

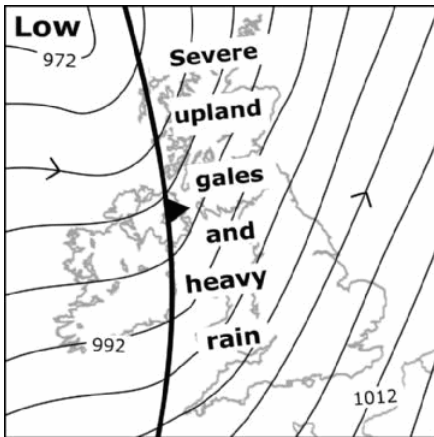
West Highlands

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, 21 February, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 21 February, 2025

Severe conditions over the mountains, storm-force winds most of daylight. Wet all day most areas, heaviest rain on south-facing hill groups, risk of local flooding. Least rain toward far north of the Highlands. Cloud shrouding the hills widely. Well above freezing with an ongoing thaw.

Headline for West Highlands

Stormy upland winds. Extensive rain, often heavy.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 21 February, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 60-80mph for most of daylight; gusts at times over 90mph on higher summits in Ben Nevis range. Top speeds lessen evening into night, but gales likely continue.
Effect of wind on you?	Any mobility very difficult on mountains; walking challenging even on mid to lower slopes in exposure. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Heavy and persistent rain Rain most of the day, often heavy, particularly southern parts of the region. Very wet underfoot, especially toward Loch Lomond & central Highlands, streams in spate, some flooding possible.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Cloud from lowest slopes upward along coasts. Some higher bases Lochaber, mainly northeast of Ben Nevis though most terrain stays cloudy. Bases may rise a little from west in afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sunshine. Visibility often very poor.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6 to 7C most of the day. Cooling in the afternoon towards 4C. Feeling as cold as -12C in wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 22 February	Sunday 23 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25-40mph, strongest in Ben Nevis area early in day. Walking strenuous, balance and stability will be affected. Moderating during day. Significant wind chill.	South to southwesterly 60 to 80mph, up to 100mph in gusts for periods on highest mountains in Ben Nevis range. Severe conditions: mobility challenging even at mid-elevations, frequently knocking you off your feet where exposed.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Coastal showers, flurries on high tops Occasional light showers along the coast, frequent from Mull northward. Some light sleet or flurries over highest tops.	Heavy rain then frequent showers Heavy rain setting in before dawn, lasting much of the morning, briefly wet snow on high tops. By middle of day, clusters of showers, merging into frequent rain, may set in again; back to snow on high tops into night.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Coast often cloudy, patchier inland Cloud banks common with bases near 900m along the coast. Highest bases inland, best chance of clear hills around Ben Alder to Creag Meagaidh. 50%	Extensive, lowest morning Shrouding the mountains all day, lowest cloud bases in the morning, rising toward upper slopes by afternoon, but varied in and out of rain, highest of any breaks toward north/east of Rannoch Moor. 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchwork of sun inland, little near the coast. Good to excellent visibility.	Overcast morning, then some glimpses of sun forming, mainly well inland afternoon. Hazy, poor visibility in precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2C. Feeling like -8C in the wind. 1200m	1 to 3C. Feeling like -15C or below due to wind chill. Close to freezing above 1000-1200m at first, but lifting above all tops. Into night starting to lower back to 1000m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 22 February, 2025**

All terrain will have thawed by the weekend; very wet underfoot with several spells of heavy rainfall, highest totals on south & southwest-facing hills bringing local flooding. A relative improvement on Saturday for many places, but remaining windy, up to gale-force higher northern Scottish tops - rain still frequent around Skye. Deteriorating again into Sunday with further storm-force mountain winds. Chillier westerly winds prevail next week, a return to mostly sub-freezing conditions over Scottish Munros, whilst lower Scottish hills plus mountains in England & Wales will see some freeze and thaw. Showery conditions with hail and upland snow, mixed with occasionally more widespread precipitation.

Forecast issued at 15:45 on Thursday, 20 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.