

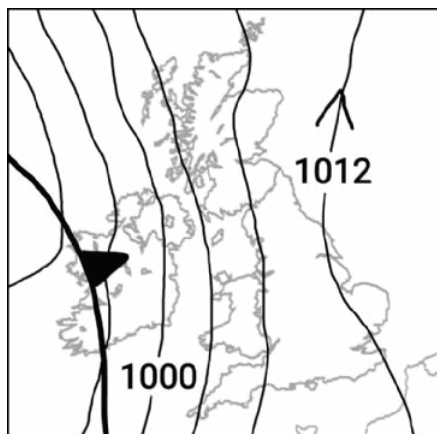
West Highlands

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 Saturday, 20 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 20 December, 2025

South to south-easterly winds, reaching gale force for western hills, local drizzly showers southwestern Scotland as well as Wales, with rain into Pembrokeshire later. Elsewhere, areas of weak sun and low cloud. Low cloud focused on eastern side of Pennines and also southern and eastern Highlands.

Headline for West Highlands

Windy, gales up west coast. Isolated showers. Hill fog focused in the south.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 20 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to south-easterly 25 to 40mph, but western coastal hills and Arran 45 to 60mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking arduous, or near west coast and Isles difficult, with a very turbulent airflow. Significant wind chill and buffeting.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Mostly dry, bar isolated showers. Isolated showers with snow falling above 1000-1100m, mainly from Loch Lomond, Arrochar Alps and Arran.
Cloud on the hills?	Breaks in north, covering hills in south. Banks of cloud giving fairly extensive hill fog on upper slopes from Loch Lomond to Arrochar Alps and Arran. Bases rising progressively further north into Lochaber, where bases at times at or above tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%, but 60% N Lochaber.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun Visibility good or very good. General haze west coast.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 or 3C, small rate of change in temperature with height. Directly in the wind feeling like -10 to -15C.
Freezing Level	Around 1200m. Fresh snow coverage on higher tops, particularly Lochaber.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 21 December	Monday 22 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	South-easterly backing easterly 20 to 30mph, perhaps lifting to 40mph at times.	Southeasterly 30 to 40mph, easing to 20 to 25mph in afternoon.
Effect of wind on you?	Blustery, turbulent airflow with significant wind chill. Sudden gusts running downslope and reversals in direction.	Fairly arduous conditions for several hours, sudden and strong wind gusts running downslope. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patchy rain and summit snow The legacy of a front may give patches of rain and summit snow, mainly towards the west coast and Arran. Otherwise mostly dry.	Early rain, then patches here and there. A warm front will bring widespread rain and drizzle for a time in the morning before clearing west. Then drier, but still with patches of rain here and there.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive, best breaks west coast Be prepared for fairly extensive cloud on the hills of the central and southern Highlands, but higher bases with some breaks are likely west of Loch Linnhe.	Fairly extensive, but breaks west coast. Fairly extensive banks at varying heights in rain. As rain clears, very disorganised cloud banks, some hills in fog, whilst others clear, with best breaks west coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	30%, but 60% toward west coast.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A little weak sun perhaps toward west coast. Otherwise cloudy. Visibility good, but poor in any rain or snow.	Mainly overcast. Poor visibility in the rain morning, but improving.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	Around 1C, small change in temperature with height. Feeling closer to -10C in the wind. Around 1000m	3C, but feeling closer to -10C where exposed to the strongest winds. Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 21 December, 2025

A much drier and chiller theme develops into the Christmas period and perhaps into the New Year, as high pressure builds to the north and northeast and maybe later in the period overhead over Scotland when inversion conditions would be in place. An extensive cloud sheet will likely come in from the North Sea over many days with light snow showers or flurries likely, rain to lower slopes, but many areas dry. Best breaks in the west.

Forecast issued at 19:02 on Friday, 19 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.