

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 04 Dec 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 05 Dec 2021

Forecast Issued on Friday 03 Dec 2021 at 17:00

Confidence: High for increasingly settled conditions through the weekend and for a very unsettled period early next week, but lower for details of cloud and precipitation on Saturday, and from Monday due to uncertainties over the track of a series of lows close to or across the UK.

Headline for Saturday 04 Dec 2021: Occasionally heavy morning snow showers but drier afternoon. Strengthening northwesterly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 04 Dec 2021

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Cloudy	Sleet	Light snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
30%	70%	30%	50%	30%	20%	10%	<05%

Forecast for Saturday 04 Dec 2021

Weather: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, these turning increasingly to snow above about 600m. The rain and snow clears towards dawn to leave a bright start with occasional snow showers, these heavy at times and may merge, especially in the west to give a longer spell of snow, with temporary blizzard conditions over higher fells. The showers tend to die out from late morning and much of the afternoon looks dry with sunny spells. Remaining dry through the evening with clear spells. Any lying snow over higher fells like to drift or blow in the strengthening winds.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 75% at dawn and again through the afternoon but soon falling to 25% and close to zero in the west.

Visibility: Occasional cloud above 600m at first and again in afternoon, but becoming periods, perhaps persistent in west, above 450-600m for a time through the morning. Otherwise visibility very good falling to several kilometres in showers and a kilometre or less in heavy snow showers and blowing or drifting snow and near zero in temporary blizzards.

Forecast for Saturday 04 Dec 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	24/29 SW	33/41 W	31/39 W	28/36 W	34/45 NW	33/44 NW	34/45 NW	33/44 NW	35/47 N
600	19/26 SW	27/38 W	24/34 W	23/32 W	27/39 NW	24/36 NW	24/35 NW	23/33 NW	24/36 NW
300	7/19 SW	13/30 W	11/27 W	10/25 W	14/32 NW	13/30 NW	12/29 NW	11/27 NW	12/29 NW
Valley	11/26 SW	14/30 W	13/28 W	14/29 W	15/32 NW	14/30 NW	13/28 NW	13/26 NW	14/27 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	1/-6	-0/-9	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-11	-3/-12	-3/-12
600	3/-3	2/-5	1/-6	0/-6	1/-6	1/-6	-0/-7	-1/-8	-1/-8
300	5/2	4/0	3/-1	2/-2	3/-1	3/-1	2/-2	2/-3	2/-3
Valley	7/4	6/2	5/1	5/1	6/1	6/2	5/1	4/0	4/-0
Freezing Level*	1000m	900m	700m	700m	700m	700m	600m	600m	500m

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

Meteorologist's View

Increasingly significant chill effect as winds strengthen and temperatures fall at all levels. Gusts around 55mph over ridges and summits through the late afternoon and evening.

Forecast for Sunday 05 Dec 2021

Weather: Some clear spells overnight, especially in the west but generally rather cloudy, perhaps a few snow flurries over far eastern fells. Any snow flurries in the east soon clearing to leave a dry day with sunny spells, the best of these, especially through the morning, in the west. Cloud, above the summits, increases from the west through the evening.

Maximum wind: Northerly or northwesterly 30-35mph, gusts around 55mph over ridges and summits, decreasing 20mph towards midday then becoming 10mph or less by the end of the afternoon.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 40% at first in the east, otherwise close to 90% with only small amounts of cloud expected below the summits.

Visibility: Occasional or periods of cloud above 600m in the east gradually breaking and lifting through the morning. Otherwise very good visibility, perhaps falling to several kilometres in early snow flurries in east.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around plus 1 or 2 Celsius at dawn rising to 6 or 7 Celsius by day
At 800m: Around minus 3 Celsius
Freezing level: 300m in west but nearer 600m in east

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 3 December. Location: Helvellyn summit at 10:55 Full report: A slight thaw set in last night, however, remnants of ice are still holding on down to relatively low levels and require care to negotiate on many paths, especially around drainage areas. The snow level is around 850m although its distribution is quite varied, ranging from bare ground to ankle-deep drifts in a few places. Soft ice and slushy snow are present over large areas of the summit plateau and it will only take a marginal drop in temperature for this to freeze. Anyone heading into the higher fells tomorrow morning should anticipate frozen ground and slippery conditions underfoot. Microspikes and/or walking poles are very helpful in these conditions and an ice axe to arrest a slip/fall is also recommended. Full winter clothing including a hat and gloves, map and compass and a headtorch are all essential items for those venturing into the higher fells. Temperature: plus 0.8C, Maximum wind speed 27.1mph, Wind chill: minus 7.2C, Average wind speed: 24.3mph.

Issued at: 1700 on Fri 03 Dec 2021