

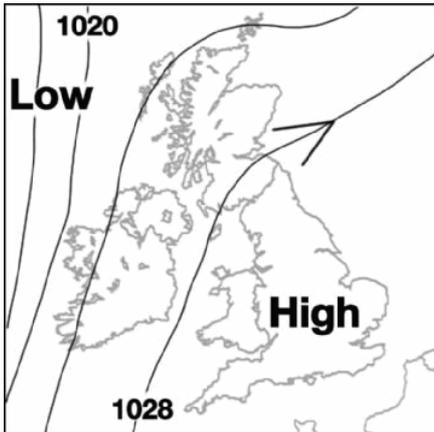
The Northwest Highlands

Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Friday, 15 January, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 January, 2021

A very transient ridge of high pressure will bring a fine day with sunshine on the hills. Fog and murk will persist many lower areas. Much mountain terrain frozen; and in some areas very icy (after the recent mix of snow and rain in sub-freezing temperatures).

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Terrain frozen. Sunshine. Later windy near the coast.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 15 January, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	West backing southerly 15mph or less after dawn. From west, then strengthening toward 30mph, risk by dusk 40mph west coastal hills.
Effect of wind on you?	Small morning. Will then deteriorate, resulting in buffeting and significant wind chill western mountains.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Precipitation not expected
Cloud on the hills?	Summits extensively cloud free Here and there patches of cloud lingering on higher slopes, particularly in corries, but overall the hills free of cloud - whilst ribbons of fog persist in some glens.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive bright sun before high level cloud progressively weakens the sun. The air very clear indeed on the mountains.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0C. Note little variation in temperature with height.
Freezing Level	Poorly defined: by midday 500 to 1050m. Much terrain frozen although some daylight thawing mainly sunlit slopes.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 16 January	Sunday 17 January
How windy? (On the Munros)	South veering westerly during morning, 40 to 50mph. There may be a temporary lull.	Westerly 30 to 40mph, very likely strongest in the afternoon.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking often difficult where exposed and wind chill significant.	Increasingly significant buffeting and wind chill where exposed on higher areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent precipitation Overnight snow will have given way to showers by soon after dawn, but for an hour or two the precipitation frequent and heavy. Level to which snow penetrates varied, mostly rain lower slopes near coast	Snow, may well become frequent Snow and hail showers, although mostly rain below 450m. Moderate to high threat of a deterioration to almost constant precipitation over 2 to 4 hours. Risk whiteout.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive; cloud base very low Cloud base will vary; initially low cloud may be confined to highest areas. Soon, as winds turn westerly, so cloud base will become typically 450 to 600m, but lower near precipitation.	Persistent across higher areas Cloud base will vary, at times as high as 650 to 850m generally highest well inland. Near precipitation will deteriorate with areas of cloud above 450m, or sometimes lower near the coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun developing eastern valleys. Frequently hazy, and visibility poor in precipitation.	A few glimpses of sun, mainly well inland. Very varied visibility; generally hazy and for periods very poor visibility in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Near 0C.	-1C
Freezing Level	Varied; new coast 1000m later 750m. Well inland 200 to 600m (where little change in temperature with height).	800m

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 16 January, 2021**

Precipitation will fall at some stage most days over the next week or more; mostly falling as snow. In Scotland, the Munros will remain almost persistently sub-freezing, whilst further south, temperatures on higher summits will fluctuate either side of freezing point.

Forecast issued at 15:19 on Thursday, 14 January, 2021

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, 2021.