

The Northwest Highlands

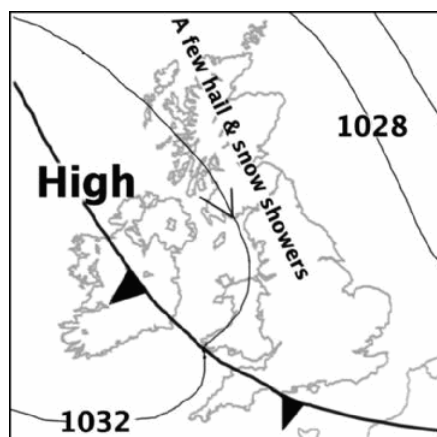
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Saturday, 22 April, 2017



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 22 April, 2017

Fairly light wind and just a few showers as a ridge of high pressure moves in from the west. Higher summits in Scotland will remain below freezing point and here showers of hail and snow. Across Britain the air will be very clear and most cloud will be above higher summits.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Fairly light wind. A few hail/snow showers, mainly far north.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 22 April, 2017

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwest backing westerly between 15 and 20mph, least wind on and near Skye.
Effect of wind on you?	Small
How wet?	Hail and snow showers Occasional brief snow and hail showers, mainly Sutherland and in afternoon away from coastal summits elsewhere. In Sutherland, risk of the showers frequent over an hour or two. Mostly rain below 500m.
Cloud on the hills?	Often clearing the summits Cloud will lower to about 600m briefly near showers. Otherwise, cloud base 900 to 1200m, allowing summits to clear intermittently.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Bursts of bright sunshine. Superb visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1C.
Freezing Level	800m. Frost some valleys at dawn.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 23 April	Monday 24 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly, progressively strengthening from 20-25mph to by late afternoon 40 to 50mph. Considerable buffeting and wind chill will develop where exposed across the hills. On higher areas general mobility later difficult.	Wind may vary considerably and abruptly: northwesterly, up to 60mph for periods, but there may be a lull toward 20mph. Anticipate very difficult walking and severe wind chill. On higher areas, general mobility may suddenly become difficult.
How wet?	Rain increasingly frequently Rain occasionally mainly or only western mountains morning. Will gradually become more widespread in afternoon and on western mountains rarely cease. Snow higher tops morning and perhaps again from north evening.	Frequent hail & snow. Risk lightning. Ranging from sudden heavy but fairly brief hail and snow showers with risk thunder to an hour or two of almost constant sometimes heavy snow, giving whiteout.
Cloud on the hills?	Increasingly extensive from west Cloud will shroud the mountains much of the day, highest base morning: A few breaks to or above higher tops morning, but from afternoon forming lower slopes up coastal areas, and increasingly above 500 or 600m well inland.	Occasionally extensive Sometimes the summits nearly all cloud free. But expect sudden changes; near showers cloud temporarily below 600m, and sometimes constant cloud above about 500m for an hour or two.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	40%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Occasional sunshine mainly eastern valleys morning. Fog across the mountains most of the day. Increasingly hazy or misty below cloud.	Bursts of sunshine and sometimes excellent visibility. But periods of dense fog on the hills, giving near zero visibility in snow/blowing snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-1 rising to to 2C; may drop again evening. 800m rising to 1200m, lowest post dawn. May drop again evening from north.	Varying between -2 and -5C. Varying between temporarily 300m to most often 500 to 650m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 23 April, 2017**

An abrupt change on Monday as very cold air spreads southwards. Until Thursday, winds persistently northerly, intermittently near gale force, will bring very low freezing levels. Snow and hail showers (sometimes very frequent or almost constant snow for a few hour,s particularly N Scotland) - even on some lower slopes as summit temperatures drop as low as, if not lower than at any time this winter.

Forecast issued at 15:14 on Friday, 21 April, 2017

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through the Mountaineering Council of 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 Geoff Monk & Associates, 2017.