

West Highlands

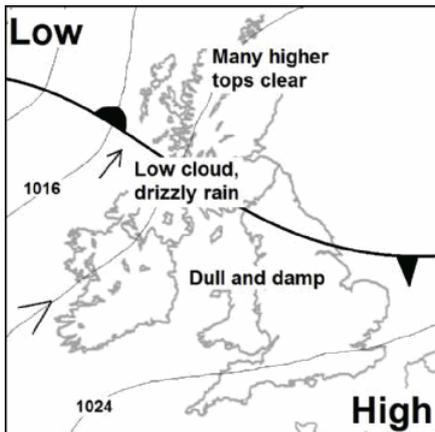
Western Highlands accessible from, and south of, Glenfinnan (Road to the Isles) and Glen Spean (includes Creag Meagaidh). This area include Ben Nevis and the mountains around Glencoe. In the east, includes Ben Alder south to Loch Lomond and Trossachs NP. Includes Arran and Mull.



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General Summary for Wednesday, 15 November, 2017



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 November, 2017

A warm front will push north, leaving grey and damp conditions in Wales, SW Scotland and some Pennine areas, with fog to low levels, especially around coasts. Brighter in northern Scotland, with many summits free of low cloud. Winds strengthening, later gale force in W & NW Highlands.

Headline for West Highlands

Winds strengthening, gales later west; drizzly near coast.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 15 November, 2017

How windy? (On the Munros)	West soon backing southerly, 10mph or less, but increasing quickly by early afternoon to 25-30mph, then 40-50mph by dusk or soon after dark; strongest western coastal summits.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small morning, but will increasingly impede walking higher areas in afternoon. Sudden buffeting may develop to low levels. Significant wind chill later.
How wet?	Patchy rain/drizzle mostly west; moving north On hills near and immediately inland from the coast, patchy rain and drizzle will develop, perhaps snow grains higher tops for a time; amounts small. Well inland, largely dry all day, especially north & east from about Rannoch Moor.
Cloud on the hills?	Becoming extensive, lowest south-west Scattered cloud will come and go across higher areas above 700-900m, but will then thicken and lower from southwest through day; bases 500-700m, patches 300m western hills.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10% south & west; 40% inland & north.
Sunshine and air clarity?	Rare weak sun at first will soon give way to widely overcast skies. Visibility good some northern inland areas, but murky around coasts. Fog some glens morning.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1C rising slowly to reach 5C by dusk or after dark.
Freezing Level	1000m, then lifting above all tops during afternoon. Frost some inland glens in morning, mainly Lochaber.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 16 November	Friday 17 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwest then westerly, 40 to 50mph, risk 60-70mph at first.	Westerly, 45 to 60mph, with sudden squalls to 70mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Difficult walking conditions and severe wind chill on higher areas; may ease just a little as the day progresses.	Walking difficult on higher terrain, with buffeting from low levels up. Severe wind chill.
How wet?	Frequent snow or hail showers A belt of heavy rain overnight, finishing as snow on higher areas post-dawn, will clear, but followed by frequent squally showers. Snow falling to 500-600m. Risk of hail.	Frequent snow and hail Frequent showers, at times near constant precipitation on western mountains. Snow falling above 600m or briefly lower in heavier bursts. Risk of hail.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied, mostly western tops Cloud base changing quickly; often extensive above 800-1000m in west, perhaps more widely early morning. Shafts of cloud below 600m near showers. Frequent breaks forming to higher tops well inland.	Often covering tops Rapid changes in cloud level: Rarely clearing above 900-1000m, but at times dropping below 600m in showers. Fleeting breaks to some higher tops toward the central Highlands.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	30%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Brief bursts of sunshine away from showers. General slight haze; visibility suddenly reduced when in snow and cloud.	Brief glimpses of sun. The air quite clear away from showers, but general haze in west, and suddenly appalling visibility in snow and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Briefly 0 or 1C early morning, but soon dropping to -2C.	0 to -2C
Freezing Level	Perhaps 1000m or above just at first, lowering to 700-800m.	800 or 900m, but may lower from north through day.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 16 November, 2017**

Windy on Thursday with upland gales ahead of a band of heavy rain which will push south-eastwards. Showery and colder conditions will then follow, lasting into Friday and the weekend. Upland gales or sever gales will give severe wind chill, but should ease at least for a time over the weekend. Renewed snow will accumulate over the mountains.

Indications for the later part of November favour generally cold conditions dominating, with further snowfalls possible.

Forecast issued at 14:41 on Tuesday, 14 November, 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.