

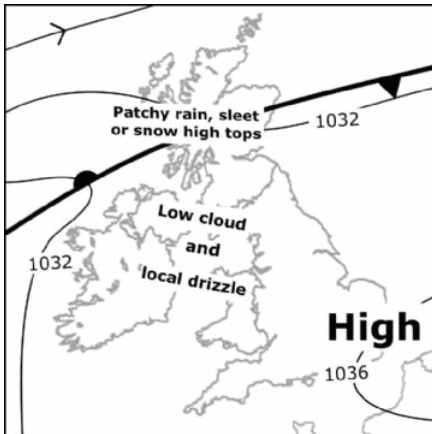
The Northwest Highlands

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 Thursday, 26 December, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 26 December, 2024

A front extending across Scotland brings mostly light rain, or toward the north sleet and wet snow on Munros. The far north likely drier and clearer. Variable southwesterly winds, gusty in places, but locally low speeds through the Highlands. England & Wales mild with low cloud and a little drizzle in the west.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

A little rain, lowest cloud west; clearer north/east. Chilly wind.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 26 December, 2024

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Southwesterly 20 to 25mph, up to 30-35mph northernmost areas in the morning. Tending to ease a little - around Skye to Great Glen may become variable 10-15mph or less afternoon onward.</p> <p>Blustery with considerable wind chill in the morning, locally more arduous for a time tops in far north. Becoming fairly small from the south during the day.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Rain patches southwest, drier north/east</p> <p>Rain on and off Skye and nearby coastal mountains. Drizzly showers likely to come and go on most west-facing slopes. Sleet or snow above 800-900m in morning, turning wetter. Drier conditions on northeastern hills.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Often covering many tops, clearing for periods in far north.</p> <p>Bases at or near 700m, possibly lower during rain, most persistent Skye to Kintail; though occasionally rising. Far north may see periods where bases rise above the hills.</p> <p>10%, to 50% in the north</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Mostly overcast though the far north may see breaks in clouds allowing sunshine. Visibility poor in rain, good during drier periods.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>0 to +1C. Wind chill feeling as cold as -10C in north.</p> <p>900 to 1000m, lowest in morning Skye to Wester Ross; tending to rise higher during the day near to Great Glen.</p>

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 27 December	Saturday 28 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25 to 35mph, at times 40mph over exposed higher summits. Blustery over higher terrain, affecting balance where exposed on ridges and summits; marked wind chill on tops.	West to southwesterly, 30 to 50mph, strongest north; may vary during day, then likely to strengthen further into night. Frequent buffeting over higher terrain, arduous walking in places where exposed. Considerable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Often raining western hills Rain and drizzle most persistent over western mountains, later may become heavier around Skye. Patchier rain toward north and east.	Showery rain and summit snow Frequent rain in west, snow falling on the Munros, possible hail in heavier showers near west coast. Drier toward Moray Firth.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, lowest west Covering hills around Skye and Torridon often from mid to lower slopes upward. Extensive up the west coast if rain persists widely. Higher bases further eastwards, but rarely above 900m.	Often covering western tops Cloud base varying, but often capping tops above 800m, forming to 600m in rain. Some higher breaks mainly east.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and dull, poor visibility in rain in west. Locally brighter eastwards, glimpses of sun and good visibility.	Brief glimpses of sun mainly east. Visibility good when dry, but poor in showers, very poor if in snow on tops.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2 to 4C. Feeling like -8C where exposed to wind. Near 1000m at dawn, but soon likely rising above all summits during day.	1 or 2C. Wind chill feeling like -10C on tops. Close to freezing on highest summits, may drop to 1000m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 27 December, 2024

Mild southwesterlies for the rest of this week with little if any remaining lying snow on the mountains. Cooler by the weekend - near to freezing over the Munros on Saturday, then colder in northern Scotland by Sunday. A mix of rain and high-level snowfall (in Scotland), most frequent precipitation in western Scotland, heavy at times. Through the New Year period, generally unsettled with areas of low pressure bringing more widespread precipitation and spells of gales, but likely becoming colder for all with upland snow more widely.

Forecast issued at 14:00 on Wednesday, 25 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.