

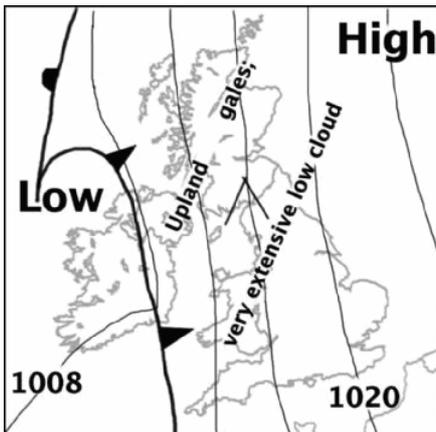
The Northwest Highlands

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, 13 January, 2018



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 January, 2018

Widespread strong gusty winds, reaching gale force western and northern upland areas. Very extensive fog on the summits, although this breaking up north of some higher tops. Rain, or inland partly refrozen rain, will extend slowly inland from west, but timing uncertain.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales, particularly gusty. Low cloud and rain, mainly near Skye.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 13 January, 2018

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| How windy? (On the Munros) | Southerly, broadly in the range 35 to 50mph. But local sudden gusts on and north of major ridges (in places to lower slopes), and notably strong through some passes and cols. |
| Effect of wind on you? | Varied conditions: walking widely arduous, and in some areas difficult, sometimes just briefly as sudden gusts run down to lower slopes and through cols. Significant wind chill. |
| How wet? | Little, or mainly inland, no precipitation Patches of drizzle or partly refrozen rain will gradually spread to on and near Skye, probably around middle of day. Slowly a little rain will spread inland, but never reach eastern summits in Sutherland and Ben Wyvis during daylight. |
| Cloud on the hills? | Many northern tops clear; but persistent on and near Skye Skye and south from about Glenelg: fog soon persistent from lower slopes up. Elsewhere: fragments of cloud on some slopes, but most summits cloud free. Slowly from west, patches will form more widely above 800 to 1000m. |
| Chance of cloud free Munros? | 70% dropping to 40%, but soon almost nil on and near Skye |
| Sunshine and air clarity? | Weak sunshine (due to thin high level cloud) only well inland will tend to give way. Widely hazy lower slopes; excellent visibility cloud free areas higher up. |
| How Cold? (at 900m) | 0 to 2C. Will feel as cold as minus 13 Celsius directly in the wind. Note, above 700m, little change in temperature with height. |
| Freezing Level | Close to or just above freezing point above 700m. Most terrain frozen or partly frozen. |

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

| | Sunday 14 January | Monday 15 January |
|--|--|--|
| How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you? | South to southwesterly, strengthening morning: from midday widely 55 to perhaps by 70mph coastal mountains. Rapid increase of speed with height: walking soon widely very difficult where exposed on higher areas. Severe wind chill. | Westerly typically 40mph, but particularly gusty near precipitation, and will tend to strengthen slowly through the day. Expect considerable buffeting, sometimes from lower slopes up, and particularly near showers. Significant wind chill. |
| How wet? | Snow/rain developing from west In morning occasional snow, or rain lower slopes near coast south from Torridon - mostly on and near Skye. Will deteriorate middle of day or into afternoon as extensive snow spreads inland, giving whiteout. | Frequent snow and hail Hail and snow showers very frequent, sometimes merging one into another. Expect resultant appalling visibility and whiteout. |
| Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros? | Extensive coastal areas S from Torridon Westernmost mountains Skye north to Torridon: persistent fog, often from lower slopes up. Elsewhere: In morning, many summits free of cloud, although gradually higher areas, above about 800m becoming foggy. Fog slowest to form Ben Wyvis and inland 30% | Frequently shrouding higher areas Quickly varying cloud base: shafts of cloud below 400m, more often the fog above about 800m, but particularly well inland, fleeting glimpses of higher tops. 20% |
| Sunshine and air clarity? | Little or no sun. Below cloud increasingly hazy from southwest. | Glimpses of sunshine. Away from precipitation, the air clear - but frequently appalling visibility due to snow. |
| How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level | Around -1C, but may rise a degree or so from west. 800m, tending to rise, particularly on coastal hills south from Wester Ross. However, terrain widely frozen. | -4C; will tend to drop slowly through day. 500m, dropping slowly through day. |

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 14 January, 2018**

Almost constant strong cold westerly winds, frequently gale force on the mountains next week, will bring copious snowfall to western mountains, concentrated on the W & NW Highlands. The snow and often hail, will be showery in character, and accumulations will drop progressively eastwards. Temperatures only marginally above freezing point lower slopes Scotland, and frequently below freezing above about 600m England and Wales.

Winds may well veer northerly late in the week, maintaining low freezing levels.

Forecast issued at 7:24 on Saturday, 13 January, 2018

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, 2018.