

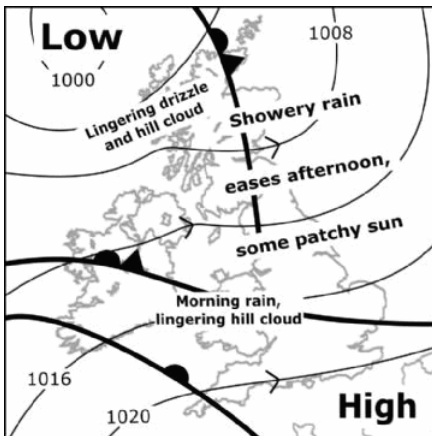
Lake District

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, 20 May, 2026



**British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 20 May, 2026**

Windy with strong gusts, briefly lighter early in Scottish Highlands. Morning showery rain and low cloud; improving afternoon as patchy sun breaks out, cloud lifting to high terrain with summit breaks, and most areas substantially dry by later afternoon. Low cloud lingers in Wales and NW Scotland.

Headline for Lake District

Windy; wet morning and hill cloud, drier afternoon with sun breaks

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 20 May, 2026

How windy? (On the summits)	West-southwesterly 30-35mph, may be quite gusty over tops and high passes, reaching up to 40mph at times.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking impeded in exposure and often strenuous and feeling chilly; considerable buffeting over high terrain, balance challenged in strongest gusts.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent rain, easing through afternoon Light rain or drizzle will be quite persistent over high tops and western slopes until mid-afternoon. Broader areas of rain will drift from the west as well, these affecting all fells for periods, most frequent early. Easing as afternoon goes, little rain left by evening
Cloud on the hills?	Lifting to high terrain, chance clearing summits later Extensive at dawn, to low slopes on west fells. Bases rise after sunrise towards 700m, some breaks possible off high eastern summits during dry windows. Western slopes will struggle to clear above 700m until afternoon when cloud further rises and breaks into banks on high terrain, summit breaks later.
Chance of cloud free summits?	20%, rising to 50% through afternoon
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some glimpses of weak sun into early afternoon, then breaking into a patchwork. Visibility largely poor, a few better windows to the east, and more widely improving through afternoon.
How Cold? (at 750m)	6C rising to 8 or 9C, staying elevated into night. Feeling just below freezing in strongest direct wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

Lake District - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 21 May	Friday 22 May
How windy? (On the summits) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 30-35mph. Gusts to 40-45mph over tops and elevated passes, also downslope to the east early. Strenuous walking with buffeting gusts often challenging stability, including downslope early. Feeling cool.	Southerly 30-35mph; gusty, to 40mph early, downslope too. Easing to 20-30mph. Strenuous walking, particularly early; buffeting gusts challenge stability, lower terrain too, feeling chilly. Easing slightly.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Morning rain, afternoon drizzle Several hours of rain in the morning, briefly heavy on south and western fells. Rain breaks into a persistent drizzle on south and west slopes by afternoon, only fading later afternoon. Northern slopes drier sooner.	Likely dry Rising chance of some spots of rain here and there late in the day, but most fells dry during daylight.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free summits?	Extensive Cloud shrouds the south and west fells from 200-500m upward most of the day, a general rising trend in bases with time. Very low cloud to the north and east early too, but improving, bases rising towards 600m, or higher later in the day. 10%	Patchy cloud caps, perhaps largely clear Some early banks of cloud at various heights, most likely south and west fells. Cloud lifts through morning, likely to just caps on the high summits, and breaks are probable. 70%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Largely overcast and dull with poor visibility. Some glimpses of brighter skies with improved visibility to the north and east.	Mixed cloud and sun, some sunnier windows but weakened by high cloud. Very good visibility.
How Cold? (at 750m) Freezing Level	8C rising to 10 or 11C, little change with added height. Feeling just above freezing in direct wind. Above the summits.	11 to 13C, rising towards 14C Blencathra. Feeling just above freezing in early wind. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 21 May, 2026**

Pressure rises as the weekend approaches, facilitating south-southwesterly wind; much milder temperatures arriving, likely warm in England and Wales by the weekend. Blustery wind for a few days, quite gusty too, including to lower slopes early; still feeling chilly on high Scottish tops, and strongest gusts will challenge stability. Patchy rain and hill cloud will continue to affect Scotland as well, most often in the west. Increasingly dry and sunny England and Wales, but always with a risk of cloud and some rain, including early valley mist in sheltered areas.

Higher pressure is indicated into next week as well. Precise detail of the high pressure core remains uncertain - the risk of strong wind and spells of rain possible for most areas, but also extended bright and warm periods too.

Forecast issued at 16:10 on Tuesday, 19 May, 2026

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, 2026.