

The Northwest Highlands

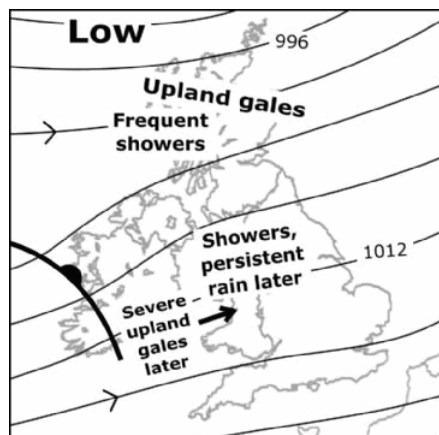
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Monday, 26 May, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 26 May, 2025

Gales widespread over the mountains, during afternoon in Wales strengthening to become increasingly severe on tops. Showery bursts, most frequent in the west, hail and isolated thunder. Merging into constant and heavier rain for England, Wales and southwest Scotland later.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales, heavy showers, hail, chance lightning.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 26 May, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly, 35 to 50mph, likely strongest toward northern mountains; squally gusts in showers. Speeds moderating toward evening. Frequent buffeting across the hills, making balance difficult on exposed ridges; gusts could knock you over. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent showers, heavy bursts, isolated lightning Showery all day on western mountains, heavy bursts at times with hail, chance isolated lightning. Falling as snow on highest summits early in day. Fewest showers in east at first, but soon increasingly widespread.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Often covering western tops Variable cloud bases through the day, but often covering western tops above 800m, sometimes patches to 600m especially morning. Some brief breaks to 1000m or above, more often further inland/east. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief bursts of sun west, more frequent sun in east in morning. Visibility at times very good, but suddenly poor in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	1C rising to 3C. Wind chill feeling near -10C on tops. Near 1000m early morning, particularly northern areas, rising just above highest summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 27 May	Wednesday 28 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West to southwesterly, 30 to 35mph, up to 40mph northern areas; speeds tending to lessen during day. Strenuous walking over higher terrain, affecting balance on exposed tops and ridges; gradually improving.	Westerly 25 to 30mph, up to 35mph higher tops particularly northern areas. Starting to impede ease of walking and affecting balance on exposed ridges, very blustery in places. Considerable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers fading Showery rain on and off near to the west coast, fewer showers eastwards. Tending to ease in afternoon. By evening, small risk of rain extending into the region from the southwest.	Showers Occasional showers most frequent on west coastal mountains in the morning, a few pushing well inland; falling as snow on higher summits for a time, possible hail. Into night, chance of heavy rain moving in from southwest (may stay further south).
Cloud on the hills?	Rising to high tops, some breaks Variable cloud above 600 to 800m in the morning, mostly western areas. Lifting to 900-1000m with higher breaks afternoon, best inland and east.	Lifting and breaking Banks of cloud above 700-900m in the morning, lowest and most persistent west coastal areas. Bases rising toward 1000m with breaks forming higher up afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	30% rising to 70%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun best in east and perhaps more widely afternoon. Visibility very good away from showers.	Glimpses of sun, improving in coastal areas to become sunnier afternoon. Visibility very good away from showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2C rising to 4C. Wind chill feeling like -5 to -8C. Close to highest tops around 1000-1100m early morning, lifting further above summits.	2C rising to 4C. Wind chill feeling like -5 to -8C. Close to very highest summits (near 1100m) early morning, then lifting further above the tops.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 27 May, 2025**

Changeable conditions this week with low pressure and frontal systems passing west to east. West to southwesterly winds prevailing, speeds varied, but gale force for periods on the mountains. Spells of rain and showers, some periods of sustained heavier rain. Cloud often shrouding higher terrain. Better toward the east and northeast of Scotland. Generally rather cool for Scotland, near freezing on highest summits early in week, then a little milder, or warmer further south over England & Wales. Some improvements in conditions especially in southern areas as pressure builds at times, but mixed westerlies are likely to prevail into the start of June.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Sunday, 25 May, 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.