

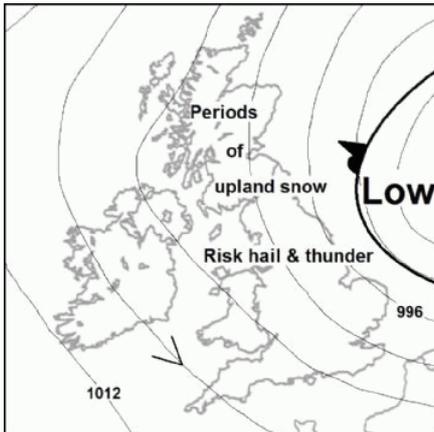
The Northwest Highlands

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, 4 May, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 4 May, 2021

Very cold; widely sub-zero on higher slopes. Gales for England & Wales in morning, lessening gradually. Areas of near-constant precipitation for a few hours, snow to low elevations at times. Heavy bursts, hail & thunder. Showers becoming scattered in the Highlands.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Very cold for May. Hail and snow showers, mostly well scattered.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 4 May, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northerly 20 to 30mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Sudden buffeting at times, mainly near precipitation. Significant wind chill on higher summits.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Hail and snow showers Areas of snow and hail showers passing southwards in the morning, becoming well scattered by middle of day, but a few showers may continue to run in from the north through afternoon into evening. Small risk isolated thunder. Fresh lying snow on some mountains, focused near Great Glen and Ben Wyvis. Icy higher terrain.
Cloud on the hills?	Breaking to many tops Shrouding higher areas fairly widely in the morning, patches below 600m in precipitation. Will tend to lift and break, clearing most summits. May come and go on Skye. Patches locally returning elsewhere in showers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% rising to 70% by afternoon.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of sunshine, most widely mainland south from Torridon. Abruptly varying visibility: the air generally very clear but very poor in precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C, locally rising a degree or so by afternoon around Kintail, but dropping quickly toward -5C in north up to dusk. Wind chill feeling as cold as -15C.
Freezing Level	500m post dawn; marginal rise through the day.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 5 May	Thursday 6 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	North or northwesterly, 20-25mph, but gusty near precipitation. Strengthening from north toward 40mph evening. Cold in exposure and noticeable gusts near showers and threat that walking will quickly become arduous evening.	North or northwesterly 20mph to sometimes 30mph, strongest west coastal hills. Remaining notably chilly where exposed on higher terrain, local sudden gusts around showers.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Hail and snow showers, some heavy Hail and snow showers throughout the day - although mostly afternoon well inland Torridon southwards. Isolated thunder. By evening, snow may set in from north for an hour or so.	Risk hail and snow setting in for a time Varied conditions through day - local clusters of showers may give frequent snow or hail for an hour or more, but also periods where generally dry for several hours. Chance isolated thunder.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Most summits intermittently clearing Cloud mostly on coastal hills, where patches above 500m (possibly extensive evening), and fairly frequently above 800m, although breaks to higher tops. Elsewhere, summits often cloud free, but near precipitation cloud forming 600m upwards. 50%	Breaks away from showers Mostly confined to higher slopes, with breaks to many summits away from showers. Patches below 700m where precipitation is frequent. 60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of sunshine. Frequently excellent or superb visibility but abruptly very poor in snow.	Occasional sun. The air very clear, but visibility very poor periodically in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-5C; rising marginally during the day, particularly well inland, to around -2C. Most terrain at least partly frozen at dawn. By early afternoon freezing level typically 600 to 750m, lowest near the coast.	-2C, rising toward 0C inland by afternoon. Frost widely from dawn away from coasts. Rising to 800 to 900m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 5 May, 2021**

Staying remarkably cold for early May, quite possibly into next week in Scotland, whilst some milder air is likely to move across England & Wales from the south by this weekend. Freezing levels often near 900m, and widely frosty lower areas overnight. Areas of hail and snow showers, some heavy with thunder, most widespread in the afternoons.

Another deep Atlantic low is due to move in from the southwest toward the weekend - a threat of widespread upland gales, heavy rain, and further snow some areas.

Forecast issued at 16:50 on Monday, 3 May, 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.