

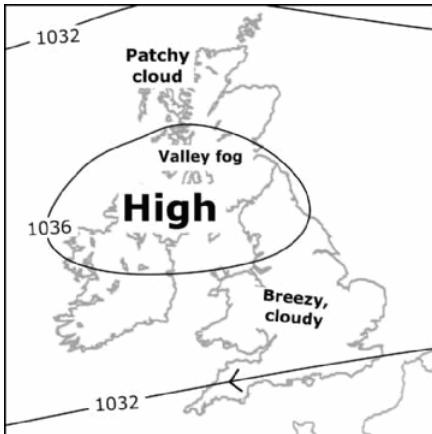
The Northwest Highlands

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 Wednesday, 11 December, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 December, 2024

Sunshine and little wind for Scotland, some areas of low-level fog; extensive snow cover over the mountains. Above an inversion, air temperature on tops above freezing, but hard frost into the glens. A chilly easterly breeze for England and Wales; sunshine best near west coasts, cloudier eastwards.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Light wind. Some coastal cloud, otherwise sunny above inversion.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 11 December, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable 5-10mph or less most areas. Westerly in far north, 10-15mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly negligible
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Largely dry A little fine drizzle may drift onto coastal slopes in the far northwest mainly morning.
Cloud on the hills?	Cloud banks some coastal hills, tops clear Patchy low cloud drifting onto some lower and mid slopes near to west & north coast, locally clinging around a few corries, but higher tops likely above cloud. Many areas inland and south toward Great Glen clear all day.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70% coasts; 90% inland.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy cloud and mist locally near to west coast and far north. Many mountains sunny with excellent visibility. Thin high cloud may cover the sky northern areas.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6C (lower slopes inland colder).
Freezing Level	Above the summits, but terrain widely at least partly frozen, with frost in many glens away from the coast.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 12 December	Friday 13 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 10-15mph inland, to 20-25mph Cuillin and a few mountains near west coast elsewhere, local gusts Mostly small, but breezier on some western slopes, gusty in places.	Southwesterly 15 to 25mph, locally gusty 30mph mountains near west coast. Fairly small, but marked wind chill on higher terrain, may affect balance on exposed ridges in west.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Largely dry Possible fine drizzle on some slopes toward western coasts if in cloud.	Occasional light snow or rain Damp air where in cloud. Patchy drizzle or snow flurries on higher slopes, mostly western hills.
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly on and near Skye Banks of cloud on some slopes around Skye and nearby west coast, but higher mountains may still poke out above this layer. Further inland, fog mostly in glens.	Extensive western hills Shrouding the mountains with banks of cloud possible at various elevations, but covering many west coastal areas to lower slopes. Less chance of high tops emerging out of cloud, but some local breaks in east.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% around Skye; 80% elsewhere.	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine fairly widespread and visibility excellent on higher terrain, above fog in places; possibly thin high cloud.	Glimpses of weak sun and good visibility mainly east. Misty many western areas.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C (lower slopes inland colder). Above the summits, but terrain stays at least partly frozen, frost in many glens away from the coast.	Around 0C. Varied, typically 800 to 1000m, but many glens away from the coast remaining at least partly frozen.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 12 December, 2024**

High pressure weakens beyond midweek, allowing fog banks to drift higher up on the hills, local pockets of drizzle forming. As the inversion situation fades, temperatures will fall back to freezing on higher terrain by Friday and Saturday; some snow flurries as northwesterly winds develop. Stronger westerly winds by Sunday, severe gales likely at least on Scottish mountains. Milder for a few days Sunday into early next week with thawing, rain focused on western Scotland, low cloud widely on western hills. Varied temperatures later next week, but greater uncertainty of weather detail by then. Indications favour higher pressure returning toward the Christmas period.

Forecast issued at 15:45 on Tuesday, 10 December, 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.