Brecon Beacons

Also includes all higher summits in southern half of Wales.



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General Summary for Sunday, 7 January, 2018



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 7 January, 2018

High pressure will bring a cold, albeit largely sunny, day across all mountains areas with all terrain frozen. However, strong easterly winds, reaching gale force across the Brecon Beacons, will give a severe wind chill over the southern Pennines and across Wales. Southwest winds will also bring banks of low cloud into coastal areas of northwest Scotland.

Headline for Brecon Beacons

A cold and largely sunny day with easterly winds giving severe chill.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 7 January, 2018

How windy? (On the summits)	Easterly, in range 30 to 40mph, locally reaching 50mph at times higher peaks.	
Effect of wind on you?	Severe wind chill making it feel closer to -20C. Significant buffeting some areas, particularly near/west of major ridges and summits.	
How wet?	Precipitation not expected	
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly very little	
	Chance of banks of low cloud drifting onto some eastern slopes, mainly in morning, otherwise likely clear.	
Chance of cloud free summits?	80%	
Sunshine and air clarity?	Sunshine mostly west, perhaps often cloudy east. Superb visibility.	
How Cold? (at 750m)	-3C	
Freezing Level	Terrain widely frozen. Only partial thawing of lower sunlit slopes.	

Brecon Beacons - Looking Ahead

	Monday 8 January	Tuesday 9 January
How windy? (On the summits)	Easterly 25-35mph, but locally reaching 40mph across higher areas.	South to southeast 20-30mph, locally 40mph at times.
Effect of wind on you?	Will make walking arduous at times throughout the day with significant wind chill. Strong gusts occasionally reaching lower slopes.	Walking fairly arduous at times across higher areas and locally gusty across some lower slopes.
How wet?	Largely dry	Isolated drizzle
	Dry for much of not all of the day. However, now and again, a little fine drizzle or snow grains may affect some eastern and southern hills.	Substantially dry through daylight hours, but a few patches of fine drizzle will come and go; mainly across eastern hills. After dusk, threat of rain spreading in from the west.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, but breaking in west	Extensive, but breaks in west
	Extensive low cloud will shroud the hills, especially in the east, throughout the day. However, there will be breaks in the cloud across hills west of Brecon with some peaks clearing for several hours.	Blanket low cloud will shroud many hills through the day; from lower slopes up across eastern hills. However, across more sheltered western hills; cloud will break with some hills clearing over several hours; especially western coastal hills.
Chance of cloud free summits?	50% west, 20% east.	20% east, 50% west.
Sunshine and air clarity?	Bursts of sunshine breaking through in the west. Visibility suppressed due to marked haze.	Little or no sun in the east, but patchy sun breaking through in the west.
		Marked haze, especially in the east.
How Cold? (at 750m)	0C to -2C	0 to 2C
Freezing Level	500-800m, but terrain partially frozen from valleys up.	Close to, or locally below freezing, between 500-800m; highest temperatures across highest tops due to marked inversion.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 8 January, 2018

High pressure will drift across Eastern Europe early next week resulting in a strong, gusty southeasterly airflow with low cloud gradually spreading north. A temperature inversion will develop with some higher tops above freezing and the cloud, whilst some lower slopes stay closer to zero. A front will then move in from the west later Tuesday into Wednesday bringing some rain and upland snow although amounts look generally low. Towards the weekend, freeze-thaw cycles are most probable as frontal systems drive periods of gales and precipitation in from the Atlantic. However, periods of thaw limited across the Scottish Highlands where further snowfalls are likely.

Forecast issued at 14:31 on Saturday, 6 January, 2018

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 Geoff Monk & Associates, 2018.