

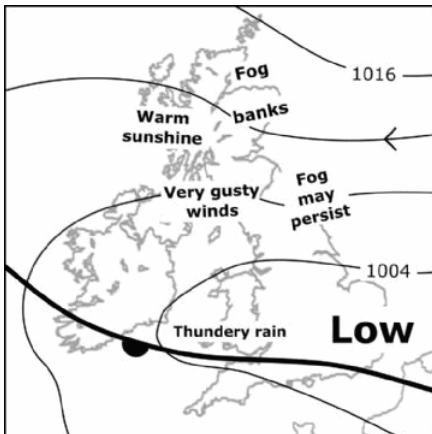
West Highlands

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 Thursday, 2 May, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 2 May, 2024

Gusty easterly winds, turbulent near and west of major summits. Very warm for western Scotland with strong sunshine. Fog banks for eastern and central Highlands tending to break up, but may linger for Borders. Mostly dry northern England and Eryri, but thundery rain for south and possibly mid-Wales.

Headline for West Highlands

Gusty wind. Warm & sunny.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 2 May, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Easterly 25mph to suddenly gusty 40-50mph around some mountains, typically southern areas, especially Arran, but varied during day; powerful gusts in passes and downslope to west.
Effect of wind on you?	Locally very varied, but expect sudden buffeting making walking arduous in places not just on higher terrain.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain unlikely Most likely dry, remote chance an isolated afternoon shower.
Cloud on the hills?	Little if any Banks of cloud around some slopes and corries from dawn, mainly toward central highlands, plus fog in some glens. Soon dispersing to leave the mountains clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	90%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Strong sun and thin high cloud; beware sunburn. Very good visibility, but slight haze toward central belt.
How Cold? (at 900m)	8 to 10C, rising to 13C on more western mountains. (Reaching 20C+ in glens). Feeling cooler if directly in wind, near freezing if out of the sun.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 3 May	Saturday 4 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Easterly 15 to 30mph, strongest northern areas in the morning. Be prepared for very blustery conditions at times with marked wind chill and buffeting.	Risk occasionally gusty easterly 20-25mph, but often variable and low speeds 10-15mph or less. Mostly small, but risk of suddenly gusty locations on some slopes.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Risk of scattered heavy showers Dry most of the day, especially Lochaber. Risk of a few heavy showers breaking out, focused toward the south.	Drizzle/local rain, risk heavy bursts later Drizzly in hill fog, plus localised bursts of rain forming, especially toward south. Mainly later in day, greater risk of heavy and possibly thundery bursts developing.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Hills mostly clear. A few cloud banks. Hills mostly clear, or in the west, completely clear through the day. Some cloud banks, mostly in the east, and also in and around showers elsewhere. 70%	Extensive low cloud, breaks north Blanket fog from mid or some lower slopes upward Loch Lomond NP and southern sea lochs. Covering many tops, but higher and more broken cloud bases northwest into Lochaber, best toward Knoydart. 20%, to locally 40% northwest
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloud layers thinning to reveal sunshine, most widely near west coast. Visibility very good.	Little weak sun, mainly coast near Mull. General haze, murkier toward south.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	8 to 10C Above the summits	7 or 8C, but locally 10C west of Loch Linnhe. Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 3 May, 2024

Slow-moving weather patterns continue into the Bank Holiday weekend as a weak zone of low pressure drifts over the British Isles. There will remain uncertainty of local day-to-day detail, but most likely the wind often light and temperatures generally mild, but less warm than midweek in western Scotland. Low cloud, drizzle and scattered bursts of rain moving from northern England on Friday into the Highlands by Saturday. Then Sunday into Monday, varied zones of heavy showers forming, locally thundery, but some places escaping often dry with broken cloud and sun. High pressure then tends to build from the west into midweek to bring a fair amount of dry weather.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Wednesday, 1 May, 2024

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, 2024.