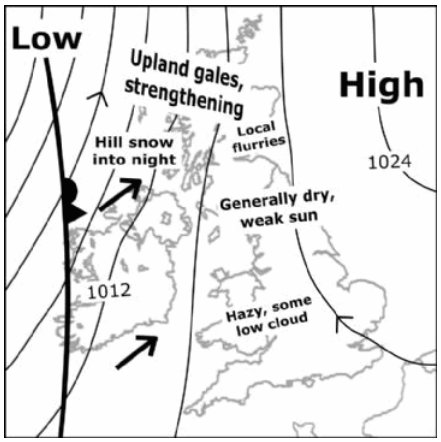
West Highlands

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 Thursday, 26 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 26 November, 2026

Much mountain terrain frozen, snow cover most substantial southern Highlands, but beware icy surfaces widely on hills. Staying sub-zero on tops all day, significant wind chill in strong to increasingly gale-force southerly winds. Largely dry daytime, then snow moves onto western hills into the night.

Headline for West Highlands

Gales, becoming severe on tops; dry day, cloud banks south.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 26 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southeasterly 35 to 50mph, strengthening during day, gusts 60mph into middle of day high tops in Lochaber, becoming more sustained afternoon; widely 70-80mph soon after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	**Challenging walking conditions, becoming difficult on high terrain, increasingly severe; powerful downslope gusts. Significant becoming severe wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Dry until evening; snow into night** Toward or beyond dusk, patchy rain and upland snow flurries moving onto the islands then coast. Precipitation setting in onward into evening, hill snow widely into night, turning to rain lower areas, or higher up near coast.
Cloud on the hills?	**Risk persistent south, breaks north** Variable cloud banks over southern mountains, often cover slopes above 800m. Patchier caps over tops northwards, clearer northern areas in Lochaber.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**40%**
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.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C, slightly higher toward coast. Feeling like -15C to later nearer -20C directly in the wind on high tops.
Freezing Level	Much terrain frozen, thawing only on sunlit slopes up to 500m, or slightly higher near west coast.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 27 November	Saturday 28 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 60mph up to dawn, but soon easing to 20-30mph, perhaps much lower speed for part of the day inland.	Southerly, speeds varying, 30 to 45mph, likely strongest coasts, also Ben Nevis, very gusty in places not just on tops.
Effect of wind on you?	**Soon mostly fairly small inland, more blustery toward coast mainly around Mull; prepare for marked chill.**	**Expect significant wind chill, in places challenging walking conditions on exposed terrain; buffeting gusts even lower down.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Snow fades, then coastal showers** A period of snow across the hills inland from overnight into morning, heavy in southern areas, turning wetter on coastal mountains, tending to fade to flurries inland or a few rain showers near west coast.	**Mostly small amounts of snow** Snow flurries over inland mountains, possibly frequent toward central highlands, patchier northwards; light rain toward coasts and on islands, risk persistent later.
Cloud on the hills?	**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.	**Persistent southern areas, breaks north** Risk of extensive cloud banks cloaking southern mountains, perhaps elsewhere, but better breaks north Lochaber inland; some high tops may poke out of cloud.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**20%**	**10% south, 30% north**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some glimpses of sun breaking through with time. Visibility very poor, appalling in snow, then mostly later improving to very good.	Mostly cloudy, weak sun through high cloud at best most places. Hazy, poor visibility if in snow and cloud; locally better northwards.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C inland, to just above 0C coastal tops; gradually rising. Risk feeling below -10C in stronger wind.	0 or 1C inland and small variation with height above around 700m; 3C near coast. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Well inland 600m or partly frozen lower down, but near coasts 800-1000m. May tend to rise further inland with time.	Coastal areas likely above freezing to higher slopes. Inland varied and poorly defined, but most high terrain frozen.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 27 November, 2026

Snowfall most substantial over southern mountains in the Highlands during the days ahead. Then by Saturday, a risk of heavy rain for England & Wales as temperatures rise here, and even in Scotland a rise of the freezing level, though likely lowering slightly again by Sunday. Gale-force southerly winds will be common over many mountains through the weekend and into early next week, but intermittent lulls will occur. By Monday to Wednesday, potentially milder air and risk of a period of sustained heavy rain, but some uncertainty about local details - early December may then vary markedly, signs of a drier window for a time, whilst colder conditions could also soon return.

Forecast issued at 16:10 on Wednesday, 25 November, 2026

The Production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by 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.