

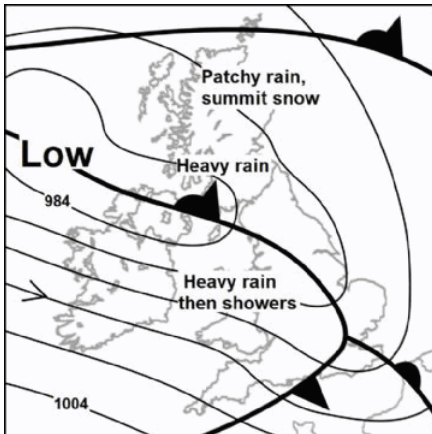
# The Northwest Highlands

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 Saturday, 9 December, 2023



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 9 December, 2023**

Patchy rain and snow on higher Scottish tops push north over the Highlands. Heavy rain sets in across south & central Scotland. Heavy rain moves across England and Wales in the morning, followed by showers. Varied winds, fairly light much of Scotland, but increasing upland gales for England, severe for Wales.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Occasional summit snow and rain. Varied winds and cloud.

## Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 9 December, 2023

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Southeasterly or variable 15 to 25mph, local lulls. Possibly 30-40mph far north at first.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Fairly small most areas during daytime.
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Local rain and snow on tops</b> Patchy rain and upland snow on the Munros from dawn, locally fairly persistent into the morning, but tending to fade out. More often dry near to west coast.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Fairly extensive</b> Some breaks toward the west coast where tops intermittently clear. As precipitation moves in, cloud will descend and becoming fairly extensive on the hills.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Little if any sun. Visibility good at times, but poor in precipitation, very poor summit snow.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	3C later lowering to 1C. Feeling like -5C if exposed to breeze.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Near or just above freezing on highest tops, lowering to 1000m later in the day. Lying snow on higher terrain, icy in places.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 10 December	Monday 11 December
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	South to southeasterly, 15 to 30mph, speeds varied during day, locally gustier near west coastal summits. <b>Often fairly small, but may start to affect comfortable walking on some exposed western tops for periods.</b>	Easterly or variable, 20 to 30mph, likely strongest toward the far north. Speeds may be often less near Kintail. <b>Blustery and considerable wind chill on some higher areas, especially in the north. Locally smaller effects.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Occasional rain, summit sleet</b> Risk of rain on and off, pushing north across the region over a few hours, local heavier bursts possible, but some places toward north seeing very little. Sleet or wet snow on higher tops.	<b>Patchy snow on tops</b> Areas of showers, snow above 800m, greatest risk toward north and east, may be frequent precipitation in places. Likely drier around Skye and Torridon, but risk some showers on and off, mostly rain.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Covering many tops, local breaks</b> Varied banks of cloud, fairly extensive over upper slopes, especially around Skye. Some breaks between cloud banks in places inland. Best breaks likely toward far north.	<b>Often covering many tops</b> Varied banks of cloud around higher slopes, most persistent where rain or snow occurs. Some breaks to upper slopes, mainly if sheltered in western areas.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of weak sun through high cloud, mostly overcast. Visibility good away from rain, but reduced for periods.	Fairly cloudy, glimpses of sun. Visibility good in places, but reduced to poor if in snow.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	1 or 2C, dipping to 0C or below later. Wind chill feeling like -5C or colder if wind increases. Just above freezing point to many tops, but higher terrain at least part-frozen, varied snow cover. Tending to drop to	1 to 3C, highest on Skye. If exposed to wind, feeling like -5C, risk locally -10C on tops. 900-1000m inland & north, or just above freezing to tops near west coast and Skye. Local frost pockets inland glens at dawn.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 10 December, 2023

Areas of low pressure dominate into the weekend and early next week bringing unsettled conditions as a series of fronts circulate over Britain. Periods of heavy rain, with snow over higher mountains in Scotland as tops stay near or just below freezing point. Some freeze-thaw higher up, but mid-heights generally above freezing - very wet underfoot due to rain and snowmelt, beware flooding of streams and rivers. Most tops in England and Wales above freezing with terrain not frozen apart from local snow pockets. Generally windy, gales or severe gales at times over the tops - strongest speeds most sustained for England and Wales. Least windy in northern Scotland.

### Forecast issued at 16:30 on Friday, 8 December, 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.