

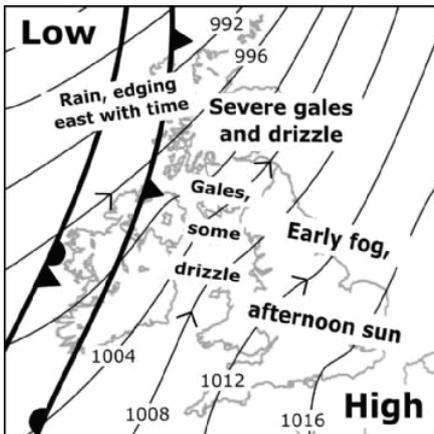
# The Northwest Highlands

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 Tuesday, 17 March, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 17 March, 2026**

Widely windy, severe gales in Scotland. Rain in the western Scottish highlands edges into central highlands with time; early drizzle over many high slopes, lingering in Scotland, Lakeland, and Snowdonia. Sun breaking out afternoon over Wales and the Pennines with milder temperatures, though a chill in wind.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Severe gales; often raining Skye and nearby, more widely later

## Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 17 March, 2026

<p><b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b></p> <p><b>Effect of wind on you?</b></p>	<p>South-southwesterly 50-70mph, strongest west coast. Powerful gusts over high terrain, reaching up to 80mph, gusts to lower slopes too. An easing trend begins into and overnight.</p> <p><b>Difficult conditions widely, any mobility tortuous west coast and Skye where any stability challenges may result in being blown over and pushed. Significant wind chill.</b></p>
<p><b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b></p>	<p><b>Persistent rain Skye and nearby</b></p> <p>Frequent or persistent rain and drizzle onto Skye and nearby mainland. Elsewhere, just a little drizzle in wind, some steadier spells of rain Torridon and Kintail, then afternoon brings a band of rain edging east across all mountains into evening.</p>
<p><b>Cloud on the hills?</b></p> <p><b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b></p>	<p><b>Blanket fog Skye, broken moments inland, later widely extensive</b></p> <p>Persistent fog Skye and nearby mainland, covering some south facing coastal cliffs, to widely 200-400m. Most cloud above 700m well inland and often higher with occasional breaks towards summits towards the east. Becoming more widely extensive afternoon with arrival of rain.</p> <p><b>40% inland north, to 10% Skye, and later widely 10%</b></p>
<p><b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b></p>	<p>Overcast and dull Skye and nearby.</p> <p>Pockets of sun here and there inland and north; visibility good or sometimes excellent, but deteriorating afternoon.</p>
<p><b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b></p> <p><b>Freezing Level</b></p>	<p>5C through morning, beginning to lower afternoon, to 2C around dusk, lowering a few degrees further overnight; staying a degree milder Ben Wyvis.</p> <p>Feeling like -10 to -15C in strongest wind.</p> <p>Above the summits, lowering to just touch the high summits as dusk approaching, approaching 900-1000m overnight.</p>

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 18 March	Thursday 19 March
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>  <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Southwesterly 25-40mph early, lowest speed south; easing and trending westerly, 15-25mph, or lower far south.  <b>Starting arduous with considerable buffeting and significant wind chill in exposure, improving to fairly small.</b>	Variable 10mph or less.  <b>Negligible.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Some light showers, most hills dry</b> A few light showers affecting west coastal hills, falling as snow flurries from 700m up at first, the snowfall level rising.	<b>No precipitation expected</b>
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>  <b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>Mostly high western terrain, improving</b>  West coast slopes often in cloud above 800-900m, lowering periodically, particularly during showers where may reach 700m. Well broken inland, some variability, but tending to clear.  <b>40%, rising to 70% inland</b>	<b>Low and middle cloud early, mostly clearing</b>  Dawn fog in the glens, ragged banks up to 700-800m, which may be thicker layers along the coast (summits likely start clear). Cloud lifts after sunrise, mostly dissipating through morning, a few banks occasionally drifting over the high northern Munros.  <b>Rising to 80%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	A patchwork of cloud and sunshine, best sun breaks in the east. Very good visibility, an offshore haze to the northwest.	Mostly sunny though some high cloud around. Excellent visibility.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	0C lifting, to 3C for a time, then likely back to 2C as dusk approaches. Feeling like -10 to -15C in early wind. 900m from dawn, lifting to or above the high tops.	1 or 2C, rising up to 5C Torridon and Skye, staying cooler to the north.  Likely above the summits, though may just graze highest tops near and north of Ullapool.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 18 March, 2026

Pressure begins to rise on Wednesday, bringing fairly widely settled conditions across the country. Some cloud and spotty light rain lingers in north England/south Scotland for a few days, elsewhere becoming mostly sunny; valley fog in many lowland areas early, lifting and dissipating after sunrise for clear hills. Generally milder temperatures and light wind but the occasional stronger gust. East Scotland stays cooler for a time, some overnight frosts possible under clear-sky nights. Over the weekend, first indications of a cool easterly wind building, perhaps some patchy rain here and there. Into next week, detail is uncertain; low pressure may occasionally unsettle the weather, bringing cooler, wetter, and windier periods.

### Forecast issued at 15:15 on Monday, 16 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.