

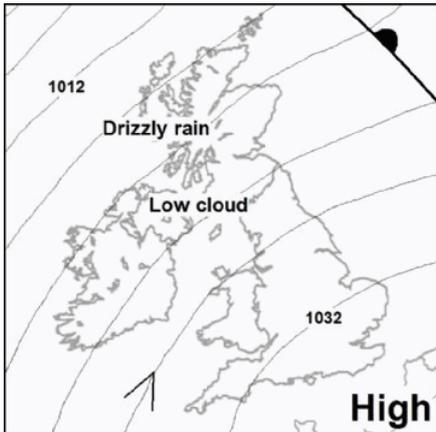
West Highlands

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.



The mountains are calling - Braemar Mountain Festival, 28th February to 3rd March 2019
www.braemarmountainfestival.com

General Summary for Wednesday, 13 February, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 February, 2019

Mild south to southwesterlies bring patchy rain or drizzle, and extensive low cloud, focused on western hills. Small amounts of drizzle England and Wales, plus the north/east of Scotland. Gale force winds across many hills, very gusty in places through passes and cols.

Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales. Small amounts rain on and off. Low cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 13 February, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly, 45 to 60mph; strongest western mountains and near/north of major summits.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous conditions on the hills. Considerable buffeting through passes and cols and locally gusty to lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly Drizzly rain will come and go across the region - may be persistently damp for many hours. Least precipitation around Glen Spean.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, some breaks north Often shrouding coastal hills from low levels upward. Inland and particularly toward northern Lochaber, cloud more broken, and some tops may emerge above or between cloud layers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% many areas, up to 40% around Glen Spean.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare glimpses of sun, mostly around Glen Spean, where visibility at times good. A general haze across most mountains, visibility reduced further in rain/drizzle.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 to 4C; small change of temperature with increasing height on the hills. Where directly exposed to wind, feeling like -12C.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 14 February	Friday 15 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southerly, 40 to 55mph; strongest winds not necessarily higher slopes. Walking arduous in places; buffeting through passes and cols, and sudden turbulent gusts locally to lower slopes north of major ridges.	Timing uncertain in this forecast: South veering westerly, risk 50-70mph for several hours, may drop markedly later. Threat of difficult conditions on the hills for at least part of the day, with sudden gusts to lower slopes. May improve.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Substantially dry Rare patches of drizzle confined to coastal hills early in day, otherwise dry.	Rain may set in A cold front moving in from the west (timing uncertain) brings an increasing risk of rain developing, becoming persistent and heavy for several hours. May turn to snow above 800-900m before fading.
Cloud on the hills?	Low cloud breaking up Banks of cloud drifting around some tops and corries, may linger for several hours. Higher tops may be above often above cloud. Increasingly breaking up through the day.	Extensive in rain Many tops may start cloud free, but as rain arrives, cloud will lower onto the hills, forming to lower slopes near west coast. Breaks to 800m or above toward northern Lochaber.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloud gradually breaking to give patches of sunshine, particularly Lochaber. Visibility mostly good, but a general haze.	Any early sun soon weak, giving way to overcast skies. Visibility reducing, becoming poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	In range 4 to 8C, warmest toward northern Lochaber; some higher tops warmer than lower slopes. Above the summits.	Initially 3 to 5C or above, but may later drop toward 0C. Starting above the summits, but dropping (perhaps abruptly over the space of a few hours) to 1000m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 14 February, 2019**

South to southwesterly winds persist into the weekend; often windy, gales at times, particularly Scottish Highlands. Low cloud will often plague western hills, with patchy rain or drizzle as weak fronts come in from the Atlantic from time to time. Generally small amounts of precipitation; often dry away from west coasts. Apart from a brief drop of temperature during Friday in Scotland, the mountains will be above freezing for several days ahead. A period of thaw across all areas, leaving mostly very little snow cover into next week.

Forecast issued at 14:39 on Tuesday, 12 February, 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.