

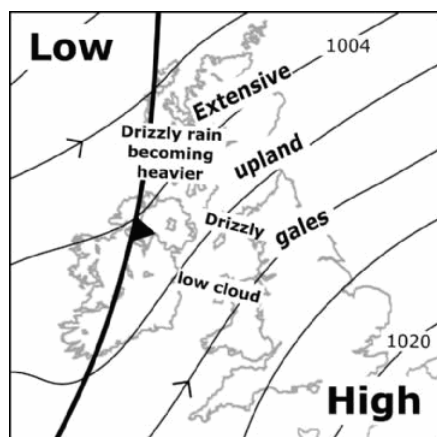
West Highlands

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 Thursday, 11 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 December, 2025

Gale force winds across most hills and mountains, severe gales high Scottish tops particularly morning in west, powerful gusts downslope in places. Low cloud and some drizzly rain west, mostly dry east/northeast. More persistent rain develops for western Scotland afternoon onward.

Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales, strongest morning. Increasingly wet.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 11 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southwesterly 45 to 60mph, up to 70mph high tops and coastal mountains in morning, tending to lessen afternoon from west, dropping below 25mph up to dusk and onward into evening.
Effect of wind on you?	Widely arduous walking from mid-heights upward, powerful gusts lower down; more difficult or severe conditions on high terrain, particularly toward coasts and in the morning hours; improving afternoon.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain, becoming wetter Occasional pulses of rain run onto coastal areas in the west. Spots of rain in the wind elsewhere, some slopes often damp, but small amounts of rain in morning. By afternoon onward, rain more widely persistent, heavier at times.
Cloud on the hills?	Increasingly extensive Covering most hills all day, to some mid-slopes near coasts, but mostly above 900m inland in morning, breaks higher up north and east of Rannoch Moor and Ben Nevis. Lowering further as rain sets in.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% inland morning, dropping below 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Generally cloudy. Hazy, visibility reduced to poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	4C, slight drop into evening to 2C. Feeling near -10C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits, then lowering into night to 1100-1200m.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 12 December	Saturday 13 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly soon rising to 35-45mph, risk stronger gusts over high tops around and north of Ben Nevis range. Uncomfortable winds from dawn strengthen to widely arduous walking conditions. Significant wind chill.	Southwesterly, strengthening during daytime from 40-50mph to 70-80mph, risk stronger gusts afternoon-evening. Challenging conditions from mid-elevations upward, increasingly any mobility difficult, significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Some coastal showers Showers drift onto Mull and Lochaber near Loch Linnhe, falling as snow on high tops. A few scattered showers onto the southern islands as well. Little or no rain inland.	Heavy rain developing Rain increasingly setting in, starting mostly near coast as patchy rain or drizzle, initially snow flurries on high tops inland. Becoming widespread persistent rain, incessant heavy falls with time.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Tops often shrouded, variable lower banks High tops will often be shrouded, particularly from the southern islands towards Ben Nevis range. A few breaks here and there, but some lower banks at times too. Bases will lower around Mull/Lochaber during showers. 30%	Becoming extensive, lowering Varied banks of cloud mostly on western slopes early in day, but increasingly filling in and lowering, becoming blanket fog from lower slopes upward many areas. 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy cloud and sun, best of sunshine on lower slopes. Very clear air at first but becoming hazy from the west.	Overcast, increasingly dull. Hazy, visibility poor as rain sets in.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0 or 1C. Feeling as cold as -15C in strongest wind. 1100m, lowering to 900-1000m.	1C rising steadily to later reach 5C. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C. 1000 to 1200m up to dawn, gradually rising, above all summits with time.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 12 December, 2025

Staying unsettled into the weekend and beyond as southwesterly winds prevail and low pressure systems pass to the northwest of Scotland; sustained gales over the mountains, severe or stormy for periods. Temperatures only just below freezing intermittently on higher Scottish tops, even here will experience spells above freezing with thawing, any lying snow patchy, but beware some icy surfaces on the very highest tops where some refreezing occurs. Rainfall will be frequent and heavy for periods, sometimes showery with hail. Expect very wet ground conditions and further flooding of streams and some rivers.

Forecast issued at 16:27 on Wednesday, 10 December, 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.