

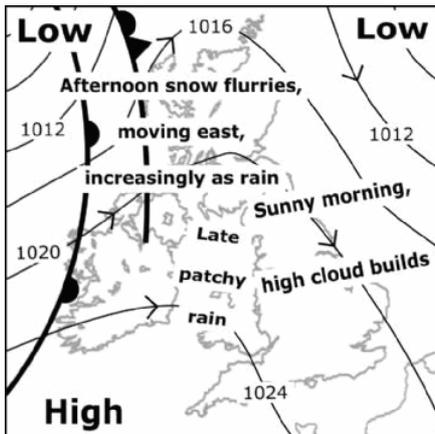
The Northwest Highlands

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 Thursday, 26 March, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 26 March, 2026

A sunny start, frosty in England and Scotland; freezing levels at middle heights in Wales. Some snow showers north and west Scotland early. High cloud builds from the west; patchy snow and rain arrive afternoon, spread east, and increase in frequency into night. Rain increasingly to higher slopes as temperature rises.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Early showers and sun, snow flurries to rain later, becoming breezy

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 26 March, 2026

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Northwesterly 20-30mph up to dawn, strongest far north. Soon shifting westerly and easing to 15-25mph, lower speeds possible too. Reorienting southwesterly through afternoon and gradually strengthening, 35-40mph along the coast into nighttime.</p> <p>Effects fairly small much of the day, nuisance wind in the morning. Into evening, walking increasingly strenuous, particularly near the coast where gusts will challenge stability; significant wind chill.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Few showers, mostly north, then rain arrives afternoon into evening</p> <p>Some early snow showers near and north of Ullapool, mostly easing, a few odd showers afternoon. Light, patchy snow arriving from the west afternoon, snow below 500m, patches drifting east with time, turning to rain to the tops, the rain most persistent Skye/Torridon, more widely for several overnight hours.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Just high tops early, becoming extensive</p> <p>Some cloud banks drifting over the high tops, mostly in the north, but summits often clear through morning, particularly towards Ben Wyvis. Cloud gradually fills in over high terrain during the afternoon as rain arrives, becoming extensive and lowering to middle slopes evening, bases as low as 200-300m Cuillin.</p> <p>80%, lowering to 20% through afternoon</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Bursts of sunshine early in the day, best in the east, soon weakened by high cloud, increasingly overcast.</p> <p>Excellent visibility in the morning, deteriorating, dull and murky into night.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-3 or -4C (-5C far north), gradually rising towards -1C afternoon, then sharply rising as evening approaches, up to +4C for several overnight hours, later cooling again. Feeling like -15C in wind early.</p> <p>200-400m, frosts in inland glens. Rising to 600-700m afternoon, sharply rising to the summits as evening approaches, further rising for several overnight hours.</p>

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 27 March	Saturday 28 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly 35-40mph, gradually strengthening, reaching up to 50mph over high northern tops by dusk. Strenuous walking with significant wind chill, a deteriorating trend with mobility increasingly impeded, particularly north.	Westerly 45 to 60mph, strongest toward the north and in morning, powerful squalls. Gales likely strengthen again into night. Challenging conditions over the mountains, mobility difficult particularly morning. Significant-to-severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow showers, some hail From dawn, showers from the west, snow down to 600m, some hail too. Showers increasingly push inland, heavier falls for several afternoon hours; snowfall level lowers too.	Hail and snow, fewer showers later Showery morning, frequent to more constant precipitation for a time western mountains, hail and snow falling to some lower elevations. With time becoming fewer and less heavy showers and mostly rain below 600m.
Cloud on the hills?	Variable, lowest and most persistent west Cloud comes and goes all day above 700-800m, most persistent along the west coast and as low as 600m during showers, more persistent for a time midday. Well-broken inland early, more frequent during afternoon showers.	Lifting and breaking higher during day Often covering higher slopes above 600-800m in the morning, lowest and most persistent toward west coast. Base tending to rise, breaks to higher slopes for periods into afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% inland, to 30% west coast	20% rising to 40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bursts of bright sunshine, mostly inland, perhaps rare along the west coast. Variable visibility, intermittently good, but poor or appalling during snow showers.	Sun breaking through more often as the day progresses. Visibility very poor in showers, then more often becoming very good.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-1C, gradually lowering, -3C into night. Feeling like -13 to -15C in the wind, cooler in the north late in the day. Lowering from overnight, 700-800m at dawn, lowering to 600m through the day.	-2C rising to 0C. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -20C. 600-700m in morning, rising to 800-900m afternoon.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 27 March, 2026

Thursday starts chilly with clear skies for many, snow then rain moves into western areas with time. Strong northwesterly winds prevail as the weekend starts, bringing cooler temperatures and a mix of showers and sun across most areas, the showers likely snowy to middle elevations with some hail mixed in. The cool, spring-like conditions will allow showers to become heavier and more widespread in the afternoon. Sunday into next week sees high pressure southwest of the country, producing drier weather with sun breaks, a trend towards milder temperatures too, but several low pressure systems to the north draw bands of rain eastward, mostly affecting Scotland, occasionally northern England and Wales. A risk of cooler northerly winds re-establishing later in the week, though detail is uncertain.

Forecast issued at 16:19 on Wednesday, 25 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.