

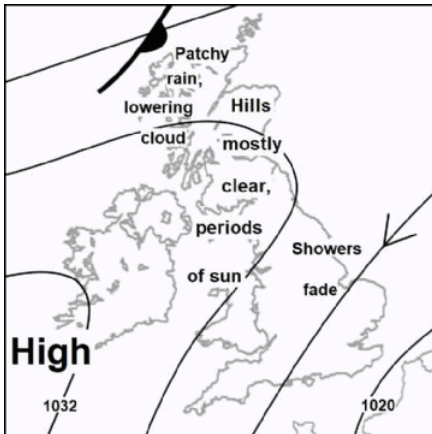
The Northwest Highlands

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, 21 November, 2023



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 21 November, 2023

Many places dry during the day with some sun. Light winds in morning for the Highlands, but will increase, gales into evening. Cloud thickening ahead of a warm front, some patchy rain developing for NW Scotland. Brief showers for eastern Pennines fade. Windy for England and Wales in morning.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Wind increasing, gales later. Rain and drizzle moves in west.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 21 November, 2023

How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly 15 to 20mph by midday, then increasing to 20 to 30mph in afternoon, perhaps 40mph west coast later.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small at first, then increasingly very blustery in afternoon, considerable wind chill. Perhaps arduous west coast later.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain developing in west. Dry start under a transient ridge of high pressure. A weak warm front brings some patchy rain onto western mountains into middle of day and afternoon, drizzle filling in on most western hills. Little further east.
Cloud on the hills?	Low cloud, lifting and clearing for a time. Areas of low cloud from dawn, some hills clear or between cloud layers. Low cloud mostly clearing for a time, before lowering again towards the west coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%, lowering to 30% west coast later.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A little weak sun for a time, but soon overcast as increasingly cloud layers move in from the west. Visibility good, but murky west coast later.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1C lifting to 3C by midday
Freezing Level	1000m, lifting above the tops by midday.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 22 November	Thursday 23 November
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly 60 to 80mph; considerable increase of speed with height; likely increasing during day and into night. Challenging conditions and significant wind chill at mid elevations; severe conditions higher up, any mobility very difficult.	West later northwesterly, 60 to 80mph from overnight into the daytime, only gradually easing toward 40-50mph. Ongoing very difficult conditions and significant wind chill from mid-heights upward much of day. Severe on tops.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Prolonged heavy rain west Incessant heavy rain over western mountains, focused on Skye and Torridon area. Intensity may ease in far north for a time. Least amounts furthest east, but rain almost constant in the wind. Streams in spate.	Heavy rain then snow showers Heavy rain continuing from overnight into morning. Likely to fade, turning to snow on the Munros as it eases. Then showers follow, increasingly falling as snow, later below 600m, possible hail. Streams in spate, risk flooding.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Blanket low cloud over western mountains, from lower slopes upward near coast. Higher bases further inland, locally some breaks possible near Moray Firth.	Extensive, cloud base rising Shrouding the mountains extensively during rain. Bases rising with time, but likely to persist over western tops. Some breaks forming, mainly eastern hills. Will then vary in and out of showers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little if any sun, glimpses possible toward east. Hazy, poor visibility due to rain.	Overcast, hazy. Then glimpses of sun developing, visibility improving away from showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C. Wind chill feels near -10C on tops. Above the summits.	As high as 5C at first, dropping during day toward 0C, likely sub-zero later. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C. Initially above the summits, but likely to lower - timing uncertain - possibly to 800m in north by afternoon, 600m into night.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 22 November, 2023

Wednesday into Thursday brings widespread gale force westerly winds over the mountains - increasingly severe. Very wet for western Scotland, particularly in northwest. Smaller amounts of rain further south and east. Colder air moves in from the northwest later Thursday into Friday, dipping below freezing on most high tops of Britain, showers with hail and snow falling to lower elevations in Scotland. Likely to stay chilly into the weekend, sub-zero on tops plus frost overnight into valleys and glens. Some local upland snowfalls possible, although high pressure nearby is likely to bring a fair amount of dry and bright weather plus wind speeds tending to ease.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Monday, 20 November, 2023

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, 2023.