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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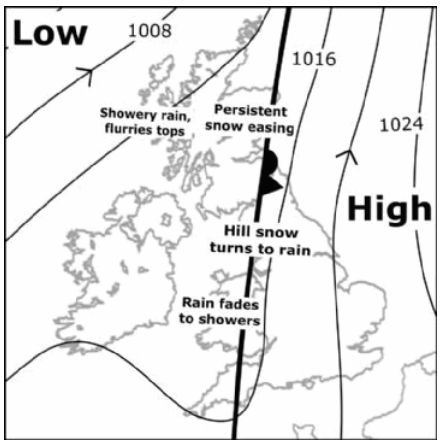
General Summary for Friday, 27 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 27 November, 2026

Substantial fresh lying snow over central & southeastern Scottish mountains; early snowfalls fading out, some flurries linger toward east Highlands. Northern England has a slow-moving band of rain, initially snow tops, also low cloud; clearing from Wales. Wind strongest for Pennines, also far NW Scotland.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Windy with some rain showers western mountains.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 27 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly 25 to 35mph, strongest speeds and gusts over west coastal mountains.
Effect of wind on you?	**Blustery areas most often coastal mountains in west, often fairly small inland toward the Great Glen; prepare for marked chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Early snow and rain, then showers west** A period of snow across the hills from overnight up to dawn, turning more rain higher up near west coast, breaking up into the morning, leaving intermittent rain showers mostly Skye and Wester Ross, snow flurries higher slopes.
Cloud on the hills?	**Most persistent Skye, lifting with breaks** Shrouding hills widely early in the day, the cloud base rising with some breaks forming to upper slopes periodically for inland, or more frequent breaks northern areas, but often covering higher slopes near Skye.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**10% Skye, to 30% inland, 60% far north.**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some glimpses of sun breaking through, or locally more often sunnier northern areas. Visibility poor at first, improving to be very good when dry, excellent in north.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or 1C, slightly lower inland at first. Feeling near -10C if directly in wind.
Freezing Level	Inland near Great Glen 600m or partly frozen lower down at first, but near coasts 900-1000m, often higher Skye; tending to rise also further inland during morning.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 28 November	Sunday 29 November
How windy? (On the Munros) **Effect of wind on you?**	Southerly, speeds varying, 30 to 45mph, likely strongest Skye and near west coast, very gusty in places not just on tops. **Expect significant wind chill, in places challenging walking conditions on exposed terrain; buffeting gusts even lower down.**	Southwesterly, speeds likely to vary, often in range 40 to 55mph, but risk 70mph at least in gusts for periods. **Expect challenging conditions all day, potentially any mobility difficult at times; significant wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Little if any precipitation until late** Possible brief snow flurries, or light rain occasionally around Skye - risk rain becoming more persistent later in west, more likely into the evening hours.	**Frequent or persistent rain, snow tops** Often raining on western hills, snow mostly above 800m, may persist for a few hours widely, then more showery, but falling frequently around Skye; risk of hail.
Cloud on the hills? **Chance of cloud free Munros?**	**Covering some slopes, mostly Skye** Varying banks of cloud mostly on south-facing slopes, may often cloak the southern Cuillin. Northern mainland tops more often seeing breaks. **60%**	**Extensive higher areas** Varying cloud bases, but often covering many mountains above 800m, some patches to 600m or lower near west coast. Fleeting breaks higher up inland and north. **20%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A little weak sun mostly northern areas; a veil of high cloud likely. Visibility very good.	Little or no sun. Visibility very poor in rain, appalling in snow, but occasional improvements.
How Cold? (at 900m) **Freezing Level**	0 or 1C inland and small variation with height above around 800m; 3C Skye. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the wind. West coastal areas likely above freezing to higher slopes. Inland varied and poorly defined, but most high terrain frozen.	0 to 2C. Feeling like -12 to -15C in the wind. 900-1000m, slightly higher near west coast. Likely rising above all tops into night and Monday.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 28 November, 2026

Snow cover on many Scottish mountains into the weekend, most notably central, east-southeastern areas. On Saturday, heavy rain for England & Wales as temperatures rise here, and even in Scotland a rise of the freezing level, though likely lowering slightly again on Sunday; a mix of rain and hill snow spreading in from the west. Gale-force south-southwesterly winds will be common over many mountains through the weekend and into early next week, but intermittent lulls will occur. Threat of severe gales widely on Monday accompanied by incessant heavy rain focused on western Scotland and a rapid thaw - the rain shifts south by Tuesday. Early December may then vary markedly, signs of a drier window for a time, whilst colder conditions could also soon return.

Forecast issued at 14:55 on Thursday, 26 November, 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.