

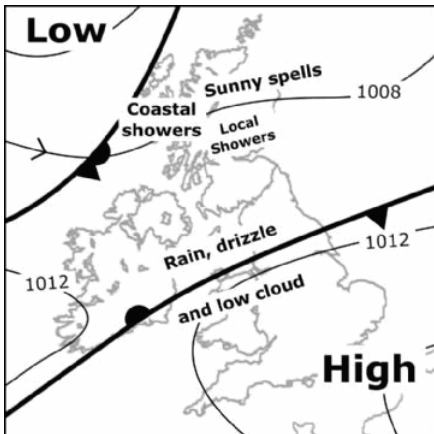
West Highlands

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 Tuesday, 21 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 21 January, 2025

Below freezing on Scottish tops. Noticeably chilly in the breeze. A cluster of showers with hill snow moves across the Highlands early in the day, but clears to be often dry and bright. Showers continue near to western coasts, some moving inland. A slow-moving front over England & north Wales brings grey and damp conditions.

Headline for West Highlands

Chilly, breezy. Showers and lowest cloud toward coast.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 21 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 20 to 25mph, at times 30mph on higher mountains, particularly areas further west.
Effect of wind on you?	Affecting comfortable walking on exposed higher terrain, some buffeting on higher ridges impacting balance. Considerable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers mostly coastal hills Showery rain and upland snow from dawn soon clears eastwards, then frequently dry well inland. Showers continue toward the coast, some pushing inland, mainly in south, with sleet or snow above 700-800m.
Cloud on the hills?	Often covering higher areas Banks of cloud across most higher slopes early in the day, becoming mostly confined above 900m inland with breaks to upper slopes at times. Nearer to coasts, more often capping higher slopes to around 700m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10% coasts, 30% inland.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, glimpses of sun. Visibility often good away from the coast, but reduced in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or -1C. Wind chill feeling like -10C.
Freezing Level	800 to 900m, slightly higher near coast.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 22 January	Thursday 23 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southeasterly or variable direction, 10mph and under. Occasionally 15mph on higher terrain and near coasts. Little to none	Southerly turning west-southwesterly; speeds likely increasing 25 to 40mph, risk 50mph for a time, suddenly squally. Walking becoming impeded with increasing buffeting on higher terrain, risk difficult where exposed. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little rain or snow on coastal hills Occasional snow showers along coastal hills, rain below 600m. Most inland areas dry, though some light snow may fall on higher inland terrain.	Snow/rain develops, setting in Initially just a few showers, snow flurries above 600m, pushing inland in morning. Increasing risk with time of abruptly heavy rain and upland snow, soonest areas from Mull to Arrochar, but moving widely inland from the southwest.
Cloud on the hills?	Often shrouded near coast, variable inland Coastal mountains and high tops inland often capped. Variable coverage inland with moments of clear hills.	Patchy low cloud, becoming extensive Varied cloud banks in the morning, may cover southeast-facing slopes, most extensive Loch Lomond NP. Some breaks north Lochaber. Widely lowering over the hills in rain/snow.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun possible inland. Good visibility inland, often poor along coast and in show showers.	Local weak sun mainly Lochaber at first, giving way to largely overcast skies. Visibility good away from early cloud banks, but becoming poor in rain, appalling in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-1C, some pockets of slightly cooler air inland. 800m, some inland areas down towards 700m	-1 or -2C. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C. Locally varied 600 to 800m, tending to lower during the day.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 22 January, 2025**

Deteriorating later this week - a series of storm systems coming in from the Atlantic through late January bringing frequently severe conditions to the mountains. Thursday sees winds reach gale force on many tops with a spell of heavy rain and upland snow developing from the west. By Friday, severe conditions from lower elevations upward, hurricane-force winds over the mountains, plus extensive rain and hill snow. Gales continue into Saturday, severe for the Highlands. Snow is likely to accumulate over Scottish mountains during the next week or so with only brief thawing. More variable temperatures for England and Wales with cycles of freeze and thaw. Atlantic patterns likely prevail into early February.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Monday, 20 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.