

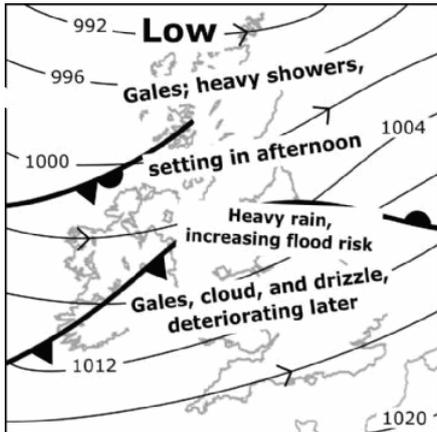
West Highlands

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 Tuesday, 24 March, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 24 March, 2026

Widespread gales, severe early in Scotland. Showers in west Scotland, pushing east, turning snowy and setting in for a time. Near constant rain for Lakeland and Yorks Dales, becoming heavy with a rising flood risk. Rain spreads widely across England and Wales later, wind strengthens in Wales.

Headline for West Highlands

Gales, severe early; snow/hail showers, more constant for a period

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 24 March, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	West to southwesterly 45 to 60mph, up to 70mph Ben Nevis in morning. An easing trend afternoon, locally to 30mph north of Glencoe, but powerful squally gusts are likely all day with a risk of higher speeds returning too.
Effect of wind on you?	Difficult conditions widely in the morning, mobility very challenging on higher terrain in exposure with severe wind chill. Effects will ease, though walking remains impeded in exposure; always the risk of powerful gusts.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Heavy snow and hail showers, more persistent afternoon Showers from dawn, increasingly heavy and frequent, gradually clustering into more constant precipitation and falling as snow toward lowering elevations, some hail too. Snow/rain sets in persistently for several afternoon hours.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied, but fairly extensive tops, to middle slopes afternoon. Shrouding higher mountains frequently, cloud base changing rapidly around showers, often capping hills above 700-900m. For several afternoon hours, cloud more extensive from at least 600m upward.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun well inland, becoming overcast afternoon. Visibility very poor at times, appalling in snow and cloud; intermittently good but ultimately deteriorating.
How Cold? (at 900m)	+1C at first, lowering to -2C afternoon, lowering another degree or two overnight. Feeling as cold as -15 to -18C in strongest wind.
Freezing Level	Dropping from northwest to 1000m early in day, 700-900m by noon (always lowest in the north), 500-600m later, locally staying nearer 700m along coastal slopes.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 25 March	Thursday 26 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwesterly 35 to 45mph, varying speeds with squally gusts around showers, risk up to 55mph in gusts. Challenging walking conditions, frequent buffeting, often arduous over higher exposed terrain. Severe wind chill.	NW'ly 20-30mph early. Easing to 10-15mph and shifting W'ly, later SW'ly, restrengthening into evening. Walking impeded with some stability challenges in exposure early in the day, easing to fairly small.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent hail and snow Showery snow and hail falling to lower slopes, frequent to at times near-constant over coastal areas, but extending inland across all the region. Risk of isolated thunder & lightning.	Mostly dry, rain arrives through afternoon Dry most of the day. Patchy snow arrives on high coastal slopes afternoon, gradually spreading widely into evening and turning to rain, heavy falls overnight near the coast.
Cloud on the hills?	Varying over tops Cloud base constantly changing, will come and go all day above 900m, frequently capping high tops toward coasts, patches at times to 600m. Briefly clearing tops.	Just high tops most of the day, often clear Most hills clear in the morning, a few cloud caps over high tops from Mull to Clyde Sea Lochs. Cloud begins lowering to the tops from the west afternoon, filling in extensively across high terrain into evening and further lowering.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	80%, lowering to 40% late in the day
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of bright sun, mostly morning east from Loch Lomond. Visibility intermittently very good, but appalling at times in showers with brief whiteout over tops.	Sunshine early in the day, soon weakened by high cloud, increasingly overcast. Excellent visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C, slight rise into afternoon. Wind chill feeling like -17 to -20C on tops. 400m from dawn, lifting to 600m, slightly higher away from showers.	-4C, rising to -2C, then up to several degrees above freezing overnight. Feeling as cold as -15 in direct wind early. 300-400m, some lower frosts likely too. A slight rise, then sharply lifting above the summits for several overnight hours.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 25 March, 2026

Cold, wintry conditions across all mountains into midweek - significant chill factor from gale force west then northwesterly winds. Hail and snow showers extend southwards into Wednesday, by then below freezing on all tops above 600-700m. Fewer showers by Thursday for many, though further snow then rain moves into western Scotland. Temperature and freezing level then varying as changeable westerlies prevail for Scotland through the weekend into early next week with periods of upland gales widely, accompanied by spells of rain, hill snow and hail showers; some windows of drier weather more often affect England & Wales.

Forecast issued at 15:56 on Monday, 23 March, 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.