

# West Highlands

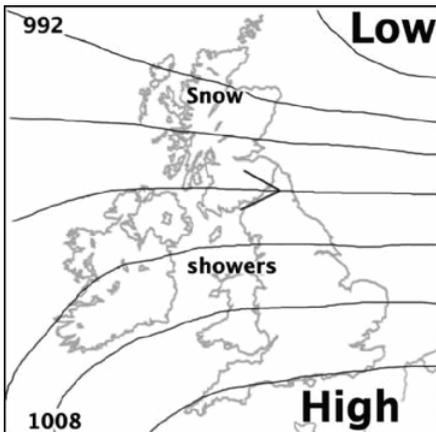
Western Highlands accessible from, and south of, Glenfinnan (Road to the Isles) and Glen Spean (includes Creag Meagaidh). This area include Ben Nevis and the mountains around Glencoe. In the east, includes Ben Alder south to Loch Lomond and Trossachs NP. Includes Arran and Mull.



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## General Summary for Tuesday, 21 March, 2017



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 21 March, 2017**

Very cold showery westerly winds will by dawn have brought fresh snow to lower slopes or valleys, the precipitation heaviest western mountains. Widespread upland gales although through the day will ease. In Wales, winds less strong, but threat gales and snow by dusk.

### Headline for West Highlands

Snow intermittently. Upland gales, mainly morning.

## Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 21 March, 2017

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Westerly. For a few hours in morning 45-55mph. Will tend to ease; by mid-afternoon mostly below 35mph, and before dusk 25mph.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Walking often difficult on higher areas.</b> <b>Severe wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b>	<b>Frequent snow and hail. Risk lightning.</b> Hail and snow showers, sometimes heavy and temporarily almost constant precipitation for a couple of hours in morning giving whiteout. Snow will lie from glens up. Small risk thunder.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Often covering higher areas; although base will vary quickly</b> Cloud base changing quickly: Patches below 500m near showers, and often shrouding hills above 700-900m. Nevertheless, particularly afternoon well inland, breaks to higher tops.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Sunshine and air clarity?</b>	Brief bursts of sun. Visibility very varied: the air very clear but suddenly appalling in cloud and snow.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-4C. Will feel as cold as minus 19 Celsius directly in the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Typically 450m, although will vary between showers. Near the coast in afternoon 600m.

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 22 March	Thursday 23 March
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Low confidence of detail: Northeasterly, ranging between 25 and perhaps 35-40mph. <b>Likely to impede ease of walking on higher area and risk of considerable buffeting and wind chill.</b>	Northeasterly; dropping from 35-45mph after dawn to 20-35mph by sunset. Least wind near/north of Glen Spean. <b>Widespread considerable buffeting on higher areas in morning, but from north conditions will improve.</b>
<b>How wet?</b>	<b>Occasional snow &amp; hail showers</b> Scattered snow and hail showers, although very few south of A85 through Tyndrum, whilst near and north of Glen Spean, the snow may be on and off for a few hours. Snow will lie from lower slopes up.	<b>Occasional precipitation</b> Patches of snow or flurries although possibly in morning the snow persistent for a couple of hours central highlands, Loch Lomond NP and Arran. Increasingly on lower slopes rain.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Breaks to high tops</b>  Varied: patches locally persistent above 800-1000m, or lower near showers, but breaks to many higher summits, most widely Loch Lomond NP.	<b>Extensive, but base lifting</b>  By late morning only fragments of cloud on some higher tops toward west coast north of Oban. Elsewhere, confidence low; existing cloud across the hills will tend to lift during day but may never clear higher slopes.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Sunshine and air clarity?</b>	Patchwork of sunshine. The air often very clear, but visibility suddenly reduced around showers.	Patches of sun, mostly Mull and western hills north of Oban where excellent or superb visibility. Elsewhere little sun and there may be slight haze.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	-3C  600m; terrain widely frozen, although lower slopes thawing during day.	-3C morning; will rise slowly through day, particularly western hills.  600m, rising to 750 to 1000m, highest western hills.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 22 March, 2017

Cold conditions with snow on many mountains mid-week. A major change to dry and by the weekend much warmer weather will occur as a large area of high pressure then builds across Scotlan. Temporarily around Friday there may be a little rain on the northern NW Highlands. Overall though, dry for several days on all mountain areas. Temperatures will become very warm for March, particularly across the Scottish Highlands, although with frequently cloudless skies, night frost will occur in valleys.

### Forecast issued at 13:28 on Monday, 20 March, 2017

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through the Mountaineering Council of 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 Geoff Monk & Associates, 2017.