

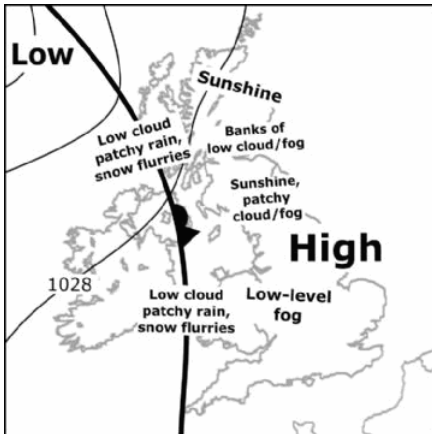
The Northwest Highlands

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, 11 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 January, 2025

Patchy snow flurries or light rain near western coasts slowly pushing inland, along with low cloud. High cloud thickening ahead of this. Local fog or banks of low cloud inland, some high tops above fog; sunshine best toward northeast Scotland. Increasing southerly wind.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gusty wind Skye; local flurries & low cloud. Sunshine northeast.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 11 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 15-20mph inland and eastern hills, strengthening a little; 25mph in the west at times gusts 35mph into middle of day on Cuillin ridge.
Effect of wind on you?	Significant wind chill particularly western mountains. Ease of walking starting to be impeded, affecting balance on exposed ridges, some buffeting mainly on Skye.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzle or local snow flurries west Patchy drizzle, snow flurries or refrozen light rain drops encroaching onto coastal areas around Skye. Most likely dry elsewhere, but locally a few snowflakes falling from high cloud.
Cloud on the hills?	Few clouds, may lower near Skye Cloud free most of the day, particularly northern areas. Patchy cloud around some corries. Some low cloud reaching south-facing mountains around Skye, perhaps filling in to some lower elevations if precipitation develops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	90%, risk dropping to 30% Skye.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly sunny at first, giving way as high cloud thickens from southwest, becoming overcast around Skye. Excellent visibility, but moderate or poor in precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C, to -1C nearer west coast, rising slowly, nearer 0C afternoon, or +1C on Skye up to dusk. Slight rise after dark. Feeling around -10C with wind chill.
Freezing Level	All terrain frozen. Freezing level becoming poorly defined, but a general rise, likely lifting above freezing to some tops in west.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 12 January	Monday 13 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 35mph, rising to near 60mph in west. Turbulent and gusty in places to lower slopes. Walking strenuous, forward progress becoming difficult. Gusts likely will blow you over. Severe wind chill.	Southwesterly 50 to 70mph, at times stronger on higher mountains. Difficult walking conditions across the hills, severe in exposure higher up. Significant wind chill despite milder air.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain and drizzle most persistent west Frequent drizzly rain near Skye and Torridon, often on west-facing slopes elsewhere as well. Risk of heavier rain occasionally.	Rain likely all day, heavy west Rain incessant and heavy for periods over western mountains. Smaller amounts eastwards, but frequently raining. Very wet underfoot as snow melts.
Cloud on the hills?	Lowest and most extensive west Cloud down to lowest slopes near Skye, often on most southwest-facing slopes as well. Shrouding higher areas most of day. Moments of clearing on leeward slopes.	Extensive Shrouding the mountains all day, to lower slopes near west coast, higher bases further east, rarely above 700m. Possibly rising bases from the north later.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly shrouded, though occasional clearing and weak sun on leeward slopes. Visibility mostly poor.	No sunshine. Visibility very poor.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	3C. Areas in the northeast may be a few degrees warmer. Feeling as cold as -12C with wind chill. Lifting above freezing to tops. Much terrain remains frozen but beginning to thaw. Sheltered corries stay frozen.	5C, locally warmer some eastern slopes. In the wind, feeling as cold as -10C. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 12 January, 2025

Terrain still widely frozen and snow covered this weekend, but by Sunday the air temperature lifting above freezing at all elevations - a thaw commencing, more rapid into Monday with some heavy rain in the west. A much milder week ahead, highest Scottish tops only rarely close to freezing point. Southwesterly winds frequently gale force over the Highlands, bringing low cloud particularly to western mountains and occasional rain. High pressure over England & Wales brings quieter conditions here much of the week, some low-level cloud and fog. Changeable west-southwesterlies likely prevail into second half of January, with cycles of freeze and thaw and risk of more frequent precipitation.

Forecast issued at 15:45 on Friday, 10 January, 2025

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, 2025.