

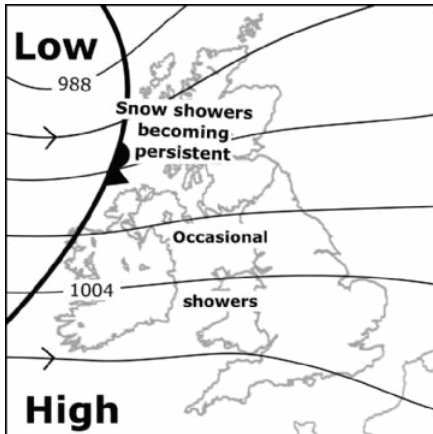
The Northwest Highlands

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.)



[Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding](#)
 Visit www.skyebasecamp.co.uk to book your stay

General Summary for Monday, 12 February, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 12 February, 2024

Southwesterly winds strengthening to be widely upland gales, severe toward evening. Sub-zero all higher tops. Showers spreading inland from west coast of Scotland falling as snow to modest elevations, becoming more persistent snowfall. Scattered showers western England & Wales, more frequent later.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Wind increasing, gales developing. Snow and hail focused west.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 12 February, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly 25 to 40mph, speeds increasing with time, strongest near Skye to Kintail, 50mph into afternoon, 60mph toward dusk; squally gusts. More widely 50-60mph+ into night.
Effect of wind on you?	Blustery over western mountains, affecting comfortable walking, buffeting where exposed, becoming arduous; later gusts may knock you over. Wind chill increasingly significant.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow and hail Skye to Kintail; isolated lightning. Clusters of heavy showers focused on Skye, Torridon and Kintail, often snow to lower elevations, merging into near-constant precipitation for periods. Risk isolated thunder & lightning. More often dry much of Sutherland. Snow and hail showers remain frequent after dark in west.
Cloud on the hills?	Often covering tops, lowest near Skye Cloud bases varied, but often covering higher terrain, most persistent near to west coast from Wester Ross southward. Shafts of cloud to mid-slopes in showers. Fleeting breaks higher up across Sutherland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare bursts of sun. Visibility briefly good, but appalling when in snow and cloud; whiteout locally.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2 or -3C. Wind chill feeling like -15C or later nearer -20C as wind increases on western tops.
Freezing Level	500 to 700m, varied but lowering where heavier precipitation sets in for western areas, below 400m inland around Kintail.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 13 February	Wednesday 14 February
<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Southwesterly 45 to 60mph, risk 70mph for a time toward north in the morning; tending to lessen during afternoon.</p> <p>Difficult conditions and severe wind chill likely well into the daytime. Conditions moderating during afternoon.</p>	<p>Low confidence of forecast details: Risk east-southeasterly, perhaps 30mph, but may well be variable low speeds.</p> <p>More likely small. Possibly blustery and gusty around some mountains.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Showers in west, snow on tops</p> <p>Showers mostly near to west coast, falling as snow above 600-800m, also hail. Becoming fewer and less heavy with time. Chance of isolated lightning near coast in northern areas.</p>	<p>Isolated showers</p> <p>One or two showers near to coasts. Chance of snow flurries pushing up from the south.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Often covering tops</p> <p>Capping western tops most or all day, lowest around showers. Likely to come and go on many higher tops. Breaks in east and developing over many northern areas.</p> <p>30%</p>	<p>May be very little</p> <p>Much cloud above the hills apart from local patches. Fog banks possible around some glens. Lower risk of lowering cloud extending in from the south.</p> <p>70%</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>A little sun mostly in east. Visibility intermittently good, but very poor in showers, whiteout if in snow and cloud.</p>	<p>Variable high cloud, some weak sun. Visibility mostly very good, locally misty in glens.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-2C up to 0C. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -20C in morning, perhaps all day in north.</p> <p>700 to 900m, lowest inland and in showers; rising slightly during daytime.</p>	<p>0 or -1C, up to +1C Skye. Feeling colder if wind increases.</p> <p>Around 800m, or likely higher on Skye. Frost in some glens after dawn.</p>

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 13 February, 2024

A mixed week ahead as areas of low pressure rotate in from the southwest bringing spells of rain of hill snow and sometimes showers. Least precipitation typically for the Cairngorms. Higher pressure to the north of Scotland by midweek may then become more extensive for a time by next weekend, allowing some drier conditions. Wind speed and direction very variable, often west or southwesterly, but easterly for time during midweek for Scotland; lulls mixed with spells up to gale force on higher areas. Scottish mountains generally staying sub-zero, maintaining snow coverage widely here during the week ahead. High tops in England & Wales lifting above freezing point by midweek for a time.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Sunday, 11 February, 2024

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, 2024.