

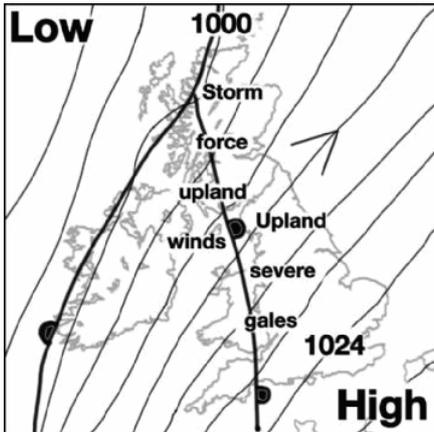
The Northwest Highlands

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 Tuesday, 23 February, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 23 February, 2021

Active fronts edging east across Britain will bring widespread severe conditions: Storm force upland winds and incessantly heavy rain (initially snow Scottish Highlands) to most western mountains. Conditions a little less severe E/S Wales and S Pennines, where little rain but gales still severe.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Storm force upland winds; snow then rain - torrential near Skye.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 23 February, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, 50 to 80mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Rapid increase of speed with height will make mobility very difficult or tortuous where exposed on higher terrain. Even on lower terrain ferocious gusts may blow you over. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain: persistent near Skye Soon deteriorating as rain extends northeast, relentless on and near Skye. Elsewhere, rain on and off, although very little in total Sutherland. Initially snow above 700m - will all turn to rain.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive higher tops. Very low near Skye. Skye and western most summits nearby: soon fog from lower slopes up. Elsewhere: cloud base lowering to 500 to 850m morning, but north from about Torridon, only fragments forming below 800m, otherwise forming only on highest tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Almost nil near Skye to 50% north of Torridon
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A few pockets of weak sun north of about Torridon. Very poor visibility near Skye; often excellent elsewhere, although will drop in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C rising to 3C. Will feel as cold as minus 17 Celsius directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	600 to 800m at first, but will rise above all summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 24 February	Thursday 25 February
How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly 40 to 50mph; strongest higher summits near the coast.	Southwest to westerly 40mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking widely difficult on higher areas and wind chill significant.	Walking widely arduous on higher areas, and at times difficult, particularly near showers.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A few showers Occasional showers, of snow above 900m, mainly near the west coast.	Snow and hail showers Succession of mostly brief showers: hail and above 500m snow.
Cloud on the hills?	Clearing many tops; but not near Skye Cloud extensively shrouding terrain above 750-900m on and near Skye. Elsewhere, by late morning, only fragments of cloud intermittently covering higher summits.	Extensively shrouding higher tops Cloud base will change quickly as showers come and go. Typically toward the coast, cloud rarely below 450m and most frequently base 800m. Well inland, cloud rare below 600m and typically 1000m, but breaking off higher tops
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60%	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of sunshine, mainly easternmost slopes and Sutherland. Good visibility although a haze (most pronounced near west coast).	Bursts of sunshine, most widely lower slopes well inland. Frequently excellent visibility, but abruptly poor in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2C	-1C
Freezing Level	1200m	800m

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 24 February, 2021**

Very much drier later this week as pressure rises markedly, initially across southern Britain. Fronts may bring occasional rain, mainly to the NW highlands (where also windy) until the weekend, but then all areas will probably become dry - and the wind dropping. Temperature wise, the Scottish Munros frequently sub-freezing, but summits elsewhere mostly above freezing point.

Forecast issued at 14:50 on Monday, 22 February, 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.