

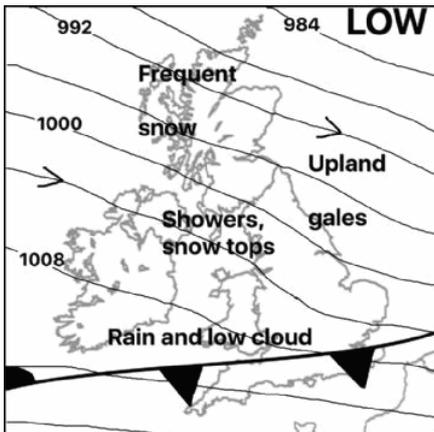
# West Highlands

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, 15 March, 2019



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 15 March, 2019**

Upland gales will bring difficult conditions across the hills with significant/severe wind chill. Frequent snow/hail showers will drive across Scotland through the day, risk thunder in north. Further south, extensive low cloud and rain will edge south to become largely confined to south Wales in afternoon. Showers following to north England, snow on tops.

### Headline for West Highlands

Upland gales/severe chill. Frequent snow and whiteout. Hill fog.

## Detailed Forecast for Friday, 15 March, 2019

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Westerly in the range 45-65mph, but may ease to 35-40mph near west coast later in the afternoon.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Walking widely arduous or difficult across higher areas with widespread buffeting. Strong gusts reaching lower slopes. Severe wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Frequent snow and whiteout</b> Frequent hail snow showers through the day, merging at times to near constant precipitation with resultant whiteout. Snow increasingly down to 400m or so. Risk of isolated lightning in north.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Extensive</b> Often covering mountains above 600-800m, or lower during constant precipitation. Occasional higher breaks may form away from showers.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Little or no sun. A general haze, and visibility reduced significantly by rain or snow.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	0 or -1C at dawn, dropping to -3C. Feeling closer to -20C in direct exposure to the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Initially 800-900m, but soon lowering to 600m.

## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	<b>Saturday 16 March</b>	<b>Sunday 17 March</b>
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Low confidence in forecast: Northeast later northwesterly, in range 20-35mph, risk higher for a time. May be marked lull in <b>Will impede walking at times across higher areas with significant wind chill.</b>	Northwest later northerly in the range 30-40mph. <b>Walking arduous at times across higher areas with significant wind chill and buffeting.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Increasing risk of snow</b> Dry start, but increasing risk of persistent snow and whiteout conditions spreading up from the south into the afternoon.	<b>Clusters of snow showers</b> Clusters of snow and hail showers through the day, perhaps merging at times to give more prolonged snow over an hour or so; most likely across western mountains.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Becoming extensive in snow</b> May be very little at first, but as snow spreads in, cloud will become widely extensive across the hills and increasingly to lower slopes.	<b>Breaks to tops, lowering in snow.</b> Cloud bases varying through the day: shafts below 500-600m near precipitation, but generally scattered cloud with bases more typically around 800 to 1100m with occasional breaks to, or above, the tops.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun. Visibility good at first, but become widely very poor or appalling in snow with risk of whiteout.	Occasional bursts of bright sun between the showers. Visibility very good, but becoming very poor in snow showers with risk of temporary whiteout.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	-4C 400-500m; lowering further should snow set in.	-2 to -4C, highest around middle of the day. 400-600m, highest around middle of the day.

**Planning Outlook****All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 16 March, 2019**

Despite significant uncertainties on track, an area of low pressure will move in on Saturday with bring widespread precipitation, low cloud and upland gales across many hills. Snow is expected to fall across higher parts of the North Pennines/Lakes for a time, but more widely, and to low levels, across the Southern Uplands and later central/southern Highlands. By Sunday, northwest winds will bring snow showers across many hills, increasingly rain to lower slopes through day. Largely fine on Monday, but low cloud and rain will reach western hills late on. This will then herald a change to milder, cloudier and across Scotland damp conditions through the middle of the week with a period of sustained thaw.

**Forecast issued at 16:37 on Thursday, 14 March, 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.