MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

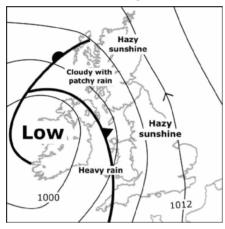
West Highlands

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 Tuesday, 30 April, 2024



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 30 April, 2024

Brisk southeasterly winds, up to gale force some tops; strengthening across the Highlands. A belt of rain draped across west coast of Scotland south from Skye, also affecting Galloway, and fairly persistent rain for west and south Wales. Drier further east and north with hazy sunshine. Fairly mild air.

Headline for West Highlands

Windy, increasingly gales coastal hills. Intermittent rain, low cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 30 April, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly 30mph, but 35 to at times 40mph near Clyde sea lochs, Jura and Mull, gusts over 50mph in places near coast, especially afternoon.	
Effect of wind on you?	Walking increasingly arduous on higher areas, especially coastal areas, becoming difficult in places. Considerable wind chill.	
How wet?	Frequent rain; least wet toward north	
(Precipitation and its impact)	Intermittently dry, particularly near and north of Glen Spean, Lochs Treig and Ossian. Elsewhere, rain on and off throughout the day - most persistent on hills near Clyde sea lochs.	
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive southern areas, higher north	
	Generally extensive above 750 to 900m, highest cloud bases Lochaber, best breaks toward north of Ben Nevis range. Most extensive Arran to Mull, also Kintyre, patches below 500m at times.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% southwest, to 70% north Lochaber.	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun, mainly Lochaber, through layers of high level cloud. Good visibility although a haze.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	3C rising to 6C or a little higher in Lochaber. Will feel like -5 to -8C in stronger winds.	
Freezing Level	Above the summits	

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West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 1 May	Thursday 2 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	East to southeasterly between 10 and 20mph: generally strongest in the morning and toward Arran. Small	Easterly 25mph to suddenly gusty 40-50mph around some mountains, powerful gusts in passes and downslope to west. Locally very varied, but expect sudden buffeting making walking arduous in places not just on higher terrain.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little rain here and there Rain and drizzle on and off before dawn will continue into the day in some areas, but through morning nearly all fizzle out. Scattered heavier showers afternoon.	Rain unlikely Most likely dry, small chance a shower.
Cloud on the hills?	All or nearly all clearing Extensive cloud across the hills from dawn: very varied cloud base, in places (most likely Arran and Loch Lomond NP) covering lowest slopes. Slowly the cloud will break up; by mid afternoon, nearly all summits cloud free.	Little if any Banks of cloud clinging to some slopes at times, greatest risk around Loch Lomond NP, but many areas largely clear all day.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% rising to 80%	80%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloud layers gradually thinning and breaking to give a patchwork of sun; sunniest toward the coast. Excellent visibility.	Sun and thin high cloud. Very good visibility, but slight haze toward central belt.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	6C rising toward 10C Above the summits.	8C to locally above 10C. Feeling close to freezing directly in wind. Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 1 May, 2024

High pressure to the north and a slow-moving area of low pressure circulating to the south during midweek. Scattered showers possible for the Highlands, but a lot of dry weather - warmest and clearest in the west. Powerful easterly winds will be very gusty by Thursday into early Friday, especially southern Scotland and northern England, then easing. A front brings a risk of persistent rain for Wales on Thursday. Slow-moving weather patterns are likely to continue onward into the Bank Holiday weekend, giving considerable uncertainty of local day-to-day detail, but most likely the wind often light and fairly warm overall. A good amount of dry and bright weather, but risk of locally thundery showers forming.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Monday, 29 April, 2024

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, 2024.