#### MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

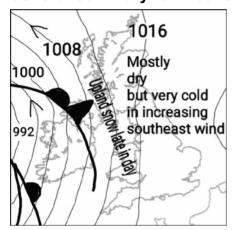
# **West Highlands**

Western Highlands accessible from, and south of, Glenfinnan (Road to the Isles) and Glen Spean (includes Creag Meagaidh). This area includes Ben Nevis and the mountains around Glencoe. In the east, from Ben Alder south to Loch Lomond and Trossachs NP. Also Arran and Mull.



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# General Summary for Wednesday, 6 December, 2023



## **British Mountain Summary:**

# Based on forecast chart for noon 6 December, 2023

After a hard frost, mostly dry and bright, but feeling increasingly bitterly cold as southeasterly winds strengthen and cloud thicken through the day ahead of a front, which will bring and increasing risk of upland snowfall, in across western mountains toward evening, and then spreading to all parts overnight.

## **Headline for West Highlands**

Bitter chill in strengthening southeast winds. Snow setting in after dusk.

# Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 6 December, 2023

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly, strengthening through day from 20-30mph after dawn to 35 to perhaps 45mph before dusk.	
Effect of wind on you?	Walking increasingly difficult, in places on lower slopes, and feeling bitterly cold as wind chill becomes significant.	
How wet?	Risk snow spreading northeast	
(Precipitation and its impact)	Very likely dry all morning and probably all day.  Nevertheless, slowly increasing threat of patchy snow initially near the coast - then more widely deteriorating with widespread snow after dark.	
Cloud on the hills?	Banks on higher areas; highest cloud base and breaks Lochaber.	
Chance of cloud	Generally persistent cloud above around 600m central highlands, Arran and Loch Lomond NP. May sometimes lower to 450m.  Elsewhere, most cloud above 750-900m and clearing summits near and west of Loch Linnhe.  20% in the south to 60% in the north	
free Munros?		
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine from time to time, mainly near and west of Loch Linnhe. Visibility excellent although increasingly hazy.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C. Will feel as cold as minus 17C directly in the wind.	
Freezing Level	Almost all terrain frozen.	

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## West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 7 December	Friday 8 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	Very turbulent conditions developing. Southeasterly winds; lifting through day to 50 to 80mph	East to southeasterly 15 to 25mph, locally 30mph at first, but tending to ease through the day.
Effect of wind on you?	Be prepared for increasingly very difficult conditions, as turbulent and very powerful winds accelerate over the mountains.	Be prepared for considerable wind chill in the strongest breezes, although tending to ease through the day.
How wet?	Occasional snow or refrozen rain	Rain, snow tops, tending to fizzle out.
(Precipitation and its impact)	Occasional snow. Level to which snow falls varying, to lower slopes in some areas, but upper slopes or tops elsewhere with some hills seeing refrozen rain.	Areas of rain, or above 1000m snow, on and off for a time, but tending to fizzle out into the afternoon. Although some showers may persist in the south.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive	Fairly extensive, best breaks in north.
	Be prepared for extensive hill fog; in the south and east down to lower slopes.  Mainly upper slopes north Lochaber/west of Loch Linnhe.	Cloud covering the hills fairly extensively, perhaps to lower slopes from the central Highlands down to Loch Lomond NP. Best breaks N Lochaber
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast.  Visibility often very poor.	Mostly dull, but some patchy sun N Lochaber at times breaking through. Visibility at times good or very good, but poor and murky where in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Around -2C, will tend to rise to between -1C and plus 2C. More like -18C in direct exposure to the wind.	Around 1C, but feeling closer to -10C initially in the strongest winds before they ease.
Freezing Level	400-700m, highest near west coast. Lifting to 700-1100m; varied across area.	Gradual thaw to upper slopes, with freezing level around 1100m.

## **Planning Outlook**

## All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 7 December, 2023

Unsettled conditions will prevail over the next week to 10 days, with periods of upland gales or severe gales with precipitation frequent, mostly rain, although intermittently snow Scottish Highlands, more rarely elsewhere. Driest conditions (relative to the average) will likely be in the northwest Highlands, given the often backed flow, as the low pressure areas track in.

## Forecast issued at 16:29 on Tuesday, 5 December, 2023

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering 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 Mountain Weather Information Service, 2023.