 14 January, 2025

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, 2025.