MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

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 April, 2024



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 20 April, 2024

Most places dry all day with variable cloud and sun. Winds fairly light, but feeling chilly if exposed over higher terrain. Locally breezier in northern Scotland. A weak front drifting in from the northwest brings a little rain or drizzle to the northern Highlands mainly into afternoon.

Headline for West Highlands

Largely dry, varied cloud. Wind fairly light.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 20 April, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly, turning westerly for Lochaber; 10 to 15mph, sometimes 20mph over higher exposed tops, local gusts on some mid-slopes.	
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small effect on walking, but prepare for noticeable wind chill if exposed on higher terrain, especially in the morning - in contrast to feeling pleasant where sheltered if in sunshine.	
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Mostly dry, risk local drizzly rain north Much of the region dry all day. Risk of a little light rain or drizzle drifting into Lochaber during afternoon into early evening, mainly from Ben Nevis to Creag Meagaidh area.	
Cloud on the hills?	Occasional banks north; little toward south	
	Some banks of cloud mainly over tops in Lochaber and toward Mull in the morning, lifting toward or above many summits. Many southern summits often clear. Thickening cloud may lower onto tops around Ben Nevis in afternoon.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% Lochaber, to 80% near Loch Lomond.	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine best in southern areas in the morning. Cloud tending to increasingly cover the sky from the north. Visibility very good.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	Near 0C at first, rising to 5C afternoon. Wind chill feeling like -5C in the morning, still sub-zero on high tops afternoon.	
Freezing Level	Slight frost inland glens plus some sheltered higher areas at first. Otherwise above freezing to highest tops.	

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West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 21 April	Monday 22 April
How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable and mostly low speeds, 10-15mph or less.	Northerly 20 to 30mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Small	Starting to affect comfortable walking on exposed tops. Considerable wind chill.
How wet?	Mostly dry	A little rain on and off
(Precipitation and its impact)	Chance of isolated brief light showers mainly inland areas in the afternoon.	Patchy showery rain, by evening turning to snow flurries on the Munros. Often drier toward west coast.
Cloud on the hills?	May largely clear	Most extensive Ben Nevis area
	Patchy cloud around some higher slopes in the morning, tending lift toward or above many summits. By afternoon, most cloud above the mountains.	Varied banks over higher slopes, most persistent in Lochaber and toward Creag Meagaidh. Higher breaks further west and south.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60%	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Broken cloud and sun. Visibility very good.	Often cloudy, some sun in west. Visibility good, but reduced in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5C rising to locally 7C.	5C, but by evening dropping toward 0C in Lochaber. Wind chill feeling sub-zero, often -5C on higher tops, later colder.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	Above the summits, but starting to lower later in day, to 1000m or lower in Lochaber into night.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 21 April, 2024

Into early next week, high pressure will be centred toward the northwest, with sunny spells and scattered light showers. Northerly winds bring lower temperatures into midweek, near or below freezing over higher terrain, coldest toward the east. Lowering pressure is expected later in the week, turning more widely showery again with upland snow, plus hail. Day-to-day variations in extent of showers and cloud amounts. Cool conditions are likely to continue toward the change of month into early May, at least in Scotland.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Friday, 19 April, 2024

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