

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Monday 08 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Tuesday 09 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Monday 08 Mar 2021 at 02:02

Confidence: High for general themes. Lower confidence for low cloud details on Monday and Tuesday.

Headline for Monday 08 Mar 2021: Low cloud and patchy rain. Cold on the tops.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 08 Mar 2021

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Heavy Snow

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Gales

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Low Likelihood

Poor visibility

High Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
					
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Light rain	Fog	Light rain	Light rain
Precipitation probability					
60%	60%	50%	30%	40%	70%

Forecast for Monday 08 Mar 2021

Weather: A cloudy day with outbreaks of rain in the morning, falling as sleet or wet snow above 900m. Drier in the afternoon, but further rain from around dusk.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10%.

Visibility: Very poor at height with low cloud becoming extensive by morning. Cloud bases mainly 400m or 500m but lifting onto higher slopes at times through the afternoon, especially in the east. Generally hazy below the cloud base.

Forecast for Monday 08 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	26/29 SW	24/29 W	26/32 W	23/29 W	22/27 W	20/24 SW	15/19 SW
600	17/22 SW	19/25 W	21/27 W	19/25 W	18/24 W	16/22 W	12/17 SW
300	5/19 W	7/20 W	9/23 W	8/21 W	7/20 W	7/18 W	6/15 SW
Valley	2/12 W	6/17 W	8/20 W	7/18 W	8/19 W	7/15 W	6/14 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	1/-6	1/-5	1/-6	1/-6	1/-5	1/-5	1/-4
600	2/-3	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3	2/-3	2/-2
300	4/2	4/1	5/2	5/2	4/2	4/1	4/2
Valley	5/4	6/4	6/4	6/4	6/4	6/4	6/4
Freezing Level*	1200m	1100m	1100m	1100m	1100m	1100m	1200m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

A cold day on the tops, especially when in the low cloud and rain.

Forecast for Tuesday 09 Mar 2021

Weather: Mainly cloudy with light rain or drizzle which will be on and off through the day. A little brightness possible over eastern fells in the afternoon. Winds strengthening in the evening ahead of persistent and heavier rain arriving from the west.

Maximum wind: Southwest 15-20mph gusts 30mph, increasing to 45mph gusts 60mph in the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 10% in morning, becoming 40% in afternoon as cloud bases rise.

Visibility: Extensive cloud above 200 or 300m overnight and morning. Cloud lifting to 600 or 700m in the afternoon and breaking up a little. Rather hazy below the cloud base.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 4C rising to 8 or 9C.
At 800m: Plus 1C rising to 2 or 3C.
Freezing level: Just above summits.

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Sunday 7 March, Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:40. We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. Ground conditions have changed little over the past 48 hours owing to high pressure, no precipitation and light winds. For the vast majority of that time there have been sub zero temperatures at altitude. Today at midday the summit temperature was just above freezing; thus the only noticeable changes over the past 48 hours have been a significant reduction of the soft rime that now lies mainly above 850m and a marginal softening, but no thaw, of the remaining snow which is still hard and icy, but not rock hard. The remaining snow patches lie above 850m (with the majority above 900m) in sheltered spots and hollows and on predominantly steep north and east facing aspects. Owing to its hard and icy nature walkers out on Monday are strongly advised to avoid any snow patches. However, as for the past few days, the only unavoidable snow encountered today was at the exit to Swirral Edge. Although it is only a very short section, an ice axe is recommended, especially in descent, as it was hard snow and the footprints in it were similarly icy. Admittedly, you would have to be unlucky to have a serious slide on it, but that's how accidents occur and, especially at the moment, we all need to strongly err on the side of caution. Conversely with careful route choice, Striding Edge and its exit can now be climbed without setting foot on snow with the normal path up its exit now also almost free from snow. However, the vast majority of the Cumbrian fells and paths are now not only free from snow but were also dry giving good traction. Although, especially in the morning, anywhere above 500m where paths cross drainage lines there were isolated patches of ice. These had, or were, thawing during the day but could well refreeze overnight. Above 850m more of a hazard was isolated patches of hard ice in sheltered spots and hollows some of which were difficult to spot – especially in descent. Thus particular care needs to be taken on exposed routes above 850m where slippery rime and hard ice is interspersed with predominantly confidence boasting bare dry rock. With a summit wind chill below freezing, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. Once again, it was evident today that people who thought that shorts were a good idea when venturing out had changed their minds when on the summit. Please be conservative with your plans and know both your limits and also when to turn back. A pandemic is not the time to be pushing your comfort zone. Temperature: plus 1.2C, Maximum wind speed 12.3mph, Wind chill: minus 3.2C, Average wind speed: 4.7mph.

Issued at: 02:02 on Mon 08 Mar 2021