

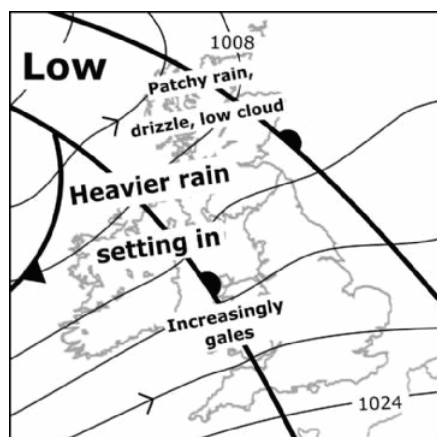
West Highlands

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 Saturday, 21 February, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 21 February, 2026

Southwesterly winds strengthening during the day, becoming upland gales more widely later. Milder overall, soon rising above freezing to the highest summits in Scotland. Rain, drizzle and low cloud extensive, developing into more prolonged heavy rain from the west in the afternoon.

Headline for West Highlands

Increasingly windy, gales develop. Rain becoming heavy.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 21 February, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly, briefly 25mph or less inland Lochaber from dawn, but soon likely widely 30-35mph, at times 40mph higher mountains, tending to strengthen afternoon, reaching 45-50mph up to dusk and onward into evening.
Effect of wind on you?	A relative lull at first, mainly inland Lochaber, but soon increasingly blustery over the mountains affecting comfortable walking. Conditions become more arduous with time, more difficult toward dusk.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain most of day, heavier afternoon Rain affects most places throughout the day, but for a few hours on and off, starting as sleet on high tops, locally fading occasionally inland Lochaber. Rain setting in widely heavier afternoon, fading later evening, then showery into night. Increasingly wet underfoot, particularly where snow melts on upper-mid slopes.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Blanketing the mountains all day, from lower elevations upward toward the coasts and islands. Bases rarely above 600m most areas even inland, locally 800m toward Loch Laggan.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Below 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and dull. Visibility generally poor.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2C at first, soon rising to 4C. Where exposed to stronger winds on tops, feeling like -10C.
Freezing Level	1200m from dawn Lochaber, soon rising above all summits. Dropping to 1100-1200m into night. Snow cover will remain on higher mountains, but a period of thaw.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 22 February	Monday 23 February
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 45 to 55mph, frequent squally gusts in showers, over 60mph on higher tops.	Southwest turning westerly, 50 to 60mph with stronger gusts from dawn, easing slowly during day, to 30-40mph by dusk.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging conditions over the mountains, frequent buffeting making walking arduous in exposure. Significant wind chill.	Any mobility challenging on high terrain at least in the morning, an improvement may be only by evening. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent rain, hail, snow high tops Generally showery, but merging into near-constant precipitation, particularly west Lochaber, heavy bursts with hail, snow falling above 900-1000m. Risk of isolated thunder, mainly toward coast.	Early showers fade, rain later Frequent showery precipitation overnight and for an hour or so after dawn, heavy with hail, snow above 1000m. Fading into morning to lighter showers. Later in day, rain develops from southwest, widely heavy into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive higher areas Covering the mountains much of the time above 800 to 1000m, but cloud bases will vary in and out of showers. Occasionally forming to 600m near coast. Some breaks higher up well inland.	Varied over tops, some breaks form Cloud base varying early in day, often covering higher slopes, patches to 700m westernmost areas. Tending to lift and break toward upper slopes, but may often cap highest tops. Lowering into evening.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare brief glimpses of sun. Visibility occasionally very good, but often reduced by showers, at times poor.	Occasional sun breaking through, but high cloud then thickens quickly afternoon. Some early haze, but visibility improving during day, may become very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1 or 2C. Wind chill feeling like -12 to -15C on tops.	2C, then rising slightly into night. Feeling like -15C directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	1000 to 1200m, lowest inland Lochaber.	1100 to 1200m marginal rise during day, then lifting above the summits into night.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 22 February, 2026

West to southwesterly winds prevail during the week ahead as areas of low pressure move toward northwest Scotland whilst ridges of higher pressure occasionally nudge across southern Britain. Sustained gales over the mountains, only brief lulls. Temperatures will fluctuate above and below freezing on higher Scottish mountains, with periods of thaw and refreezing. England and Wales generally above freezing to tops with a substantial thaw of most upland snow. Frequent rainfall, often heavy over western mountains, at times showery with hail, some snow on Scottish Munros. The final days of February favour colder northwesterly air and a drop of freezing level.

Forecast issued at 15:31 on Friday, 20 February, 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.