

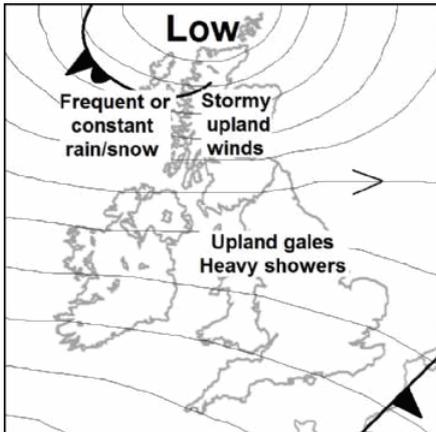
West Highlands

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 Friday, 7 December, 2018



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 7 December, 2018

A stormy day across the Scottish mountains, and severe upland gales on higher terrain of England & Wales. Sustained periods of heavy snow and whiteout across the W/NW Highlands. Elsewhere sudden heavy showers, of snow, hail or rain lower slopes. Chance of thunder.

Headline for West Highlands

Hurricane force winds on mountains. Heavy snow, whiteout.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 7 December, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwest veering westerly, 60 to 80mph most or all of daylight, gusts over 100mph higher tops.
Effect of wind on you?	Any mobility very difficult even on lower slopes. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow and hail; isolated lightning Frequent abrupt snow and hail showers, will merge to near-constant snow from the west across Lochaber. Whiteout very likely at least briefly. Mostly rain below 450m. Risk thunder.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Covering the mountains extensively, from lower slopes up near west coast for sustained periods. Fleeting breaks to higher tops inland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare if any sun. Very hazy, visibility very poor or appalling in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1C. Where exposed to the wind, will feel close to -20C.
Freezing Level	750m.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 8 December	Sunday 9 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West to northwesterly decreasing during daylight from between 20-30mph to 10-20mph. Becoming small	North to northwesterly, 20 to 30mph. Fairly small, but gusty around showers. Significant wind chill where exposed on higher areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patches of rain; snow Munros Near/west of Loch Linnhe: drizzle and rain, mostly morning, whilst snow above 900m snow will lead to patches of appalling visibility. Elsewhere, pockets of drizzle/snow before risk widespread precipitation spreading inland toward dusk.	Isolated snow and hail showers Scattered showers spreading from the north, mostly confined to coastal hills and northern Lochaber. Risk of hail. Rain only lower coastal slopes.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Never clearing most summits Broadly, lowest most persistent cloud will be near/west of Loch Linnhe where banks of fog widely above 600m, perhaps lifting to 800 to 1100m afternoon. Elsewhere, fog stubbornly persisting some higher slopes but may break to or above 1100m for a few hours - but base dropping in rain. 30%	Tops occasionally clearing Patches likely to come and go above 900m in Lochaber and near west coast, briefly 700m around showers. Breaks to higher summits at times. Rarely capping tops in Loch Lomond NP. 60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun, mainly well inland. Visibility excellent away from precipitation.	Frequent sunshine. The air generally very clear, but visibility briefly reduced where in snow and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	1C 1050m	-1C falling to -3C from north. 850m, dropping to 650m in Lochaber.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 8 December, 2018**

Becoming progressively colder and drier through the weekend as winds turn northwesterly. A few areas of snow and hail showers by Sunday, focused toward the north and west, but many areas will see sunshine.

Next week, staying below freezing on the mountains for a number of days, with hard frost in valleys early in week.

Confidence becomes low by midweek, but there is an increasing risk of unsettled conditions coming back in from the Atlantic, with gales and perhaps widespread snow on the mountains.

Forecast issued at 15:17 on Thursday, 6 December, 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.