

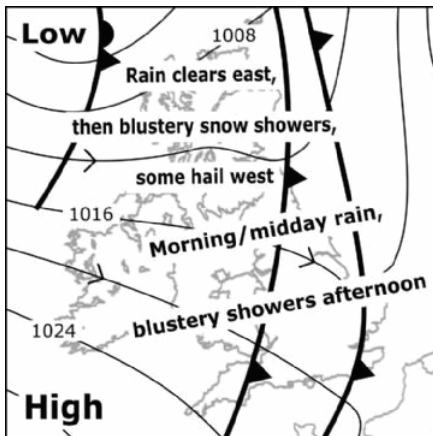
West Highlands

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, 9 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 9 April, 2026

Rain passes east through Scotland from dawn, followed by colder air and heavy showers with snow on high terrain. The rain passes northwest parts of England and Wales through morning, reaching the Pennines and south Wales midday, clearing east for afternoon showers. Blustery, strong gusts around showers.

Headline for West Highlands

Frequent heavy snow showers with hail; blustery, strong gusts

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 9 April, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 20-30mph, shifting westerly and strengthening later, approaching 40mph high tops. Often gusty during showers.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking inconvenienced in exposure all day, strong buffeting gusts in showers will challenge balance for periods and bring significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Morning rain followed by heavy snow showers Rain passes east across all areas through early morning, locally heavy, soon followed by frequent heavy showers, most frequent south, falling as snow to 500-600m, some hail too. Showers may briefly ease afternoon, but late in the day, rain and snow sets in again from the west.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive early, gradually improving, best breaks afternoon Extensive from dawn to middle slopes. Cloud soon lifts and breaks Mull to Lochaber as rain turns to showers, to mostly above 700-800m, clear summits at times, but returning in showers above 1000m; west coastal hills most often covered, locally to 600m in showers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Rising to 40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Fairly cloudy morning, bursts of bright sunshine increasingly breaking out between showers, the most sun likely in the middle/late afternoon. Very good visibility, but suddenly very poor in rain/snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 or 0C most of the day, to +1C central highlands in the morning. Feeling like -10 to 13C in direct wind.
Freezing Level	Lowering from overnight, 1000-1200m at dawn, lowering further to around 700m.

West Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 10 April	Saturday 11 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 10-20mph early, shifting southerly, strengthening to 45-65mph by evening, strongest Arran to Mull. Walking increasingly difficult with severe wind chill; you may struggle to stay on your feet in exposure near the coast.	Southerly 30-40mph, quite variable, and stronger at dawn. Later afternoon, strengthening again, 45-55mph. Arduous walking with significant wind chill all day, later speeds challenging forward mobility along the coast.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Spots of rain/snow, rising risk later Spotty patchy precipitation drifts from the south, mostly coastal slopes, falling as snow to 300m or lower, but this level rising. Through afternoon, a rising risk of rain/snow arriving from the south, mostly Mull to Loch Lomond.	Frequent snow/hail showers A near-constant stream of showers through morning, falling as snow to at least 500m, locally lower and some hail as well. Showers isolating towards southern areas, easing for a few hours, returning later.
Cloud on the hills?	Coastal high terrain, inland breaks; deteriorating Banks of cloud will often cover coastal slopes above 700-800m, best chance of breaks in the morning; higher bases well inland, breaks off high summits too. Through afternoon, cloud thickening, to lower coastal slopes, mid-slopes inland.	Mostly early, improving to many clear tops Munros often shrouded above 800m in the morning during showers, coastal and southern mountains most often shrouded and to lower slopes. Bases rising with time, breaks forming afternoon, to perhaps frequently clear summits later.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% briefly, lowering to 20%	20% rising to 70%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine through high cloud through morning, trending cloudy afternoon. Good visibility.	Bursts of sunshine increasingly common, perhaps more extensive later. Very good visibility but suddenly very poor in rain/snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-2 or -3C, rising to 0C, may rise further for a few overnight hours. Later, feeling as cold as -15C in wind. 400-600m, lowest central highlands, also some light frosts in inland glens. Gradually lifting to 800m.	Variable between -1 to +1C. Feeling like -15C in direct wind. Around 900m, though locally variable, and tending to rise slightly.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 10 April, 2026

An unsettled weekend with rain, showers, and wind temperatures, though a few bright spells will break out. Variable weather regimes next week: Atlantic west-southwesterly winds likely dominant, with low pressure to the northwest of the country, bringing cloud, rain, and mild temperatures, often followed by sun, showers, and cooler temperatures; rain will be increasingly common to the high Munros, but the snowfall level will lower too during periods of cooler weather, and perhaps to high Lakeland fells, though any snow unlikely to accumulate here.

In the longer term, indications of high pressure increasingly building, bringing drier and brighter conditions with mild days to England and Wales and occasionally Scotland too, though the risk remains of occasional rain and cooler temperatures.

Forecast issued at 16:05 on Wednesday, 8 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.