

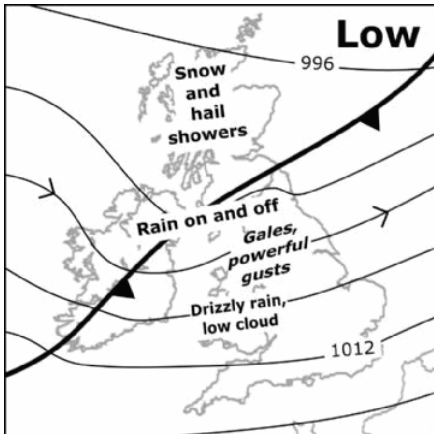
West Highlands

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, 3 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 3 April, 2026

Cold with showery snow in the Highlands, also hail in north. Varied winds, blustery in northern Scotland, moderating for a time central Highlands. In England & Wales, a swathe of gales likely affects the mountains, but still some uncertainty about the northward extent; rain and drizzle, plus low cloud covering many hills.

Headline for West Highlands

Chilly, varied wind. Showery snow, risk more persistent snow/rain.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 3 April, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	West-southwesterly, overnight gales ease by dawn, then typically in range 25 to 35mph during day, occasionally less - possibly a lull below 20mph especially southern areas. Squally gusts at times around precipitation.
Effect of wind on you?	Blustery with considerable wind chill, some buffeting gusts, making walking uncomfortable in exposure, affecting balance on ridges. May be smaller effects for a time.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow and some hail showers Generally showery, hail at times, most often in Lochaber, and snow often falling to 400-500m. Possibility of a swathe of more persistent hill snow developing, greater risk southern areas, turning to rain up to 600-700m in south.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive, local variations Cloud base varying, but often covering mountains above 800-1000m, banks to 600m during precipitation, may fill in across more southern mountain groups. Best chance of breaks higher up inland Lochaber, briefly to high tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Largely cloudy, some glimpses of sun mostly inland Lochaber. Visibility varying - appalling for periods with possible whiteout in cloud and snow, intermittently very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to -2C, coldest Lochaber. Feeling like -10 to -13C in direct wind.
Freezing Level	In the overnight hours, briefly above 900m, but lowering up to dawn, to 600m in Lochaber, 700-800m southern areas, only slight rise into the afternoon.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 4 April	Sunday 5 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Soon south-southeasterly, a lull early in day 20mph or less, then rapid increase afternoon, toward evening 60-80mph+. Small early in day, but deteriorating into afternoon - with time any mobility increasingly difficult, soonest in south.	Stormy conditions overnight lessen up to dawn, then westerly 40 to 50mph all daytime, squally gusts. Frequent buffeting, walking often challenging on higher exposed terrain. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow and rain developing, setting in A few showers mostly near coast at first, with snow falling to some lower slopes for a time. Fading, but then into afternoon more persistent hill snow and rain - for a time later rain up tops, then abruptly snow level dropping again.	Frequent hail and snow A succession of heavy hail and snow showers; snow falling to lower elevations early in day at least. Risk isolated thunder & lightning. Intensity of showers slowly easing, becoming rain or hail below 500m.
Cloud on the hills?	Little inland in morning, lowering Varied cloud banks, some hills clear for several hours at least morning through early afternoon, best inland Lochaber. Increasingly lowering from the south, filling in widely as precipitation develops.	Varying over tops Cloud base constantly changing, often capping higher slopes above 800m toward coast & islands; patches to 600m or lower at times, whilst briefly clearing higher up.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% dropping to 20% from south.	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Any weak sun in morning giving way to increasingly overcast skies. Visibility very good for a time, but then becoming very poor, appalling in snow.	Brief bursts of sun and very good visibility, but suddenly appalling in cloud and snow or hail, temporary whiteout possible.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C, rising to +1C or briefly higher, then dropping again after dark. Feeling like -15C as wind strengthens, colder later. Frost inland glens at dawn, 600m mid-morning, rising during afternoon, briefly toward high tops, then 600m into	-4C rising toward 0C afternoon. Feeling like -15 to -18C in the wind. 500m from dawn, rising to 800-900m afternoon.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 4 April, 2026**

A storm system moves across Britain over the Easter weekend, bringing severe conditions increasingly widely - severe gales over the mountains advancing northwards into Scotland by later Saturday daytime. Rain and hill snow also sweeps northward - a substantial snowfall develops particularly in northern Scotland later Saturday. Colder for all by Sunday with all mountains sub-zero, above 600-700m in Scotland, 800m in England and Wales - hail and snow showers with gales bringing severe chill factor. Milder southerlies develop for Monday, dry for most, but risk of gales especially in the west. A changeable weather regime is expected to continue next week, possibly turning chillier again later in the week.

Forecast issued at 15:46 on Thursday, 2 April, 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.