

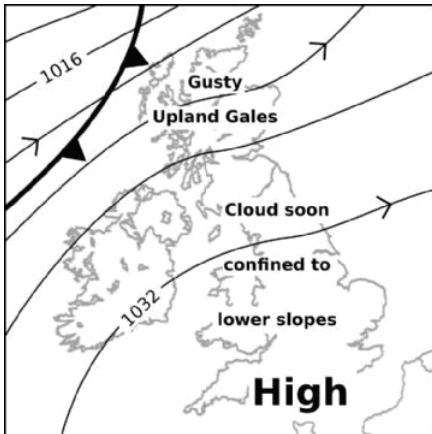
The Northwest Highlands

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.)



[Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding](#)
 Visit www.skyebasecamp.co.uk to book your stay

General Summary for Wednesday, 15 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 January, 2025

Strong upland gales and powerful gusts over the Highlands; wind getting increasingly lighter further south. Extensive cloud possible in the morning but will very soon be confined to the lower slopes and many summits will be cloud free and dry. Superb visibility on high ground, above haze layer. Feeling mild, especially where wind is light.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Strong upland gales and gusts. Extensive low cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 15 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly widely 55mph on higher exposed areas; may reach 60mph or above near west coast. Sudden gusts on some lower slopes.
Effect of wind on you?	Marked strengthening with height will lead to difficult walking and significant wind chill where exposed.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain, probably only near west coast Drizzly rain near west coast. May become persistent at times and extend perhaps 10 or 20 miles inland from the general lie of the west coast, most likely in the morning.
Cloud on the hills?	Inversion on higher summits; little cloud near Ben Wyvis Extensive low cloud near the west coast for much of the day, with the top of the cloud deck around 700 to 800m. The cloud deck may rise towards evening and envelop the summits. Much higher and broken cloud base towards Ben Wyvis.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% near west coast and Skye; 70% elsewhere
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy and very hazy near west coast; superb visibility if above clouds. Further east, widespread weak sunshine possible; still some haze on lower slopes but very clear near the summits.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Varied: mostly between 5 and 8C but perhaps 3C near Skye. Will feel as cold as minus 10C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits with continued thaw of snow and still partly frozen terrain.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 16 January	Friday 17 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southwesterly; strengthening markedly with height to 45mph, to locally 60mph near the coast. Difficult walking conditions and severe wind chill, particularly near the coast. Expect considerable buffeting in powerful gusts.	Southwesterly 60 to 70mph, probably strongest in the morning. Very gusty on down slopes. Mobility incredibly difficult where exposed to the full strength of the wind. Downslope gusts may easily blow you over at times. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain not expected	Rain and drizzle on and off Rain and drizzle on and off through the day, most often on Skye. Will be most persistent near the west coast with very little, if any, reaching Ben Wyvis.
Cloud on the hills?	Nearly all summits cloud free - low cloud may cover at least part of Skye Mountains cloud free, but on Skye (perhaps only north Skye), and immediate west coast, there may be areas of cloud from lowest slopes up with the top of the cloud between 750 and 900m.	Extensive Cloud will shroud summits from lower slopes up near the west coast. Cloud base rising progressively to the east and on Ben Wyvis will be around 600m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive bright sunshine and superb visibility; perhaps dull and misty Skye.	Little or no sunshine. Very poor visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	8C, but 4C where in cloud on Skye. Will feel as cold as minus 10C directly in the wind. Above the summits.	7C. Feeling as cold as -10C in the wind. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 16 January, 2025**

Persistent thaw through the week as very mild air arrives from the southwest and later south. There will be a little drizzly rain near the west coasts - possibly wetter in some areas from the weekend. However, from time to time, mountains, most frequently in England and Wales will clear (sometimes above fog on lower slopes). Winds sometimes fairly light, particularly Wales, but windier progressively northwards with periods of upland gales Scottish Highlands.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 14 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.