

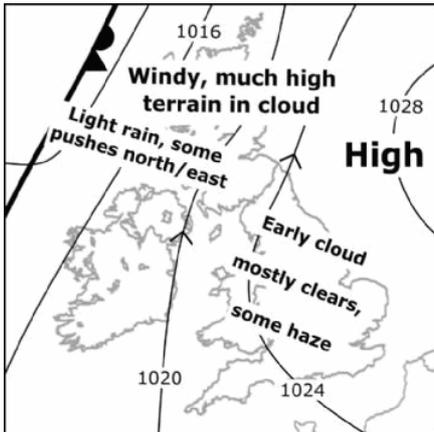
# The Northwest Highlands

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 Wednesday, 4 March, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 4 March, 2026**

Windy in Scotland with gale-force gusts over high terrain. Much upper Highlands terrain in cloud, some rain and drizzle (most in the west); best breaks north of major hill groups. Varied cloud early in England and Wales, mostly clearing with increasing sun, though visibility limited by haze. Cool to mild England and Wales.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Very windy, strong gusts; most rain and cloud south

## Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 4 March, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Southerly 35 to 45mph, strongest on and near Skye; very gusty in places around high tops and downslope toward north.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Strenuous walking and balance affected with significant wind chill. More challenging in places, particularly in exposure and northern aspects with buffeting downslope gusts.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Patchy rain/drizzle arrives in the south</b> A dry morning, then occasional patchy rain/drizzle arrives around Skye and Torridon. Afternoon brings increased chance of patchy rain here and inland, drizzle lingering on the highest southern tops. Only odd patches push north of Ullapool during daylight.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Cloud spreads north and east, staying broken inland</b> Cloud banks likely to often roll across the higher Cuillin and nearby mainland hills above 700-800m. Patches more broken northward, particularly early (Ben Wyvis to Ben Hope start clear). Cloud banks will spread northward with time, staying mostly above 700m, and staying broken inland well into the day.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>70% north/east, lowering to 30% widely</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Sunshine and visibility best toward the north and east, often cloudier around Skye where rather hazy. Cloud spreads north with time.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	1 or 2C, gradually rising, to 3 or 4C by evening, staying mild on upper slopes overnight. Directly in the wind feeling like -11 to -13C.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Patchy frost inland glens and sheltered higher areas from dawn, thawing largely above the summits, locally freezing highest tops.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 5 March	Friday 6 March
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	South-southwesterly 35-45mph, gusty early, may be quite powerful. Easing with a generally westerly shift, 20-30mph. <b>Arduous walking early in the day with significant wind chill; an easing trend, may be fairly small for a period.</b>	Southwesterly 15-20mph, steadily rising, 40-45mph west coast by evening with strong gusts over summits. <b>Starting small, deteriorating to strenuous walking with wind chill; buffeting in exposure will challenge balance.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Often raining, easing trend later</b> Rain fairly widespread, heaviest falls from Skye towards Ullapool, the rain more patchy to the east but bands passing here too. Trending drizzly with a breaking trend through afternoon.	<b>Likely dry</b> Small chance of some light rain grazing Skye late in the day, otherwise dry.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Fairly extensive</b> Most hills shrouded from 600m up from dawn, bases to low Skye slopes early. Higher bases with some variable layers towards the east, though lowering here too as rain passes. Later, beginning to lift, breaks from the west late in the day	<b>Mostly just Skye and nearby</b> Cloud comes and goes on the Cuillin from 700m upward, though base generally higher on north aspects. Inland and northern hills often free of cloud, occasional banks may form around 900-1000m but these fleeting.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20% rising to 40%</b>	<b>80%; 60% Skye</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine unlikely until late in the day. Often poor visibility though locally good out of cloud and rain.	Extensive sunshine, occasionally shrouded on and near Skye by low cloud. Excellent visibility, a distant haze to the west.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	2 or 3C from dawn, soon beginning to lower from west, -1 or -2C by evening. Feeling like -7 to -10C in the wind. Above the summits from dawn, lowering as rain passes, to 600-800m evening.	-2C from dawn, lifting to 0C, rising further overnight. Feeling increasingly cold in wind, to -15C by evening. 700-800m, though frosts in sheltered low slopes and glens too. Lifting, 900m by evening, further rising overnight.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 5 March, 2026

Thursday into Friday sees a band of rain pass east across most mountains, then a relatively settled weekend for England and Wales, and perhaps east Scotland too. Varying conditions over the next couple of weeks as areas of high pressure build across the British Isles then slip eastwards: dry and bright days with light winds mixed with periods of strengthening south/westerly winds bringing occasional rain from the west. Temperatures will vary, at times lifting just above freezing to high Munro tops, but typically lowering again to high terrain and briefly mid-slopes. Freezing levels will only briefly touch high England and Wales summits, but some frosts into valleys during clear-sky nights. Remaining old snow cover on Scottish mountains stays largely consolidated with little change, any remaining snow in England and Wales will thaw.

### Forecast issued at 16:09 on Tuesday, 3 March, 2026

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, 2026.