

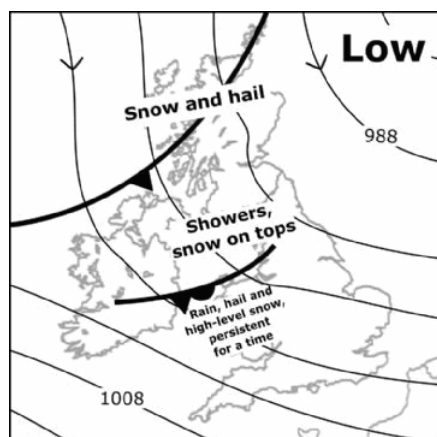
# West Highlands

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 Monday, 16 February, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 16 February, 2026

Snow over northwestern mountains in Scotland will tend to extend further into Lochaber and Cairngorms by afternoon as NW'ly winds strengthen, some hail mixed in. Strong westerlies for England, gale-force on Welsh mountains, heavy showers merging into longer periods rain, snow confined to higher tops.

### Headline for West Highlands

Increasingly windy. Snow and hail showers.

## Detailed Forecast for Monday, 16 February, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	West to northwest 20mph early morning, a lull in Lochaber for an hour or so. Becoming northwesterly 25mph, increasing to 35mph at times afternoon, squally gusts toward coasts. After dark, rapid increase to 50-60mph.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Increasingly blustery, affecting comfortable walking more into afternoon. Wind chill becoming significant. Deteriorating quickly after dark to more severe conditions later evening.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Snow showers coastal hills, more widely Lochaber with time.</b> Snow and hail showers, most common in coastal areas and on islands in morning, rain lowest slopes. Increasingly into afternoon, more frequent snow develops from northwest into Lochaber, later falling to lower elevations inland. Chance isolated thunder. Least precipitation east of Loch Lomond and Rannoch Moor.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Extensive; highest cloud base well inland and southward.</b> Cloud base varying, sometimes quickly, between 400m near precipitation and otherwise 600 to 800m. Toward the central highlands and Loch Lomond NP, cloud rarely below 700m and breaks toward 1000m.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20% Lochaber, to 40% toward central highlands.</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sunshine mainly central highlands and Loch Lomond NP. Very varied visibility; intermittently appalling or near zero in snow; more often very good toward central highlands.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-1 or -2C, dropping toward -4C by late afternoon Lochaber, elsewhere by evening. Directly in the wind feeling like -12 to -15C into afternoon, colder after dark.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	700 to 800m, plus slight frost some inland glens at first. Lowering from north during afternoon, to 400-500m up to dusk in Lochaber, soon after dark elsewhere.

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 17 February	Wednesday 18 February
How windy? (On the Munros)	Northerly 25 to 35mph in the morning, strongest Ben Nevis range, dropping to 15-20mph afternoon, locally less.	South-southeasterly 25-35mph, strengthening, 45mph south coast later. Powerful gusts, not just on high terrain.
Effect of wind on you?	Prepare for considerable wind chill in the morning, blustery conditions for a few hours at least, but improving.	Strenuous walking/considerable buffeting, deteriorating south to challenging conditions and severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow showers or flurries dying out Snow and hail showers near the coast will largely fade in the morning.	No precipitation expected
Cloud on the hills?	Becoming confined to higher areas and increasingly clearing  Cloud banks mostly on higher slopes near the coast in the morning, but patchy elsewhere. By afternoon patches above 750 to 900m, but increasingly mountains free of cloud.	Little or none  A few cloud caps may graze highest tops from the southern islands to Mull, but Munros substantially clear of cloud all day.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80% by afternoon	90%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bright sunshine increasingly. Superb visibility.	Likely sunny though becoming weakened by high cloud from the south. Excellent visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)  Freezing Level	-5C. Early in day, feeling like -15C directly in the wind, easing.  300-400m but most terrain frozen; slight rise toward coast, partial thawing lowest sunlit slopes inland.	-4C inland, -2 or -3C along the coast. Little or no change with added height. Feeling as cold as -20C in strongest wind.  Most terrain frozen from dawn, low sun-exposed slopes thawing, up to 500m coastal Lochaber.

## Planning Outlook

**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 17 February, 2026**

Much terrain frozen into midweek, frost into valleys and glens. Uncertain extent of strengthening winds by Wednesday, and possible snow moving into Wales. Late in the week and through next weekend, a switch to southwesterly winds is expected, bringing a change to milder conditions - lifting above freezing to tops in England and Wales, and generally higher freezing levels in Scotland; periods of thawing likely over the mountains, though some further snowfall at times on higher Munros. Rain most frequent over western hills. Generally windy with upland gales.

**Forecast issued at 15:31 on Sunday, 15 February, 2026**

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, 2026.