

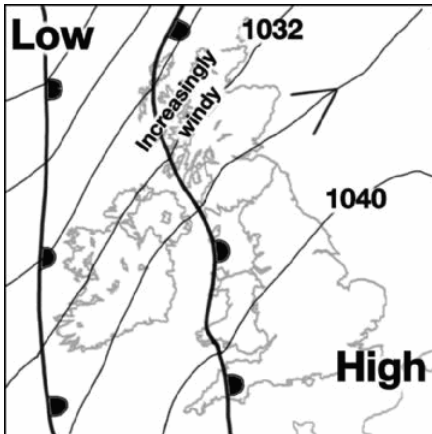
The Northwest Highlands

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 Sunday, 12 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 12 January, 2025

A change beginning as Atlantic air percolates very slowly inland. However, most terrain will be frozen and in some areas will become increasing icy. Although widely fairly light wind, will slowly strengthen, but approach gale force in upland NW Scotland.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Increasingly windy. Slow thaw beginning in some areas.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 12 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, strengthening through morning to 25-35mph, strongest near the coast where by dusk 45mph. In places sudden gusts to lower slopes.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking increasingly strenuous, particularly near coast where forward progress becoming difficult. Gusts could blow you over - possibly even on lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Isolated if any precipitation Small risk of a little rain on the coast and possibly easternmost areas near Ben Wyvis (where more likely to be flurries of snow).
Cloud on the hills?	Forming on some slopes, but most mountains cloud free. Pockets of fog valleys and lower slopes here and there morning, mainly eastern hills north from Ben Wyvis. Risk Skye extensive cloud above 450 to 750m (confidence low).
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%, but 20% Skye
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive sunshine, although sometimes weak due to high level cloud. Patches fog valleys and some lower slopes, but extensively visibility excellent or superb.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Varied; 0 to -3C, and much colder lower slopes. Through day in the wind, rising to just above freezing point, but 4C near Skye. Feeling as cold as -12C due to wind chill.
Freezing Level	No defined freezing level. Nearly all terrain frozen but beginning to thaw areas exposed to the wind, mainly near Skye. Some slopes increasingly icy.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 13 January	Tuesday 14 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly; very marked increase with height to 50 to 75mph. Difficult walking conditions extensively, in places any mobility difficult. Severe wind chill.	West to southwesterly; marked increase of speed with height to 40 or perhaps 50mph on some higher areas. Expect considerable buffeting and wind chill on higher areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain likely all day, heavy west Rain incessant and heavy for periods over western mountains south from Wester Ross. Smaller amounts eastwards, but frequently raining. Very wet underfoot as snow melts.	Occasional rain: mainly western hills Rain and drizzle from time to time, mainly within 10 miles or so of the general lie of the west coast. Substantially dry elsewhere□.
Cloud on the hills?	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.	Covering the mountains all day - persistent lower slopes near coast Persistent fog from or below 300m shrouding coastal hills; with the base rising slowly inland. On easternmost summits most cloud above 600-750m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	Less than 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	No sunshine. Visibility very poor.	Rare pockets of sunshine valleys well inland. Persistent haze.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C, locally warmer some eastern slopes. In the wind, feeling as cold as -10C. Above the summits - although terrain still extensively frozen and icy.	4 to 6C. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 13 January, 2025**

Thaw of most lying snow through the coming week as very mild air persistently arrives from off the Atlantic. Winds often fairly light Wales, but windier progressively northwards with frequent upland gales Scottish Highlands. Drizzle and rain now and again, but apart from in W Scotland (mainly NW Highlands) total rainfall will be small.

Forecast issued at 13:11 on Saturday, 11 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.