

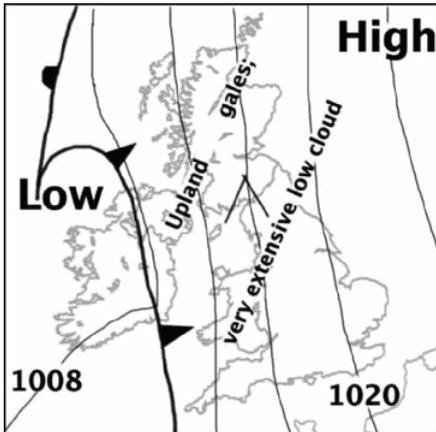
West Highlands

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.



[Abacus Mountain Guides - World Class Mountain Adventures](http://www.AbacusMountainGuides.com)
[Winter Walking, Mountaineering and Ice Climbing at www.AbacusMountainGuides.com](http://www.AbacusMountainGuides.com)

General Summary for Saturday, 13 January, 2018



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 January, 2018

Widespread strong gusty winds, reaching gale force western and northern upland areas. Very extensive fog on the summits, although this breaking up north of some higher tops. Rain, or inland partly refrozen rain, will extend slowly inland from west, but timing uncertain.

Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales, particularly gusty. Low cloud and patches of drizzle and snow.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 13 January, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, broadly in the range 35 to 50mph. But local sudden gusts on and north of major ridges (in places to lower slopes), and notably strong through some passes and cols.
Effect of wind on you?	Varied conditions: walking widely arduous, and in some areas difficult, sometimes just briefly as sudden gusts run down to lower slopes and through cols. Significant wind chill.
How wet?	Occasional snow, mainly coastal and southern mountains Patches of drizzle, refrozen rain, or mostly above 550m snow, will gradually envelop coastal mountains (including those near sea lochs, and then inland across Loch Lomond NP. Little or no precipitation north from Rannoch Moor.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive and low; breaks Lochaber Blanket fog much of region above 400 to 600m. However, north of A85 (east to west through Tyndrum) on summits remote from the coast (including sea lochs), most cloud will be above 500 to 800m, and perhaps above the summits toward and north of Glen Spean.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Almost nil much of region, but 50% N Lochaber
Sunshine and air clarity?	Little or no sun, below cloud often good visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to mostly -2C. Will feel as cold as minus 15 Celsius directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	650m, but little change of temperature with height. Nevertheless, terrain widely frozen.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 14 January	Monday 15 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southwesterly, strengthening from northwest: into afternoon 45-60mph strongest near/west of Loch Linnhe. Rapid increase of speed with height: walking becoming very difficult where exposed on higher areas. Severe wind chill.	Westerly typically 40mph, but particularly gusty near precipitation, and will tend to strengthen slowly through the day. Expect considerable buffeting, sometimes from lower slopes up, and particularly near showers. Significant wind chill.
How wet?	Snow/rain developing from west In morning occasional snow, or rain below about 650m, mainly coastal areas and Loch Lomond NP. Will deteriorate into afternoon, perhaps not until dusk as extensive snow spreads from northwest, giving whiteout.	Frequent snow and hail Hail and snow showers very frequent, sometimes merging one into another. Expect resultant appalling visibility and whiteout.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive and very low Near/west of Loch Linnhe, near Loch Etive and Loch Lomond NP: persistent fog from lower slopes up. Elsewhere: Most cloud above about 800m, perhaps breaks above 1050m. Will tend to lower through afternoon.	Frequently shrouding higher areas Quickly varying cloud base: shafts of cloud below 400m, more often the fog above about 800m, but particularly well inland, fleeting glimpses of higher tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	20%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Little or no sun. Below cloud increasingly hazy.	Glimpses of sunshine. Away from precipitation, the air clear - but frequently appalling visibility due to snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	Around -1C, but may rise a degree or so from west. 800m, tending to rise, particularly on coastal hills.	-4C; will tend to drop slowly through day. 500m, dropping slowly through day.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 14 January, 2018**

Almost constant strong cold westerly winds, frequently gale force on the mountains next week, will bring copious snowfall to western mountains, concentrated on the W & NW Highlands. The snow and often hail, will be showery in character, and accumulations will drop progressively eastwards. Temperatures only marginally above freezing point lower slopes Scotland, and frequently below freezing above about 600m England and Wales.

Winds may well veer northerly late in the week, maintaining low freezing levels.

Forecast issued at 7:24 on Saturday, 13 January, 2018

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, 2018.