

Lake District National Park







Forecast valid from 06:00 on Monday 04 Mar 2024 until 23:59 on Tuesday 05 Mar 2024
Forecast Issued on Monday 04 Mar 2024 at 03:17

Confidence: High confidence of generally settled conditions through the coming days with winds remaining mostly southeasterly, although some uncertainty over timing of precipitation on Tuesday.

Headline for Monday 04 Mar 2024: Dry with sunny spells through daylight hours. Strengthening southeasterly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 04 Mar 2024

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Blizzards No Likelihood | Heavy persistent snow No Likelihood | Storm force winds No Likelihood |
| Gales Low Likelihood | Severe chill effect Medium Likelihood | Poor visibility Low 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 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Clear night | Sunny | Sunny | Sunny | Partly cloudy (night) | Light snow |
| Precipitation probability | | | | | |
| <05% | <05% | <05% | <05% | 10% | 40% |

Forecast for Monday 04 Mar 2024

Weather: Dry and bright through much of the day with some good spells of sunshine. However cloud increases through the late afternoon with outbreaks of rain, falling increasingly as snow above 700m, edging northeast through the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Close to 100% through daylight hours, falling considerably during the evening

Low cloud and visibility: No low cloud until after dark evening when periods or persistent cloud above about 450-600m develop. Otherwise visibility very good but falling to several kilometres in rain and perhaps a kilometre in snow after dark.

Forecast for Monday 04 Mar 2024

| 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 | 19/23 SE | 27/33 SE | 29/36 SE | 32/40 SE | 41/50 SE | 39/50 SE | 39/49 SE |
| 600 | 22/30 SE | 24/34 SE | 22/31 SE | 28/38 SE | 29/41 SE | 32/44 SE | 29/41 SE |
| 300 | 9/21 SE | 7/21 SE | 11/26 SE | 12/30 SE | 11/33 SE | 15/37 SE | 14/35 SE |
| Valley | 5/18 SE | 7/20 SE | 10/23 SE | 12/26 SE | 12/31 SE | 13/31 SE | 12/29 SE |

| Height (m) | Temperature / Feels Like (°C) | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| 900 | 0/-6 | -0/-8 | -0/-8 | 1/-7 | 0/-8 | -0/-9 | -1/-10 |
| 600 | 1/-6 | 1/-6 | 2/-4 | 3/-3 | 2/-4 | 2/-6 | 1/-6 |
| 300 | 1/-3 | 3/0 | 5/2 | 6/3 | 5/1 | 4/-1 | 3/-2 |
| Valley | 3/1 | 5/2 | 8/5 | 9/6 | 8/4 | 6/3 | 6/2 |
| Freezing Level* | 400m | 500m | 700m | 800m | 900m | 800m | 800m |

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

Meteorologist's View

Valley temperatures around freezing at dawn. Strengthening southeasterly winds, gusts around 55mph over ridges and summits by evening.

Forecast for Tuesday 05 Mar 2024

Weather: Outbreaks of rain and snow die out overnight to leave a mostly cloudy morning. A brief spell of light rain and summit snow is expected around the middle of the day, this clearing in the early afternoon to leave a bright afternoon with sunny spells. Remaining dry with clear spells through the evening.

Maximum wind: Southeasterly 25-30mph, gusts around 50mph, easing 15-20mph through the early hours and becoming 10mph or less by early afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance across southern fells through the morning and most parts around the middle of the day, otherwise 75%

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 450-600m across southern fells through the morning and for most parts for a time around the middle of the day, otherwise cloud more occasional above 600-750m. Away from cloud visibility very good falling to several kilometres in rain and perhaps a kilometre in snow.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around plus 3 or 4 Celsius at dawn rising to plus 9 or 10 Celsius by day
 At 800m: Around zero Celsius, rising to plus 2 Celsius for a time
 Freezing level: 800m, rising just above the summits for a time around the middle of the day

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Sunday 3 March 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:15 Full report: Another beautiful winter's day in the Lake District with plenty of new snow evident from yesterday afternoon. The snow level was around 300m and its depth increased with height with generally calf to knee deep cover with drifts to waist deep giving heavy going when breaking trail. However many popular paths now have a clear trench to follow. The snow was soft and slippery giving tricky conditions underfoot especially on popular paths where the snow had been compacted beneath walkers feet. Crampons and microspikes were very useful on even the easiest of paths and essential on the Helvellyn Edges. The wind has backed to the SW and strengthened which is rapidly redistributing the snow on to north through east aspects. Large unstable cornices are quickly forming above steep slopes on these aspects and should be given a wide berth. Despite a beautiful sunny day fast moving clouds frequently reduced visibility to a few metres on the summits and the ability to navigate accurately was critical for safe travel. Full winter clothing including boots with good grip, waterproof top and bottoms, warm layers and hats and gloves are currently essential to safely explore the Lake District fells. Checking the weather forecast and carrying and knowing how and when to use a map, compass, headtorch, orange plastic survival bag and goggles is also critical. Crampons, microspikes and an ice axe will be essential for anyone attempting the Helvellyn Edges or any other exposed ground where the consequences of a slip could be very serious. Temperature: minus 1.6 C, Maximum wind speed 22.5 mph, Wind chill: minus 10.6 C, Average wind speed: 16.8 mph

.

Issued at: 03:17 on Mon 04 Mar 2024