

The Northwest Highlands

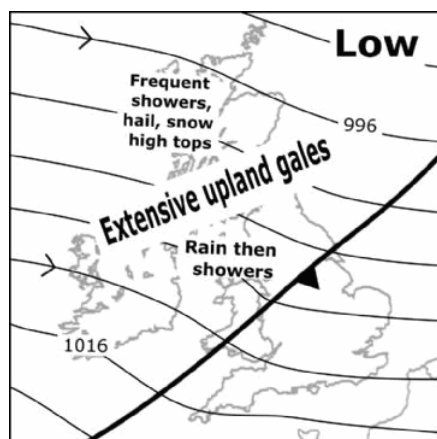
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Friday, 9 October, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 9 October, 2026

Gale-force winds across all mountains will make walking challenging and lower temperatures also adds to a significant chill factor. A front clears south over England & Wales with a spell of early rain. Then broadly showery, frequent in west, falling as snow on Scottish Munros, also hail.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales on tops, frequent showers with hail, and snow on tops.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 9 October, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly sustained 35-40mph, very gusty, top speeds to 50mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous walking, powerful gusts constantly challenging balance, sometimes requiring bracing. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain most of the day, with hail Shower after shower streams in from the west, heavy bursts with hail, snow on tops above 900m, clustering into persistent falls. Chance of isolated lightning near west coast, mainly afternoon.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive High tops in cloud most or all day, base quite variable early, between 600-900m in and out of showers, but increasingly extensive above at least 700m and lowering in heavier rain, to as low as 400m along the west coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A few glimpses of sun here and there. Visibility generally poor on high terrain, hazy to the west.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3C. Feeling like -5 to -10C in direct wind.
Freezing Level	Just above the summits.

	Saturday 10 October	Sunday 11 October
How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 35 to 45mph, very gusty.	Northwesterly 25-30mph from dawn into morning, easing to 10-15mph afternoon. Likely to increase southerly after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous walking with considerable buffeting, balance nearly always challenged. Significant wind chill.	Early in day, considerable wind chill and blustery wind on tops may affect comfortable walking; becoming small.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Persistent rain, some heavy, snow tops A near-constant stream of showers from the northwest most or all day, some sleet/snow on high tops at times above 900m, and may well set in for several hours with heavy falls on western mountains.	Early showers fade A few scattered showers in the morning, of snow above 900m. Fading to be largely dry into afternoon. Rain may push onto west coast into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive Cloud often down to 400-500m along the west coast, will vary, best chance of breaks approaching 800m or higher towards Ben Wyvis, but also lowering to at least middle slopes here and may widely fill in for several hours.	Clearing most tops Patchy cloud around higher slopes mostly above 800m by mid morning, lifting and dispersing more with time to leave most mountains free of cloud in afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	80%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A few glimpses of sun east, more often overcast. Poor visibility, sometimes very poor on high tops in snow.	Patchwork of cloud and sun; high cloud may start to build from west later. Visibility excellent away from early showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2C, will vary in showers, locally down to 0C. Feeling like -10C or colder in direct wind. Just above highest summits.	2 or 3C much of day, then lifting slightly higher onward into evening-night. Feeling like -5 to -8C in early wind. Slight frost some inland glens at dawn. Close to highest summits near 1100m in the morning, then above all tops.

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 10 October, 2026

Next week sees continued mixed weather: bands of rain coming and going, temperatures similarly fluctuating: generally mild, briefly chilly in Scotland with freezing levels temporarily onto high Munros where rain turns to snow; any accumulating snow soon thaws. West-southwesterly winds will be dominant, often quite strong, gales at times, but this allows for drier, brighter windows on eastern hill groups between weather systems.

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.