MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

Southern Uplands

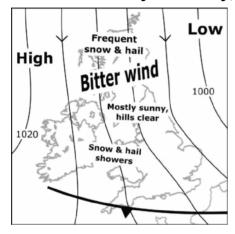
The Galloway hills eastward to the Lammermuir hills. The Cheviots (including higher hills within the adjacent Northumberland NP).





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General Summary for Friday, 2 January, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 2 January, 2026

Bitterly cold north-northwesterly winds, gale-force over many hills, typically strongest in morning, again late in day Scotland. Frequent snow and hail northern Scotland, blizzard conditions on mountains. Showers also affect Wales. Mostly dry, sunny and clear hills N England & S Scotland. Most terrain frozen.

Headline for Southern Uplands

Gales in morning lessen, significant chill factor. Sunshine.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 2 January, 2026

How windy? (On the summits)	North-northwesterly 40 to 50mph from before dawn into the morning, lessening, 30 to 40mph by afternoon, then tending to increase again after dark.	
Effect of wind on you?	Significant wind chill over the hills. Arduous with considerable buffeting in the morning, remaining strenuous walking in exposure on higher terrain afternoon.	
How wet?	Rare if any snow showers	
(Precipitation and its impact)	Isolated snow and hail showers mostly confined to areas nearest coasts.	
Cloud on the hills?	Little if any	
	Patches clipping some high tops occasionally, mainly western hills in Galloway.	
Chance of cloud free summits?	80%	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly sunny, some cloud toward coasts. Visibility excellent.	
How Cold? (at 750m)	-3 or -4C. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -18C on tops.	
Freezing Level	Most terrain frozen, barely rising above zero inland valleys; just above freezing up to 300-400m nearest coasts and some sunlit southern slopes inland.	

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Southern Uplands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 2 January	Sunday 4 January
	Saturday 3 January	Sunday 4 January
How windy? (On the summits)	North to northwesterly 35 to 45mph, strongest eastern hills, over 50mph in places higher Cheviots.	North to northwesterly 25 to 35mph, strongest eastern hills, 40mph at times.
Effect of wind on you?	Continued significant wind chill over the hills. Frequent buffeting on exposed higher terrain, often arduous walking in east.	Continued significant wind chill over the hills. Strenuous walking on exposed higher terrain, particularly in east.
How wet?	Most places dry	Most places dry
(Precipitation and its impact)	A few showers coming in from the north may clip western Galloway hills, whilst showers over the North Sea may graze inland onto easternmost hills. Otherwise dry.	A few showers coming in from the north may clip western Galloway hills, whilst showers over the North Sea may graze inland onto easternmost hills. Otherwise dry.
Cloud on the hills?	Little if any	Little if any
	Rare patches on some higher tops.	Rare patches on the higher tops of Galloway and upper slopes facing Ayrshire. Otherwise clear of cloud.
Chance of cloud free summits?	80%	90%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly sunny. Visibility excellent.	Mostly sunny. Visibility excellent.
How Cold? (at 750m)	-4 or -5C. Wind chill feeling like -17 to -20C in exposure on high tops.	-5C, -4C on westernmost slopes. Wind chill feeling like -17C in exposure on high tops.
Freezing Level	Terrain widely frozen, staying sub-zero from valleys upward. Nearest the coast, partial thawing in sunlight to 300-400m.	Terrain widely frozen, staying at or below freezing from the valleys upwards.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 3 January, 2026

Terrain extensively frozen this weekend and early next week; sub-zero temperatures from the glens upward in Scotland and some valleys inland in northern England. Substantial fresh snow accumulations in the North West Highlands and Cairngorms, heavy showers streaming in from the north also containing hail. Largely dry and sunny from central Scotland to northern England. Hail and snow showers will run into north and west Wales from the sea. Bitter northerly winds, up to gale force higher tops, lessening somewhat during Sunday. Some fluctuation of freezing level during next week, though most high terrain stays sub-zero, and as fronts come in from the west, upland snowfalls are possible more widely.

Forecast issued at 16:01 on Thursday, 1 January, 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.