

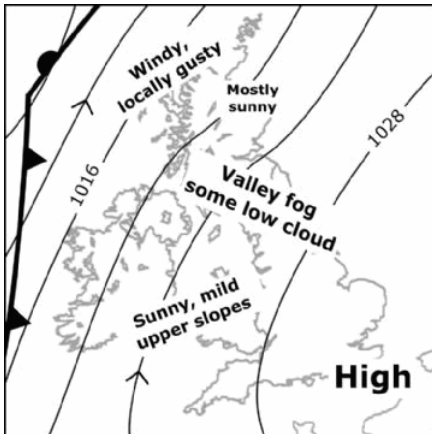
# The Northwest Highlands

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](http://www.skyebasecamp.co.uk) to book your stay

## General Summary for Saturday, 18 January, 2025



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 18 January, 2025

Southerly winds strongest toward northwest Scotland, locally very gusty. A fine day overall, with plentiful sunshine across the tops, in places above an inversion with banks of low cloud and fog on lower and some mid-elevation slopes, mostly on south-facing hills.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gusty, gales in places. Sunshine, cloud banks near Skye.

## Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 18 January, 2025

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Gusty southwesterly 30 to 45mph, up to 55mph near dawn. Some variation up and down through the day.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Your balance will be affected on high ground. Beware gusts throwing you further off balance on downslopes. Significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Not expected</b>
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Very little if any on high ground</b> Some low clouds on windward hills of Skye and near Loch Carron.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>70% Skye, 90% elsewhere</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine, possibly weakened by high cloud. Excellent visibility becoming superb on high ground. Hazy over the North Minch.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	2 to 4C. Chance of being warmer on the highest summits if inversion level lowers. Feeling around -10C in the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Above the summits.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 19 January	Monday 20 January
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Southerly 15-25mph. Up to 35mph near Skye. Some regions relatively calm in the far north away from west coast. <b>Walking starting to be impeded, balance and stability affected close to Skye.</b>	West-southwesterly 30-35mph. Windiest in the far north, up to 40mph. <b>Walking impeded, sometimes strenuous. Highest winds affecting balance. Significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Drizzle spells on Skye becoming frequent</b> Drizzly spells on south-facing slopes of Skye becoming frequent. Some light drizzle spells possible inland later.	<b>Rainy west coast, some spells inland</b> Rain will be common along the west coast. Occasional bands of light rain may slip eastward across most areas. May fall as sleet on very highest summits.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Low fog/cloud banks, clear higher</b>  Persistent fog/low clouds on south-facing slopes near Skye. Some fog may linger in the valleys and glens inland, though hills will be mostly clear, particularly north and east.	<b>Cloudy west, frequent clearing east</b>  Mountains along the west coast regularly shrouded to highest tops. Occasional moments of clearing the far north, more often inland.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>80%, 20% Skye</b>	<b>20% west coast, 60% inland/east</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Widely sunny above fog/cloud banks, occasional mid- or high-level clouds. Excellent visibility.	Intermittent sun away from the west coast. Visibility poor on the coast, good inland.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	2C near Skye, 4C northward. Feeling a few degrees warmer on sunny mountain tops.  Above the summits	2C, some warmer patches on hills near Loch Shin. Feeling like -10C in the wind. Just above freezing on highest summits

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 19 January, 2025

Slow changes in the days ahead as high pressure to the southeast slowly fades and allows weak fronts to make inroads from the west. Small amounts of precipitation until later next week - patchy drizzle in places, locally snow flurries developing as temperature falls slowly. South to southeasterly winds prevailing, locally very gusty, bringing areas of low cloud or fog - at times higher slopes clear above the cloud. Sunniest overall toward north of major hill groups. Deeper areas of low pressure over the Atlantic are expected toward late January, bringing a risk of more frequent precipitation and periods of gales or possibly stormy winds at times; fluctuating temperatures and freeze-thaw cycles.

### Forecast issued at 16:30 on Friday, 17 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.