

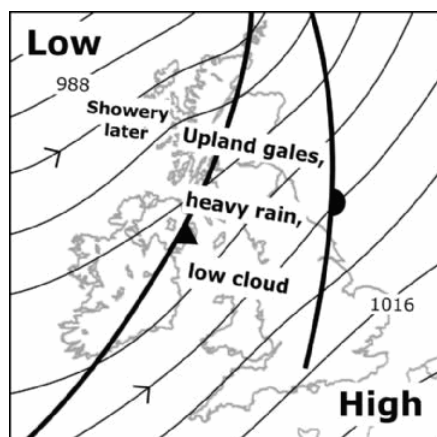
Lake District

The entire Lake District National Park, taking in all major summits, including Scafell, Helvellyn, Skiddaw, the Langdales and Old Man of Coniston.



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General Summary for Wednesday, 17 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 17 December, 2025

Extensive gales across the hills. Rain preceded by early snow on higher terrain in the Highlands, lifting briefly above freezing to high tops. Showery bursts follow into western Scotland, heavy and frequent with hail later. England & Wales sees rain much of the day, spreading eastward, heavy at times.

Headline for Lake District

Upland gales. Persistent rain, often heavy, low cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 17 December, 2025

How windy? (On the summits)	South-southwesterly 45 to 60mph, powerful gusts in places downslope to north of higher fells. Starting to lessen a little only toward or beyond dusk.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging conditions over the fells, walking difficult in places higher up, sudden buffeting to some mid-slopes.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain most of day, heaviest prolonged falls west & south Lakes Rain soon setting in from dawn, persistent widely much of the day, heaviest south and western fells. Breaking up into showers into the evening. Very wet underfoot, streams in spate, renewed flooding likely develops.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Shrouding the fells widely all day, from mid-to-lower slopes west and southern areas, but rarely above higher tops even in north Lakes.
Chance of cloud free summits?	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and murky.
How Cold? (at 750m)	2C rising during day to 5C. Feeling like -8 to -12C directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits, but close to very highest tops above 900m early in day.

Lake District - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 18 December	Friday 19 December
How windy? (On the summits) Effect of wind on you?	Southerly 35 to 50mph, but direction and speed likely to vary, possibly lower speeds for periods during day. Expect arduous walking conditions and considerable wind chill on higher fells, but may lessen for periods.	Southwesterly 45 to 60mph, tending to lessen a little during day. Difficult conditions over higher fells, frequent buffeting from modest elevations upward. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Heavy rain likely setting in Patchy showers mostly coastal areas, possibly drier for a time inland. Then persistent heavy rain likely moving in from southwest during day. Breaking up into showery rain and hail (snow high tops) evening into night.	Showery, hail, snow highest tops Showers most frequent west and southwestern fells, with hail, falling as snow on highest tops above 800m. Tending to fade during afternoon.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied, becoming extensive Patchy cloud banks, most persistent south-facing areas, some breaks north Lakes in morning, but as rain sets in, widely lowering over hills.	Mostly high tops with breaks Varying cloud bases, but often capping high tops above 800m in morning, some breaks more often afternoon. Clearer eastern Lakeland fells much of day.
Chance of cloud free summits?	30% dropping below 10%	50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast, varied layers of high cloud, but visibility good where dry; becoming murky if rain sets in.	Bursts of sun, most often N/E Lakes. Visibility often very good, reduced in showers.
How Cold? (at 750m) Freezing Level	3 or 4C, then lowering to 1C into night. Wind chill feeling as cold as -10C on tops. Above the summits, then dropping into the night to 800-900m.	2 or 3C. Feeling like -12C directly in the wind. Close to highest summits above 900m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 18 December, 2025

South-southwesterly winds widely remain gale force over the mountains later this week and through into Saturday, severe upland gales for periods. More heavy rain for England and Wales on Thursday, further flooding expected; rain spreads north into Scotland, falling as snow on Munros. Showery by Friday, most frequent in western Scotland with hail, also snow over tops. Another belt of persistent rain likely arrives from the west into Saturday, snow only highest Scottish tops. A switch to east-southeasterly winds by Sunday into early next week, some residual rain and high-level snow, but a drier theme develops and favouring chillier conditions into the Christmas period.

Forecast issued at 16:20 on Tuesday, 16 December, 2025

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 Mountain Weather Information Service, 2025.