

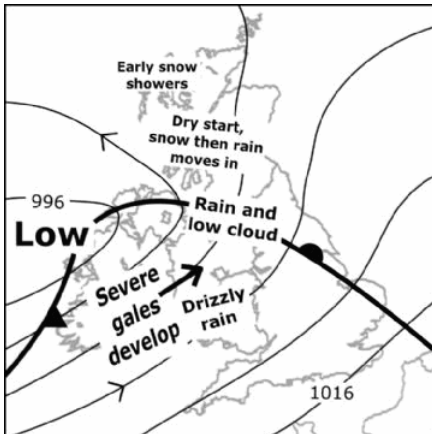
West Highlands

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, 4 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 4 April, 2026

A fine start for much of Highlands, a lull in wind, but snow moving in from south, setting in widely afternoon; snow to low elevations, then abruptly rain to tops in southern Highlands later. Rapidly strengthening gales for England & Wales, becoming stormy, extending across Scotland afternoon into evening.

Headline for West Highlands

Snow develops, cloud fills in; rapidly severe gales later.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 4 April, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly from dawn, a lull early in day 20mph or less, turning southeasterly, a rapid increase from south into afternoon 50-70mph, strongest Arran & Loch Lomond. Varying in evening, but suddenly west-northwesterly 60-90mph after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	Small early in day, but deteriorating into afternoon - with time any mobility increasingly difficult, soonest in south. Significant wind chill. Damaging gusts to lower slopes by later evening into night.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow developing, setting in, then rain mainly south A few showers with hill snow mostly near coast at first. Then from the south by middle of day into afternoon, quickly more persistent snow, setting in widely heavy with whiteout. A rapid switch to heavy rain to tops develops later from south, but may stay sleet-snow over Lochaber hills into evening. Further snow into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Little inland in morning, lowering widely Varied cloud banks, some hills clear for several hours at least morning through early afternoon, best inland Lochaber. Increasingly lowering from the south, filling in widely as snow develops, to some lower slopes in south.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% dropping to 10% from south.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Any weak sun in morning giving way to increasingly overcast skies. Visibility very good for a time, but then becoming very poor, appalling in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C, rising to +1C or briefly higher in south later in day, then dropping again after dark. Feeling like -15C as wind strengthens, colder later.
Freezing Level	Frost at dawn, 600m mid-morning. Varying in snow 300-600m. Abrupt rise from south above tops later, but brief if at all Lochaber. Rapid drop into night to 400-600m.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 5 April	Monday 6 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Stormy conditions overnight lessen before dawn, then westerly 40 to 50mph, squally gusts; briefly less in morning. Frequent buffeting, walking often challenging on higher exposed terrain. Severe wind chill.	Southerly 25 to 40mph, strongest west coastal mountains, may increase a little more widely. Affecting ease of walking and balance on ridges and higher tops; notably gusty on some downslopes north of high tops.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent hail and snow; risk lightning A succession of heavy hail and snow showers; snow falling to lower elevations early in day at least. Isolated thunder & lightning. Intensity of showers slowly easing later in daytime from south.	Drizzly rain mostly near coast A little patchy rain or drizzle mostly coastal areas near Mull, perhaps feeling generally damp where in cloud over many coastal tops. Very little if any rain inland areas.
Cloud on the hills?	Varying over tops Cloud base constantly changing, often capping higher slopes above 800m toward coast & islands; patches to 600m or lower at times, whilst briefly clearing higher up.	Mostly coastal slopes, little inland Patchy cloud banks mostly over western mountains in the morning above 800m, well broken inland. Cloud banks may linger or fill in near coast and on some islands, but inland Lochaber often clearer all day.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	30% coast/islands, to 70% well inland.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief bursts of sun and very good visibility, but suddenly appalling in cloud and snow or hail, temporary whiteout.	Sun mostly weak through high cloud, but very good visibility inland. Hazier toward coast, thicker overcast skies possible, may become poorer visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-2 to -4C, rising slightly afternoon. (Around -6C on Ben Nevis summit). Feeling like -15 to -18C in the wind. 400 to 600m in morning, rising to 700-800m afternoon, but lowering briefly again around showers.	-1C from dawn, rising to +2C locally +4C afternoon. Feeling like -8 to -12C directly in wind. Frost in glens in morning, much mountain terrain frozen all day, but air temperature rising above freezing to tops by late in day.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 5 April, 2026

Winter mountain conditions for Easter Sunday - all mountain tops sub-zero all day, above 600-700m in Scotland, 800m in England and Wales - hail and snow showers with gales bringing severe chill factor. Milder southerlies develop during Monday, dry and many hills clear with hazy sun, but gusty wind, risk of gales mainly west coastal mountains of Scotland. Quite warm by Tuesday, but strong to gale force south-southeasterly winds; dry for many, rain encroaching into western Scotland, thawing of recent snow. Scotland likely remains changeable, often windy later in the week, rain at times, varying temperatures, at times below freezing on higher Munros. Often drier and lighter winds for England and Wales.

Forecast issued at 16:24 on Friday, 3 April, 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.