

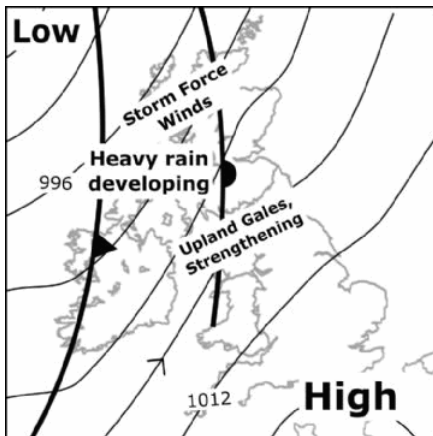
The Northwest Highlands

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 Friday, 18 October, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 18 October, 2024

Southerly winds strengthening for all regions, widely upland gales, reaching storm-force on higher Scottish mountains. Rain extending in from the west becoming persistent, heavier over west and southwest Scotland. Lowest cloud on south-facing hills.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Storm-force winds soon developing. Rain moving in from west.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 18 October, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, starting 45mph; deteriorating from west during morning to become 55 to 70mph on tops widely; stronger gusts over higher tops, particularly near west coast.
Effect of wind on you?	Difficult conditions: wind chill soon severe and walking sometimes hardly possible on exposed paths; you could be blown over.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain developing; heavy near Skye Morning: Little if any rain, but toward Skye drizzly rain becoming more persistent rain by late morning. Afternoon: Heavy rain Skye and nearby mainland (to Glenelg and Kintail); elsewhere, rain on and off; north from Torridon mostly only 'spots in the wind'.
Cloud on the hills?	Progressively more extensive, lowest Skye West from the Cuillin: Cloud very likely covering hills, often from lower slopes up, most or all day. Elsewhere: cloud base in range 750 to 1000m, tending to drop late in day as rain sets in.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% lowering to 30% north; but 10% Skye
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some sun toward the east and north in the morning, weak due to upper cloud; dull along western coastal hills. Visibility becoming poor.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6 to 9C, warmest in the far north. Wind chill feeling well below freezing.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 19 October	Sunday 20 October
<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>South-southwesterly 25mph but 30 or occasionally 35mph Skye and summits closest coast. Strengthening into night.</p> <p>Likely to impede ease of walking, particularly near showers. Near the coast walking sometimes arduous and wind chill marked.</p>	<p>Southerly, 45 to 60mph most of the day, but at times intensifying to 65-70mph especially on western coastal hills.</p> <p>Severe conditions, walking hardly possible on higher terrain but arduous even lower down. Significant wind chill.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Showery</p> <p>Showers throughout the day, although very few Ben Wyvis and summits adjacent to the Great Glen.</p>	<p>Rain, heaviest west</p> <p>Persistent rain on all hills, heavy much of the day, especially on Cuillin. Some breaks in the rain northward across Sutherland. Later clusters of heavy showers over western mountains. Chance for isolated thunder.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p>	<p>Mostly confined to higher summits; lowest cloud along the coast.</p> <p>Broadly cloud base varying between temporarily below 500m and mostly 700m on the coast.</p> <p>Elsewhere as cloud base rises, by midday occasionally 600m, but mostly 800 to 1000m.</p>	<p>Fairly extensive</p> <p>Often shrouding most higher areas, most persistent and lowest bases on and nearest to Skye, may lift a little through the day, but lowering again in showers. Best breaks toward tops north of Assynt.</p>
<p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>50%, but 10% close to the coast</p>	<p>30%</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Bursts of sun - most sun inland Sutherland, Ben Wyvis to near Great Glen.</p> <p>Generally hazy; poor visibility in heavier showers.</p>	<p>Overcast: glimpses of sun mainly afternoon. A general haze, visibility poor in constant rain.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>5C.</p> <p>Will feel colder than freezing point directly in the wind.</p> <p>Above the summits.</p>	<p>4C, tending to lower in afternoon.</p> <p>Feeling close to -10C directly in the wind.</p> <p>Above the summits</p>

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 19 October, 2024

South to southwesterly winds will prevail through the weekend and early next week with centres of low pressure passing northwest of Scotland. Unsettled and windy, upland gales or at times stormy over the mountains. Periods of rain, heaviest and most persistent over western mountains. Temperatures will fluctuate, often fairly mild, some cooler days at least for Scotland, but staying above freezing to highest tops, so no remaining lying snow. Into midweek, higher pressure over England and Wales gives some drier conditions here. Subtle pattern changes later in the week may alter the prevailing wind direction, but low pressure nearby maintains an unsettled outlook.

Forecast issued at 15:48 on Thursday, 17 October, 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.