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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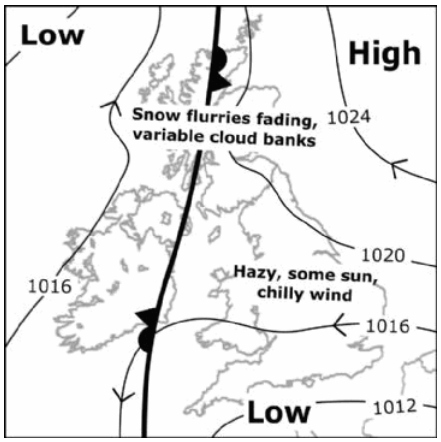
General Summary for Wednesday, 25 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 25 November, 2026

Early morning snow in the central Highlands will fade to flurries, becoming largely dry. Locally strong SE'ly wind for eastern Scotland, much less wind further west. England & Wales generally dry, with some weak sun, but hazy views and a cold wind.

Headline for West Highlands

Gusty wind inland areas; snow fizzling out, varied cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 25 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southeasterly, lowest speeds toward west coast, at times 10mph or less. Mostly 15 to 25mph, strongest gusty spots around major summits likely to the east of Ben Nevis group toward Rannoch Moor and east of Crianlarich.
Effect of wind on you?	**Fairly small, but particularly inland areas be aware of variable gusts not just on higher slopes, with marked chill factor if exposed to stronger wind.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Snow most persistent inland and south in morning; mostly dry northwest** Overnight snow continues to affect inland and southern areas into the morning; gradually fizzling out to leave just odd flurries of sleet or snow into afternoon. Very little affecting hills near/west of Loch Linnhe, but toward Arran and Kintyre sleet and snow on tops may linger. Considerable fresh lying snow on central mountains.
Cloud on the hills?	**Covering many hills, higher north** Fairly extensive cloud across the hills with banks from lower elevations upward in southern areas in particular most or all day. Best breaks toward upper slopes northwest of Ben Nevis group.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**10% south, to local 50% NW Lochaber.**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast, little if any weak sun due to layers of high cloud. Visibility very good where dry in west and north Lochaber, poorer in snow southern hills in morning, staying hazy south.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C well inland, to around 0C coasts. Feeling near -10C if in stronger wind inland.
Freezing Level	Well inland 500-600m, to 800m west or more variable near coasts, may be just above freezing on some higher slopes.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 26 November	Friday 27 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southeasterly 35 to 50mph, strengthening during day, gusts 60mph by afternoon; 70-80mph after dark.	Southerly 60-70mph at dawn, easing to 25-35mph, perhaps much lower speed for part of the day.
Effect of wind on you?	**Challenging walking conditions, becoming difficult on high terrain, powerful downslope gusts. Significant then severe wind chill.**	**May well become fairly small, but beware severe conditions from overnight still beyond dawn; prepare for marked chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Dry until evening** Toward or beyond dusk, patchy rain and upland snow flurries moving onto the islands then coast, making slow progress inland onward into evening, but risk of hill snow setting in widely into night.	**Snow may persist, then coastal showers** A period of snow across the hills from overnight into morning, heavy in southern areas, likely to persist well into the day, turning to rain showers near west coast.
Cloud on the hills?	**Risk persistent south, breaks north** Variable cloud banks over southern mountains, may often cover slopes above 800m. Patchier caps over tops northwards, clearer northern areas in Lochaber.	**Extensive** Shrouding hills widely early in day, lowest bases over south-facing slopes. Tending to lift and break higher with time, best chance for odd breaks to tops near Glen Spean.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**40%**	**20%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Weak sun at best through a thickening veil of high cloud from the west. Visibility very good, though some haze develops particularly nearer coasts.	Some glimpses of sun breaking through with time. Visibility very poor, appalling in snow, then mostly later improving to very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C, slightly higher toward coast. Feeling like -15C to later nearer -20C directly in the wind on high tops.	-2C inland, to just above 0C coastal tops. Risk of wind chill feeling like -15C at least in the morning.
Freezing Level	Much terrain frozen, thawing only on sunlit slopes up to 500m, or slightly higher near west coast.	Well inland 600m or partly frozen lower down, but near coasts 800-1000m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 26 November, 2026

Atlantic fronts bump into cold air across Britain by late Thursday into Friday , resulting in further hill snow, particularly substantial in southern Scottish Highlands. Strong to gale force south to southwesterlies prevail into the weekend, but a cold body of air across Britain will be slow to warm up, leaving many mountains frozen especially inland across Scotland and northern England; lying snow staying in place across the hills and some further flurries over hills at times, locally more persistent rain and hill snow; driest northern Scotland. Wales tending to become milder sooner over the weekend . Early next week, southwesterly gales are likely, milder for all at times with rain.

Forecast issued at 15:53 on Tuesday, 24 November, 2026

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