

The Northwest Highlands

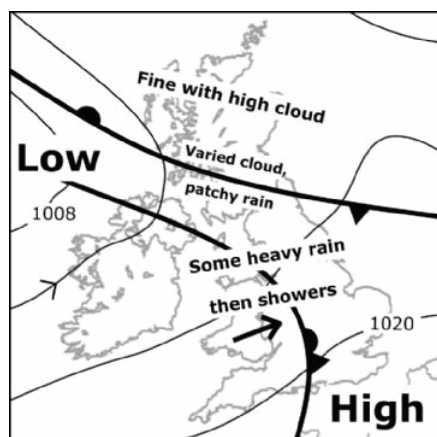
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Wednesday, 2 September, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 2 September, 2026

Much of the Highlands sees a fine day with fairly light winds; a veil of high cloud tends to thicken, risk of some rain later.

S Scotland & N England has more cloud, some rain. Heavier rain moves across Wales into Peak District, followed by showers on a strong southwesterly wind, quite humid.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Dry much of day, wind increases and risk rain later.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 2 September, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable mostly below 10mph in morning, locally starting westerly 15-20mph Ben Hope. Trending southeasterly, rising speeds afternoon to 20mph around Skye, later more widely, reaching 30-35mph into evening. Switching southwesterly into night rising
Effect of wind on you?	Small in the morning, becoming more noticeably breezy with some gusty spots especially Skye and nearby coast, later in the day increasingly affecting ease of walking where exposed, deteriorating further into night.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Largely dry, some rain by evening Most or all daytime dry. Into evening, risk of patchy rain developing from southwest toward Skye, becoming more persistent through dusk and extending northward.
Cloud on the hills?	Some patches, but mostly little until late Patches at varied heights early in day will tend to lift and break up to leave most cloud above the hills, odd patches may drift around some upper slopes. Later in the day, increasingly on higher Cuillin, filling in widely as rain develops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%, later deteriorating from southwest
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Frequent sun in the north, and perhaps briefly south, tending to weaken as high cloud thickens across the sky. Excellent visibility, some early patchy mist in glens.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3 to 5C, coolest north, rising to 7 to 9C and staying elevated into night. Feeling just above freezing in direct wind later in the day.
Freezing Level	Above the summits. Some sheltered inland glens may start with slight grass frost at dawn.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 3 September	Friday 4 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly between 35 to 50mph, will vary somewhat, tops speeds approach 55mph, more sustained later in day. Arduous walking in exposure most of the day, some more challenging moments with significant wind chill.	Southwesterly, turning westerly, 40 to 50mph. Arduous walking conditions, frequent buffeting knocking you off balance on exposed terrain. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patchy rain, showery for a time Patchy rain drifts from the west much of the day, generally light and eastern hills often dry. Rain will become more frequent with heavy falls for a few hours in west.	Often raining west Rain on and off throughout the day, most frequent in the west where some steady rain for periods mixed with heavier showery bursts, may break up a little into afternoon. Patchier rain furthest east.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Bases rise towards summits, breaks east Fairly extensive along west coast to start, varied banks inland, mostly high terrain; bases rising, increasingly above 800m, high tops from Ben Wyvis northward may become substantially clear. Skye stays in cloud above 700-800m, and more widely lowering for a few hours. Rising to 40% west coast, to 70% east	Extensive higher areas, lower west Fairly persistent over all western mountains above 500-700m, lowest near the coast and during rain. Well inland the cloud base higher, some breaks above 800-900m, tending to rise a little into afternoon. 10% west, 30% east.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine, sometimes more cloud around. Good visibility under cloud, but hazy particularly along the coast.	Largely cloudy, brief glimpses of sun eastern areas. Visibility often reduced by rain, locally good below cloud especially east; a general haze near the west coast.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	8 or 9C. Feeling below freezing in strongest wind. Above the summits.	6 or 7C, little change all day. Directly in the wind, feeling like -5C. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 3 September, 2026

A series of weather systems moves in from the Atlantic this week and next to bring spells of rain and showers, accompanied by frequently strong to gale force mountain winds. A window of better weather is likely this Saturday for Scotland and northern England, but further rain is expected to move into Wales, which then extends north by Saturday night and Sunday, possibly widely heavy rain and a risk of more powerful upland gales developing over Scotland into Sunday. Temperatures will vary, mildest toward the south, but some cooler air moves in from the north at times bringing higher Scottish tops close to freezing point.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 1 September, 2026

The Production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by 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.