

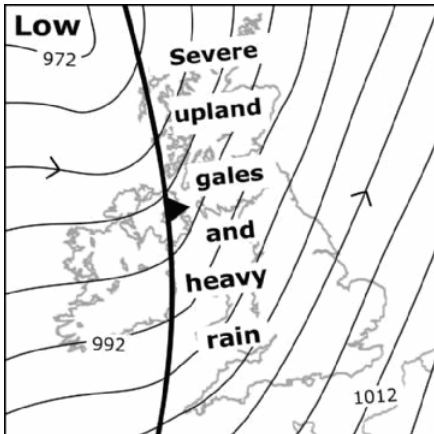
The Northwest Highlands

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 Friday, 21 February, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 21 February, 2025

Severe conditions over the mountains, storm-force winds most of daylight. Wet all day most areas, heaviest rain on south-facing hill groups, risk of local flooding. Least rain toward far north of the Highlands. Cloud shrouding the hills widely. Well above freezing with an ongoing thaw.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Stormy upland winds. Heaviest rain around Skye.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 21 February, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 60-80mph for most of daylight. Top speeds lessen evening into night, but gales continue, likely re-strengthen again for a few hours during night.
Effect of wind on you?	Any mobility very difficult on mountains; walking challenging even on mid to lower slopes in exposure. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Very wet Skye, drier towards northeast Rain fairly persistent near Skye, heavy at times; very wet underfoot. Rain on and off elsewhere, but drier northward across Sutherland.
Cloud on the hills?	Persistent Skye, some higher bases north Cloud down to lowest slopes on Skye and west coast hills up to Torridon; bases lifting a little to mid heights into afternoon. Higher cloud bases north and east but most high terrain stays shrouded.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Below 10% Skye; 30% far north.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sunshine. Mostly poor visibility, very poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6 to 7C most of the day. Cooling in the afternoon towards 4C. Feeling as cold as -12C in wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 22 February	Sunday 23 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 35-45mph. Highest winds always in the northwest, up to 55mph mostly early morning. Walking strenuous, at times arduous. You may be blown over in highest gusts in north. Significant wind chill.	South to southwesterly 60 to 80mph, up to 90mph at least in gusts for periods on higher mountains. Severe conditions: mobility challenging even at mid-elevations, frequently knocking you off your feet where exposed.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	West coast showers Fairly persistent rain onto Skye. Occasional light showers elsewhere on west coast mountains, sleet or snow above 1000m. Often dry further north and east.	Heavy rain then frequent showers Heavy rain setting in before dawn, lasting much of the morning, briefly wet snow on high tops. By middle of day, clusters of showers, frequent rain on western mountains, may set in again; back to snow on high tops into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Foggy Skye, patchy or clearing north/east Cloud banks quite persistent Skye and Torridon, bases often near 700m. More patchy along the west coast, intermittently clear east.	Extensive, lowest morning Shrouding the mountains all day, lowest cloud bases in the morning, rising toward upper slopes by afternoon, but varied in and out of rain, local breaks possible across Sutherland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy or intermittent sun, best near Great Glen. Good visibility out of rain, excellent east.	Overcast morning, then some glimpses of sun forming, mainly north & east afternoon. Hazy, poor visibility in precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2C. Feeling like -10C in the wind. Near or just above highest summits (1200m).	1 to 3C. Feeling like -15C or below due to wind chill. Near higher summits above 1000m briefly, but mostly above all summits all day. Into night starting to lower back to 1000m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 22 February, 2025**

All terrain will have thawed by the weekend; very wet underfoot with several spells of heavy rainfall, highest totals on south & southwest-facing hills bringing local flooding. A relative improvement on Saturday for many places, but remaining windy, up to gale-force higher northern Scottish tops - rain still frequent around Skye. Deteriorating again into Sunday with further storm-force mountain winds. Chillier westerly winds prevail next week, a return to mostly sub-freezing conditions over Scottish Munros, whilst lower Scottish hills plus mountains in England & Wales will see some freeze and thaw. Showery conditions with hail and upland snow, mixed with occasionally more widespread precipitation.

Forecast issued at 15:45 on Thursday, 20 February, 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.