

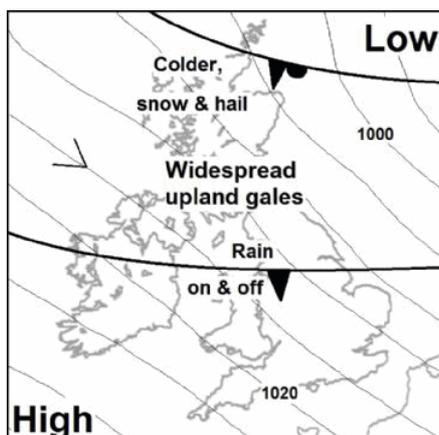
West Highlands

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, 13 January, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 January, 2019

A cold front edges southwards, producing rain for hills of England and Wales. Colder air follows, sub-zero on Scottish Munros, coldest toward the north. Snow or hail focused toward the N & W of the Highlands, frequent precipitation in places. Winds widely gale force on hills.

Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales. Increasing cold. Snow showers.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 13 January, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	West to northwesterly, 45 to 65mph, strongest in morning; easing toward 35mph only after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking difficult across higher areas, and locally at times to lower slopes, with significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers, increasingly snow Remnants of overnight rain will clear southwards, followed by showers which will come and go all day, locally frequent over a few hours in Lochaber and western mountains. Snow initially just highest tops, but progressively falling to 600-700m through day. Chance of hail.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, breaks inland and south Cloud will shroud the hills fairly extensively through the day with bases around 700-900m, but patches lowering in the west down to 400m in precipitation. Best of the breaks will be across areas south of Rannoch Moor, where some tops may intermittently clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%, or 40% central highlands.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare glimpses of sun, mainly from Rannoch Moor southwards. Visibility often reduced due to precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Briefly 3C at dawn, lowering to 0C, then sub-zero after dark. Due to wind chill, feeling like -17C.
Freezing Level	1100-1300m at dawn, lowering to 900m.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 14 January	Tuesday 15 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwest soon backing westerly, 15 to 25mph, or less for a time; risk 30mph by dusk, then gales overnight. Fairly small much of the day; walking becoming impeded on higher areas toward dusk.	Southwesterly, 45 to 60mph, risk over 70mph on higher areas. Marked increase of speed with height, resulting in difficult conditions on higher terrain; significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow flurries, drizzly rain later Largely dry morning; isolated snow flurries. Increasing threat of drizzly rain, briefly snow or snow grains above 700m, spreading in from west during the afternoon.	Threat persistent rain A slow moving front is expected to give a wet day, with sustained heavy falls of rain. Loch Lomond and the central Highlands possibly seeing smaller amounts of rain.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Becoming extensive in afternoon Areas of cloud will come and go above 800-1000m in the morning, most persistent towards west coast. Through afternoon, cloud will lower and become fairly extensive above 500-700m; patches down to 200-400m by dusk. 40%	Extensive Widely shrouding the mountains, from low levels up around the west coast, and extensive above 600-800m inland. Highest breaks well inland, plus areas north of Glen Spean. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patches of sun from dawn will tend to give way to overcast skies by the afternoon. Visibility generally very good, but may become murky towards coast later.	Sunshine unlikely. A general haze, and visibility very poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C lifting to -1C, or up to 2C near west coast by afternoon. Widely rising to 2 to 4C overnight. Around 500m lifting to 800m, but much of terrain remaining partially frozen after frost at dawn. Above summits overnight.	3 or 4C; but dropping toward 0C or below into the night. Above summits, then overnight lowering from northwest to 800m before dawn on Wednesday.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 14 January, 2019**

Changeable westerlies early in the new week, with cycles of freeze and thaw on the mountains. Precipitation frequent on western hills, with extensive low cloud. Very wet in W/NW Scotland on Tuesday, plus gales on many mountains.

A cold front passes southwards on Wednesday, and freezing levels will drop markedly. Showers of snow or hail to increasingly low levels Weds-Thurs. A complicated picture toward next weekend as low pressure drifts across the country, with a mix of snow and rain likely. The further outlook favours generally cold conditions becoming established.

Forecast issued at 15:32 on Saturday, 12 January, 2019

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, 2019.