

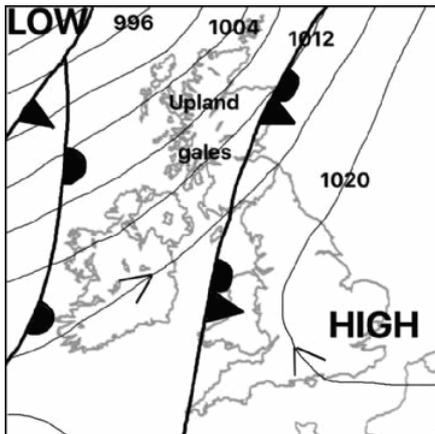
The Northwest Highlands

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 Sunday, 14 January, 2018



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 14 January, 2018

Upland gales soon developing across Scotland with heavy rain/upland snow arriving across the west/northwest Highlands in the afternoon. Elsewhere, a weak front will lie from eastern/southern Scotland into west Wales, bringing low cloud and patchy rain/snow. Eastern Wales and the southern Pennines, many hills clear above valley fog.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Severe upland gales and wind chill. Rain/upland snow spreading in PM.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 14 January, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwest, strengthening quickly from dawn: by/from midday in the range 50-70mph; strongest coastal mountains.
Effect of wind on you?	Rapid increase of speed with height: walking soon widely very difficult on higher areas. Sudden strong gusts occasionally running downslope. Severe 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. Snow will become confined to highest tops for a time overnight.
Cloud on the hills?	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 Sutherland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Little or no sun. Below cloud increasingly hazy from southwest.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Around -1C, but may rise a degree or so from west. Wind chill will make it feel like -20C by afternoon.
Freezing Level	800m, tending to rise, particularly on coastal hills south from Wester Ross. However, terrain widely frozen.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 15 January	Tuesday 16 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	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.	Westerly in the range 35-50mph. Sudden gustiness/squalls to glen level near showers. Walking will be arduous, to at times difficult, with significant buffeting and severe wind chill.
How wet?	Frequent snow and hail Hail and snow showers very frequent, sometimes merging one into another. Expect resultant appalling visibility and whiteout. Risk of thunder into the afternoon.	Frequent snow and hail, risk lightning Heavy snow and hail showers, often one after another on western mountains, with near constant whiteout from lower slopes due to falling and blowing snow. Thunder likely. Snow will lie into the glens, except perhaps right on the west coast.
Cloud on the hills?	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.	Often shrouding higher tops Rapid fluctuations in cloud bases through the day. Shafts briefly from lower slopes up near precipitation, but often cloud above 700 to 1000m, highest bases inland. Nevertheless, there will be some fleeting clearances now and again to highest tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	30%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Glimpses of sunshine. Away from precipitation, the air clear - but frequently appalling visibility due to snow.	Fleeting glimpses of sun between the showers. Visibility often appalling due to falling and blowing snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-4C; will tend to drop slowly through day. 500m, dropping slowly through day.	-5C Around 200m

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 15 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 will then veer northerly later in the week, maintaining the low freezing levels.

Forecast issued at 14:36 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.