

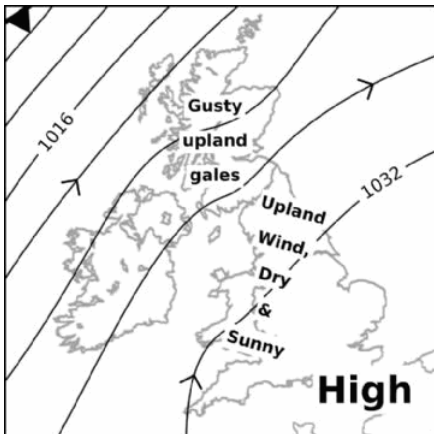
# West Highlands

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 Thursday, 16 January, 2025



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 16 January, 2025

Almost all mountains cloud free but low level fog coming in off the south and west coasts and rolling up some coastal uplands and mountains. Many summits warmer than their mid-slopes. Sudden increase of wind with height; very gusty gales in the Highlands. Hazy low down in some areas; superb visibility from high ground.

### Headline for West Highlands

Gusty upland gales; nearly all summits cloud free

## Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 16 January, 2025

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	South to southwesterly; strengthening markedly with height to 45, locally 50mph Lochaber. A little less windy near central belt.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Difficult walking conditions and severe wind chill, particularly Lochaber. Expect considerable buffeting in powerful gusts.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Rain not expected</b>
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Nearly all summits cloud free - low cloud Mull to Arran</b> 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.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive bright sunshine and excellent or superb visibility on high ground. May be dull low down near the coast.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	8C (but as low as 3C below 900m where in cloud). Slightly cooler on the mid-slopes. Will feel as cold as minus 10C directly in the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Above the summits.

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 17 January	Saturday 18 January
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>  <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Southwesterly 45 to 55mph, highest in Lochaber. Wind easing slightly around 40mph Lochaber and 30mph further south. <b>Mobility difficult where exposed to the full strength of the wind, especially in the morning. Powerful downslope gusts may blow you over.</b>	Gusty southwesterly 30 to 40mph, some variation up and down through the day but possibly strongest in the morning. <b>Your balance will be affected on high ground. Beware gusts throwing you further off balance on down-slope slopes. Significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Rain and drizzle on and off Lochaber</b> Rain and drizzle on and off through the day, most often around Lochaber. Will be most persistent near the west coast with only a little reaching Creag Meagaidh and the Central Highlands.	<b>Small risk of localised drizzle</b> Risk of drizzle on lower slopes near Loch Lomond NP and Arran.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>   <b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>Extensive</b>  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.  <b>10%</b>	<b>Probably very little on high ground</b>  Cloud may fill in on lower slopes around Loch Lomond NP and Arran, particularly in the morning. A few wisps of mid-level cloud may be present in Lochaber. Summits likely to be cloud free.  <b>70%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sunshine. Very poor visibility.	Extensive sunshine, possibly weakened by high cloud. Good visibility low down if not in cloud; superb visibility on high ground.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	6C but cooler on the mid-slopes. Low ground may be below freezing. Feeling as cold as -10C in the wind. Above the summits.	1C. Higher ground may be warmer or colder depending on the level of the inversion. Feeling around -10C in the wind. Above the summits.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 17 January, 2025

Rain moving in some areas from the west on Sunday and Monday before high pressure starts building again and suppressing any rainfall to pockets of drizzle. Conditions may become gloomy low down as cloud is trapped below inversion; summits likely to remain clear with superb visibility. Freeze-thaw cycles will resume on the Scottish mountains though next week.

### Forecast issued at 16:31 on Wednesday, 15 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.