

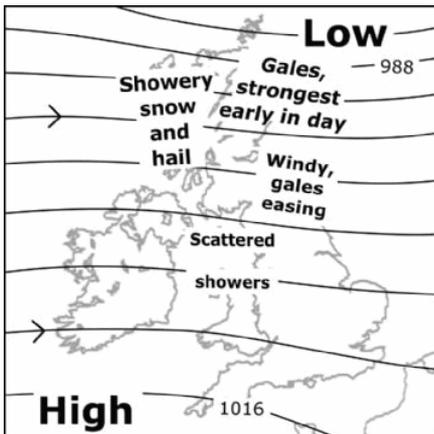
The Northwest Highlands

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, 11 March, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 March, 2026

Cold strong westerly winds, gales over Scottish mountains and more widely early in day, significant chill factor over mountains. Showery snow and hail most frequent W & NW Highlands, more scattered elsewhere. Cloud base varying, occasional sun.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales, severe early and late. Snow & hail showers.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 11 March, 2026

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Westerly 60-70mph post dawn; dropping to 40-50mph middle of day, strongest far north, squally gusts around showers. Increasing again evening into night, reaching 80mph, stronger gusts.</p> <p>Expect significant or severe wind chill and walking - sometimes any mobility - to be very difficult across the hills, particularly near precipitation. Deteriorating to stormy conditions again into night.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Frequent hail and snow</p> <p>Particularly morning, succession of sudden hail and above 600m snow showers. Sometimes whiteout will occur. Onward into evening, more prolonged rain, snow becoming confined higher up.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Persistently covering higher areas; rapid variation in cloud base.</p> <p>In precipitation, cloud forming below 300 to 500m (generally lowest morning near the west coast). Otherwise, by midday (as average cloud base tends to rise) between 600 and 1000m, highest on easternmost areas.</p> <p>20%</p>
<p>Sunshine?</p> <p>Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Bursts of sunshine, mainly afternoon lower slopes well inland. Very varied visibility: general haze, but abruptly appalling in precipitation.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-1C during day, then up to +1 or 2C after dark. Will feel like -15C directly in the wind.</p> <p>750m, then rising toward evening, briefly to 1000m or above into night.</p>

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 12 March	Friday 13 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 55 to 70mph, tending to decrease a little during afternoon. Difficult conditions, mobility challenging over exposed terrain from mid-elevations upward. Severe wind chill.	Westerly 35 to 50mph, squally gusts around showers. Risk 50-60mph up to dawn. Challenging walking conditions over the mountains, considerable buffeting and severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow and hail Heavy rain from overnight, finishing as snow as low as 600m. Then a succession of showers, of snow above 500m, at times constant on western mountains, often heavy, hail, risk thunder.	Frequent hail and snow; risk thunder Showers with hail merging into periods of constant precipitation over western mountains; snow falling toward lower elevations in morning, then mostly rain below 400m. Risk isolated lightning.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Fairly extensive higher slopes, breaks east Extensive from dawn to middle slopes at least, starting to vary as rain turns to showers; some spells of bases to 900m or higher, eastern summits may briefly clear, but also lowering towards 600m or lower during showers. 30%	Varying over tops, breaks east Cloud base frequently changing: at times shafts of cloud to 600m or lower near west coast, often capping western mountains above 800m, but some breaks to 1000m, more often eastwards. 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun mostly eastern areas. Visibility briefly very good when dry, but at times very poor in snow and cloud; general haze nearer west coast.	Brief bursts of sun, most often in east. Visibility varying between intermittently very good, and at least briefly appalling when in snow/hail and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-1 or -2C, beginning to lower late in the day and overnight by several degrees. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -18C. Around 1000m prior to dawn, but soon 600 to 800m, some variation, tending to lower especially later in day.	-3C, lifting slightly, to -1C west coast tops. Feeling like -15 to -18C directly in the wind. Near freezing from lower slopes up at first inland, becoming typically 600-700m by early afternoon.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 12 March, 2026

Generally unsettled onward into the upcoming weekend and start of next week as low pressure systems pass near and north of Britain - strong west or southwesterly winds prevail, often gale-force to at times storm-force over the mountains. Some fluctuation of temperature and freezing level, but mostly below freezing over Scottish mountains, at times snow falling to lower elevations. Colder for all by the end of this week with widely lowering freezing level by Friday. Frequent precipitation most western mountains, accumulations of snow across the mountains, most substantial in western Scotland from Glencoe northwards. Quieter weather patterns indicated beyond mid-month as higher pressure builds.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Tuesday, 10 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.