

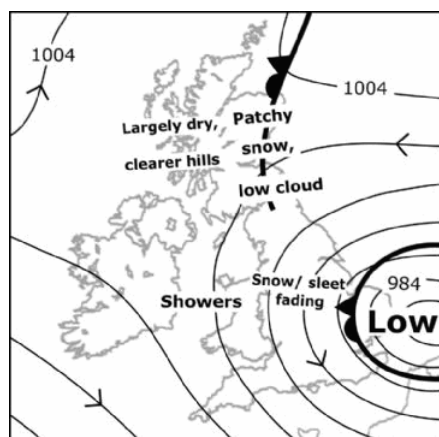
West Highlands

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 Friday, 9 January, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 9 January, 2026

Patchy snowfall and low cloud over the eastern Highlands & N/E Pennines, little if any reaching western Scotland where hills will be clearer, some low-level fog. Extensive fresh snow cover for Wales and Peak District, residual flurries fade, but wind remains strong; showers with hail near west coast of Wales.

Headline for West Highlands

Light wind. Largely dry and clear hills, possible inland flurries.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 9 January, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Variable, or mostly easterly inland, 5 to 10mph, in places little wind, rare gusts. Around Loch Lomond to Arran, mostly north-northeasterly 10mph, occasional 15mph in morning. Mostly small.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Largely dry, chance of snow flurries inland Chance of isolated showers near the Atlantic coast of Mull. Possibly flurries over mountains well inland developing from the east during the day.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Mostly little, some patches mainly inland Patchy cloud clinging to some upper slopes and corries, but often clear over many mountains. Some patches may drift in more widely from the east if snow flurries occur. 80%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Any sun weak due to a veil of high cloud. Visibility very good over many hills, some haze or mist inland glens.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-2 or -3C. Terrain frozen into the glens, some slopes around 300-500m inland just above freezing point, or up to 700m coasts.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 10 January	Sunday 11 January
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 10 to 25mph, gusty in places on some downslopes to the north of higher mountains, mainly Lochaber.	Southerly, strengthening rapidly up to dawn, in range 50 to 70mph much of daytime.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small some slopes, but gusty spots may feel more noticeable locally, giving considerable wind chill.	Difficult conditions with frequent buffeting and powerful gusts to some lower slopes, significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Coastal showers, flurries Occasional showers, most common toward coast, brief snow flurries pushing inland, here falling to lower slopes, but near coast mostly rain below 500m, some hail.	Snow turning to rain Snow and freezing rain soon sweeping in from the west - inland heavy snow may fall to lower slopes for several hours. Increasingly turning to rain, later toward higher levels more widely.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied patches Patchy cloud around some slopes and tops, may linger around corries. Some mist possible lower slopes inland.	Extensive Shrouding most higher terrain all day, to lower slopes near coasts and over southern-facing groups widely. Highest cloud base north Lochaber.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun. Visibility mostly very good.	Overcast and mostly dull. Visibility generally very poor, appalling if in cloud and blowing snow on hills.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C, nearer 0C coastal tops. Feeling near -10C if in gusty wind.	-2C rising to 0 or +1C, small variation of temperature with height inland. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -18C.
Freezing Level	Terrain widely frozen inland; just above freezing around 300-500m, up to 600-700m near coast, slightly higher	Terrain frozen to lower slopes inland from dawn, nearer 400-600m coasts; rising variably above freezing toward high tops.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 10 January, 2026

Terrain stays widely frozen away from coastal slopes this weekend, fresh extensive snow for Wales and Peak District, whilst substantial snow remains across Scottish mountains. By Sunday, southerly winds strengthen to gales - as a frontal system approaches, snow then freezing rain is likely. A rise of freezing level from the southwest - thawing develops, rising just above freezing toward all higher slopes; in England and Wales much snow will thaw - here only occasionally near freezing on highest tops in the week ahead. In Scotland next week, higher mountains often near or below freezing at 800-1000m upward. A mix of rain and high-level snowfall, often windy through mid-month.

Forecast issued at 16:10 on Thursday, 8 January, 2026

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, 2026.