

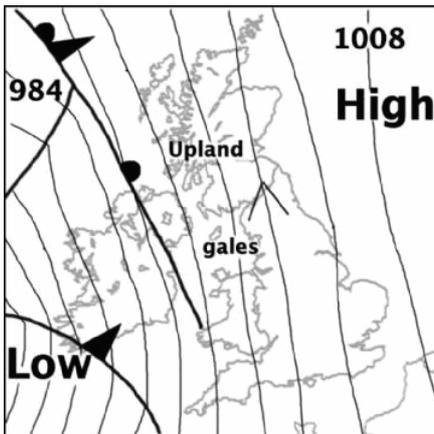
West Highlands

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, 14 March, 2018



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 14 March, 2018

Widespread upland gales.
 Extensively cloudy but much of the cloud well above the summits.
 Here and there a little rain.
 Thaw of lying snow, except highest summits Scottish Highlands.

Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales, local sudden gusts lower slopes. Isolated rain, many summits cloud free.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 14 March, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	South or southeasterly; in the range 40-60mph. Generally strongest afternoon. Will increase rapidly with height, although expect sudden gusts some lower slopes northwest of major ridges and summits.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking widely very difficult on higher areas, in particularly through some passes and cols. Significant, sometimes sudden buffeting some lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
How wet?	Rain rarely Rain here and there, mostly briefly - rarely amounting to little more than 'spots in the wind', although close to the coast may fall for an hour or two.
Cloud on the hills?	Many summits cloud free Most mountains predominantly free of cloud, although here and there higher summits may be capped in cloud, mostly near rain. However, in Loch Lomond NP and perhaps Central Highlands, fog at least intermittently above 700 to 900m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%, but 30% Loch Lomond NP/central highlands
Sunshine and air clarity?	Rare glimpses of sun here and there. Otherwise, overcast. Visibility good, but marked haze.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1 or 2C. Will feel as cold as minus 13 Celsius directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	1050m.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 15 March	Friday 16 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southeasterly 50 to 70mph. Local sudden gusts reaching lower slopes through cols and NW of major ridges and summits. Widely very difficult walking on higher areas, and also intermittently lower slopes mainly NW of major ridges and summits. Severe wind chill.	Easterly in the range 40 to 60mph. Sudden gusts reaching some lower slopes west of major ridges. Difficult walking and significant wind chill where exposed on the hills. Sudden buffeting even on some lower slopes.
How wet?	Rain/snow, mainly well inland Light rain, or on higher slopes snow now and again, although the precipitation increasingly frequent central highlands/ Loch Lomond NP afternoon. Here, snow likely above 650m, but toward west coast, generally rain up to highest summits.	Precipitation; mainly well inland Isolated precipitation, most likely flurries, near the coast and near/north of Glen Spean. Elsewhere, intermittent snow, perhaps persistent Loch Lomond NP, where risk whiteout. Will turn to rain at progressively lower levels, by dusk 200m.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive east; breaking up westwards Blanket of fog over North Sea will envelop Loch Lomond NP above about 400m most or all day. The cloud base will lift to 650m central highlands, and westwards toward the coast (including near and west of Loch Linnhe) to 800 to 1100m.	Extensive; but very little toward coast Ranging from persistent fog on the hills above 500m Loch Lomond NP and a little higher central highlands and Rannoch Moor. Toward the coast (including Loch Linnhe) most cloud above 900 to sometimes 1100m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	20%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Patches of sun, mainly close to west coast. Very hazy at best.	Sunshine intermittently toward coast; dull elsewhere. Hazy or very hazy.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	Ranging from 3C some summits near west coast to -1C central highlands. Above the summits near the coast to as low as 800m central highlands.	0 to 2C dropping from northeast to -2 to -4C. Up to highest tops near and west of Loch Linnhe & coastal hills. Otherwise 800m dropping from northeast toward 600m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 15 March, 2018**

Turning progressively colder toward and through the weekend. Extensive low cloud and rain, increasingly turning to snow concentrated more eastern mountains toward the weekend (considerable snowfall SE highlands). By the weekend, the snow lying on lower slopes, but very little will fall on western mountains.

Widespread upland gales will ease over the weekend, initially over the Scottish Highlands, to give a period of cold dry weather early next week.

Forecast issued at 12:08 on Tuesday, 13 March, 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.