

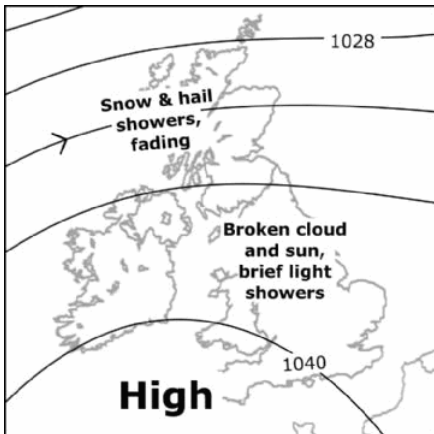
West Highlands

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, 5 February, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 5 February, 2025

Chilly westerly winds, strongest in northern Scotland, gale-force on higher mountains. Showers of snow and hail mostly over western Scotland in the morning will tend to fade with time. Patchy cloud across many western tops, some breaks forming.

Headline for West Highlands

Windy, up to gale-force high tops. Snow & hail showers fading.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 5 February, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	West to southwesterly 25mph up to 40mph some higher slopes, mainly Ben Nevis range; sudden gusts in places, lessening.
Effect of wind on you?	Balance affected on exposed ridges, buffeting gusts around some major summits. Considerable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow and hail mostly morning Showers of snow and hail frequent over coastal mountains in the morning. Intensity of showers easing, but snow flurries may continue toward coastal mountains, turning drizzly with time to mid-elevations.
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly higher tops, breaks forming Varying cloud bases will come and go over higher slopes in the morning, most frequently capping coastal areas above 800m. Inland often above 900m. Breaks more frequent with time, to some higher slopes into afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% rising to 60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun. Slight haze, but visibility becoming increasingly good as showers fade.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C rising to 0C. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C.
Freezing Level	600-700m, plus frost in some glens from dawn, rising slowly just above freezing point to around 900m. Some icy surfaces, plus fresh covering of snow.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 6 February	Friday 7 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southerly 25-30mph, to gusty 40mph on mountains west of Loch Linnhe; locally gusty elsewhere downslope to north. Affecting comfortable walking and balance in places, sudden buffeting not just on highest terrain; considerable wind chill.	Southeasterly 20mph, or locally often less inland, but in places gusty 30mph mainly around coastal mountains. Often fairly small, but occasional gusty areas may affect comfortable walking, also giving marked wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Precipitation unlikely Chance of fine drizzle some coastal slopes if within cloud banks.	No precipitation
Cloud on the hills?	Some patches southern mountains Patches drifting onto some south-facing slopes, mostly at mid-elevations, plus some fog in sheltered glens inland in the morning. May drift higher up at times, but dispersing. Northward into Lochaber, mountains generally clear.	Mostly clear, possible patches south Possibly very little if any cloud much of the region. Local patches may drift onto some mid to upper slopes toward south of about Crianlarich, but higher summits may be above these.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%	90%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Generally sunny out of the local patchy cloud; some thin high cloud. Visibility very good, but a haze some lower slopes, particularly toward coast.	Extensive sunshine most of region, a little patchy cloud Loch Lomond NP. Visibility excellent.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0 or 1C, but locally some slopes may rise near 5C inland Lochaber. Wind chill feeling like -7C. Terrain frozen or part-frozen, including frost sheltered glens early morning. Gradual thawing at many elevations in the	0 or 1C, small change with height, locally slightly higher western Lochaber. Wind chill in places feeling near -10C. Varied, much terrain part-frozen above 600m, but above freezing higher up near & W of Loch Linnhe. Also frost inland glens.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 6 February, 2025

High pressure builds and becomes centred around Scandinavia in the extended outlook into next week. A chilly east to southeasterly pattern is likely to prevail into mid-February. Some lulls, but periods of gusty winds will give significant wind chill. Often extensively dry, but occasional snow flurries mainly over England & Wales, occasionally also eastern Scotland. Variable amounts of cloud, although the west and especially northwest Highlands often clear and sunny. Some mountains above freezing later this week, but from the weekend, generally sub-zero across all mountains - a sustained period of freeze from many lower slopes upward. Frost common into the valleys.

Forecast issued at 15:00 on Tuesday, 4 February, 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.