MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

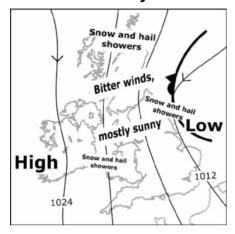
West Highlands

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 Thursday, 20 November, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 20 November, 2025

Staying cold as northerly winds continue, speeds starting to lessen gradually Scotland. Snow/hail showers in N Scotland, slowly fading. Showers also Cheviots, locally N/W Wales. Mostly sunny elsewhere. All terrain frozen; extensive snow cover over mountains, most substantial NW Highlands & Cairngorms.

Headline for West Highlands

Bitter wind lessening. Mostly sunny, local snow and hail.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 20 November, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northerly 25 to 40mph, strongest inland in morning, speeds gradually lowering; dropping lighter from dusk into evening, before starting to strengthen westerly later into night.		
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging walking on higher terrain particularly early in day, significant wind chill; gradually improving, but blustery most of daytime.		
How wet?	Largely dry, local snow showers		
(Precipitation and its impact)	A few snow and hail showers continuing to run down west coast, mainly areas near Mull, tending to fade out. Some snow flurries also into Creag Meagaidh area, but largely dry many places all day.		
Cloud on the hills?	Patches higher tops mostly north		
	Some patchy cloud drifting over higher slopes, mostly Ben Nevis group to Creag Meagaidh, also toward Mull. Further south, many mountains often clear.		
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% N/E Lochaber, to 90% south		
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine best across southern mountains, bursts of sun elsewhere. Visibility mostly excellent.		
How Cold? (at 900m)	-4C (to -6 or -7C Ben Nevis top): rising marginally. Wind chill feeling like -15C, to -20C early in day high tops.		
Freezing Level	Terrain frozen from glens upward, partial thawing only lowest sunlit slopes, up to 500m coastal slopes.		

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West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 21 November	Saturday 22 November
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West then southwesterly, strengthening during daytime from 20-25mph to 35-45mph, risk 50mph by dusk Lochaber. Expect conditions to deteriorate, to give strenuous walking, difficult higher mountains, significant wind chill.	W-SW'ly 20 to 25mph, occasionally 30mph higher areas mainly south. May become more variable toward and beyond dusk. Feeling noticeably breezy with marked wind chill; may start to affect ease of walking and balance on some ridges.
How wet?	Snow becoming rain from west	Showery rain coast, snow inland tops
(Precipitation and its impact)	Snow likely to push increasingly inland, becoming persistent. Increasingly rain to higher elevations in coastal areas, may set in heavy. Turning to rain higher up inland later.	Showers merging into more frequent rain at times, particularly coastal areas, here falling as rain toward higher slopes, but showers that push inland falling as snow above 800-900m. Rain and hill snow may develop further into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Patchy, then more extensive	Fairly extensive, lowest coasts
	Prior to snow/rain, just patchy cloud on various slopes, clearer areas inland. With time, cloud lowering and filling in across the hills, soonest coasts/islands.	Covering higher mountains most or all day, often shrouding many areas above 800-1000m, sometimes 600m near to coasts and on islands. Inland toward north and east of Ben Nevis, some higher breaks.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% dropping to 20%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Any weak early sun soon obscured by thickening high cloud, becoming overcast. Visibility may start excellent, but reducing to poor in rain, very poor in snow.	Rare glimpses of sun mostly inland Lochaber. Visibility occasionally very good below cloud and where dry, but reduced to poor if in snow or constant rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C, rising from west to +1C, or slightly higher near coast later. In stronger wind feeling like -15C.	0 or 1C inland, up to 2C coasts and islands. Feeling like -7C directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	Terrain frozen inland to lower slopes, but a gradual rise of freezing level toward 800m, or higher later; most rapid west coast.	900 to 1100m, typically highest near coasts and on islands; some lower terrain well inland may remain partly frozen.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 21 November, 2025

Winter conditions over the mountains - snow coverage to lower slopes in Scotland, snow and ice cover varied for England & Wales, but much terrain frozen; hard frost into inland valleys and glens into Friday. A front moving into Scotland from the west on Friday brings gales and snow, turning to rain lower down - arriving in England & Wales Friday evening-night. Less cold into the weekend, but higher mountains stay near or just below freezing, particularly Scotland; showers or locally more frequent upland snow over several days forward. Later next week looks at least briefly milder.

Forecast issued at 15:00 on Wednesday, 19 November, 2025

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, 2025.