

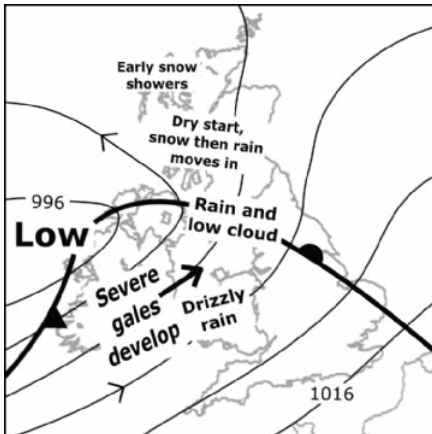
The Northwest Highlands

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 Saturday, 4 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 4 April, 2026

A fine start for much of Highlands, a lull in wind, but snow moving in from south, setting in widely afternoon; snow to low elevations, then abruptly rain to tops in southern Highlands later. Rapidly strengthening gales for England & Wales, becoming stormy, extending across Scotland afternoon into evening.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Coastal showers, many hills clear. Snow and gales later in day.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 4 April, 2026

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>West-southwesterly 25-35mph at first, strongest in north at dawn. Easing for a few hours, turning south-southeasterly up to noon, then increasing easterly afternoon to 40-50mph, very variable by dusk, suddenly west-northwesterly 70-80mph+ after dark.</p> <p>Blustery start, lessening for a few hours, but deteriorating with time, by late in the day any mobility increasingly difficult. Significant wind chill. Risk damaging gusts to lower slopes onward into night.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Snow showers west, later snow setting in widely</p> <p>A few showers mostly near west coast early in day, with snow falling to some lower slopes for a time. Fading, but then during afternoon quickly more persistent hill snow falling to lower slopes arrives from south, setting in heavy for several hours into evening with whiteout, sleet or rain only lower coastal slopes. Snow continues into night.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Patches west, otherwise little until late</p> <p>Patchy cloud over western mountains, likely to break up largely, many mountains clear for a good part of the daytime, but later in day lowering widely from south as precipitation develops, lowest bases more eastern hills.</p> <p>70% much of day, then 20% up to dusk.</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Sun in morning weakens as high cloud builds, later increasingly overcast skies. Visibility very good away from showers, then later very poor, appalling in snow.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-3C, briefly rising slightly. Feeling like -15C in early wind, then even colder later.</p> <p>Frost inland glens at dawn, 600m by noon, up to 800m briefly northern areas, but then lowering sharply as snow arrives, to widely 300-400m evening onward.</p>

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 5 April	Monday 6 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Stormy conditions overnight lessen before dawn, then westerly 40 to 55mph, squally gusts; briefly less in morning. Frequent buffeting, walking challenging on higher exposed terrain. Possibly still severe at first. Severe wind chill.	Southwest then southerly, 25 to 40mph, strongest on Skye, locally lower speeds Sutherland in the morning. Affecting ease of walking and balance on western ridges, smaller eastern areas; notably gusty some downslopes to north.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent hail and snow; risk lightning A succession of heavy hail and snow showers, more constant precipitation at times over western areas; snow falling to lower elevations early in day at least. Isolated thunder & lightning.	Light rain or drizzle mostly Skye A little patchy rain or drizzle mostly Skye and nearby mainland - possibly becoming more generally damp in cloud on Cuillin. Very little if any rain elsewhere.
Cloud on the hills?	Varying over tops Cloud base constantly changing, often capping higher slopes above 800m in western areas; patches to 600m or lower at times, whilst briefly clearing higher up.	Mostly around Skye, little north/east Patchy cloud banks over west coastal hills, most persistent on Skye where risk filling in to lower elevations for periods, especially on south Cuillin. Many tops toward the north and east of the region often clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	30% Skye, to 80% north/east areas.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief bursts of sun and very good visibility, but suddenly appalling in cloud and snow or hail, temporary whiteout.	Sun mostly weak through high cloud, very good visibility inland, north and east. Thicker overcast skies likely around Skye where hazier, risk often poor visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-2 to -4C, rising slightly afternoon. Feeling like -15 to -18C in the wind. 400 to 600m in morning, rising to 700m afternoon, but lowering briefly again around showers.	-2C from dawn, rising to +2C locally +4C afternoon. Feeling like -8 to -12C directly in wind. Frost in glens in morning, much mountain terrain frozen all day, but air temperature rising above freezing to tops by late in day.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 5 April, 2026**

Winter mountain conditions for Easter Sunday - all mountain tops sub-zero all day, above 600-700m in Scotland, 800m in England and Wales - hail and snow showers with gales bringing severe chill factor. Milder southerlies develop during Monday, dry and many hills clear with hazy sun, but gusty wind, risk of gales mainly west coastal mountains of Scotland. Quite warm by Tuesday, but strong to gale force south-southeasterly winds; dry for many, rain encroaching into western Scotland, thawing of recent snow. Scotland likely remains changeable, often windy later in the week, rain at times, varying temperatures, at times below freezing on higher Munros. Often drier and lighter winds for England and Wales.

Forecast issued at 16:24 on Friday, 3 April, 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.