

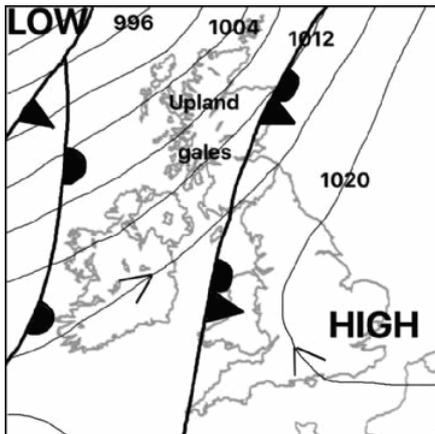
West Highlands

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 Sunday, 14 January, 2018



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 14 January, 2018

Upland gales soon developing across Scotland with heavy rain/upland snow arriving across the west/northwest Highlands in the afternoon. Elsewhere, a weak front will lie from eastern/southern Scotland into west Wales, bringing low cloud and patchy rain/snow. Eastern Wales and the southern Pennines, many hills clear above valley fog.

Headline for West Highlands

Widespread upland gales and wind chill. Rain/upland snow arriving PM.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 14 January, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly, quickly strengthening from dawn: by/from midday 45-60mph strongest near/west of Loch Linnhe.
Effect of wind on you?	Rapid increase of speed with height: walking becoming very difficult on higher areas. Sudden strong gusts occasionally running downslope. Severe 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. Snow will become confined to highest tops for a time overnight.
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.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Little or no sun. Below cloud increasingly hazy.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Around -1C, but may rise a degree or so from west. Wind chill will make it feel closer to -20C by afternoon.
Freezing Level	800m, tending to rise, particularly on coastal hills.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 15 January	Tuesday 16 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	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.	Westerly in the range 35-50mph. Sudden gustiness/squalls to glen level near showers. Walking will be arduous, to at times difficult, with significant buffeting and severe wind chill.
How wet?	Frequent snow and hail Hail and snow showers very frequent, sometimes merging one into another. Expect resultant appalling visibility and whiteout. Risk of thunder into the afternoon.	Snow and hail rarely ceasing, risk lightning Snow and frequently hail falling or blowing almost constantly. Precipitation often heavy leading to sustained whiteout from lower slopes up. Thunder likely. Snow will lie into the glens, except perhaps right on the west coast.
Cloud on the hills?	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.	Often shrouding higher tops Rapid fluctuations in cloud bases through the day. Shafts briefly from lower slopes up near precipitation, but often cloud above 700 to 1000m, highest bases inland. Nevertheless, there will be some fleeting clearances now and again to highest tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	30%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Glimpses of sunshine. Away from precipitation, the air clear - but frequently appalling visibility due to snow.	Fleeting glimpses of sun between the showers. Visibility often appalling due to falling and blowing snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-4C; will tend to drop slowly through day. 500m, dropping slowly through day.	-5C Around 200m

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 15 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 will then veer northerly later in the week, maintaining the low freezing levels.

Forecast issued at 14:37 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.