

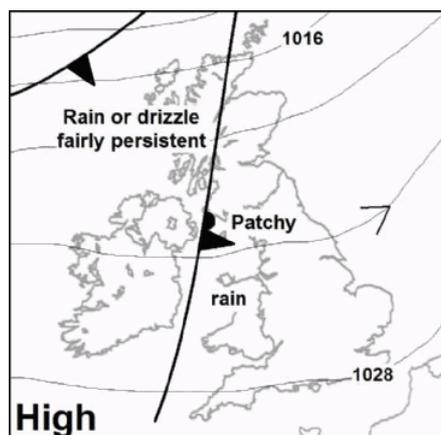
West Highlands

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 Tuesday, 19 March, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 19 March, 2019

Mild southwesterlies bring low cloud to western hills, with rain or drizzle frequent or persistent for several hours; wettest conditions focused on western Scotland. Patchier rain and higher cloud breaks toward the east. Blustery N England & Scotland, up to gale force far N/NW Highlands.

Headline for West Highlands

Often raining western mountains. Windy, gusty in places.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 19 March, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 25 to 35, locally 40mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking impeded across hills, buffeting in places through passes and cols. Significant wind chill in exposure.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain on and off, persistent for several hours west Rain or drizzle frequent through the day, at times steady rain, particularly hills near and west of Loch Linnhe. Briefly may be sleet on highest tops.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, lowest near coast Shrouding most mountains all day, from low levels up toward coast. Breaks to 600-800m or above mostly well inland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun. A general haze, or murky western hills.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 to 4C. Directly in the wind on high tops feeling close to -10C.
Freezing Level	May start close to 1000m, but lifting above the summits. Higher terrain essentially frozen, but a thaw developing.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 20 March	Thursday 21 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly, 30 to 40mph, but may strengthen to 50mph later in day in Lochaber. Walking impeded, becoming increasingly arduous; very gusty through passes and to lower slopes in places.	Southwesterly, 35 to 50mph, risk 65mph for a few hours. Arduous conditions across the hills, with sudden buffeting through passes and in places to lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patchy rain, may turn wetter Rain or drizzle likely to come and go much of day, most persistent western hills. A few hours may be dry well inland. A risk of steadier, heavier rain coming back in from west.	Risk persistent rain Rain is likely to last for much of the day as a front trails across Scotland. Heaviest falls near/west of Loch Linnhe, may set in for many hours. Less wet toward central highlands.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Extensive, risk very low west Many mountains shrouded much of the day, often to lower slopes across coastal hills and near sea lochs. Occasional breaks to 700-800m or above inland, but tops rarely clearing. 20%	Extensive Widely covering the hills, from lowest slopes up around coasts and sea lochs. Bases up to 600-700m well inland, perhaps locally higher around upper Glen Spean. 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little if any sun, mostly overcast and dull. Visibility may be briefly very good inland, but reduced in rain.	Sun unlikely. Murky most areas, visibility very poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	4 to 6C. Above the summits.	3 to 5C, may drop toward 1C in Lochaber later in day. Above the summits, but perhaps dropping to 1000m northern areas.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 20 March, 2019**

A west to southwesterly airflow continues through this week and into the weekend. A series of frontal systems will move across Scotland, bringing frequent rain to the W/NW Highlands. Small amounts of rain E/SE Scotland. Winds reaching gale or severe gale force at times across the Highlands. Low cloud often plaguing western hills, even across England & Wales, although here rainfall typically patchy and light. Temperatures above freezing up to higher tops during midweek, with a gradual thaw, then cooler by Friday and the weekend, sub-zero at times on Scottish Munros. Highest tops in England & Wales rarely dropping below freezing. Into next week, most indications favour higher pressure and generally quieter weather.

Forecast issued at 14:38 on Monday, 18 March, 2019

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