

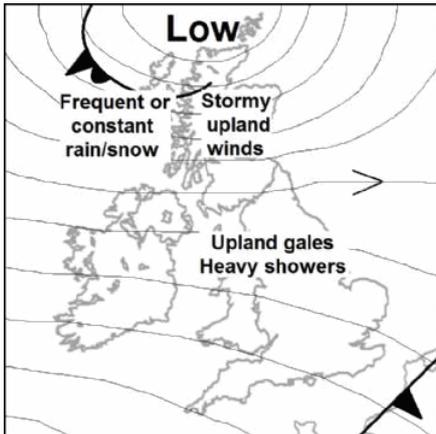
The Northwest Highlands

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, 7 December, 2018



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 7 December, 2018

A stormy day across the Scottish mountains, and severe upland gales on higher terrain of England & Wales. Sustained periods of heavy snow and whiteout across the W/NW Highlands. Elsewhere sudden heavy showers, of snow, hail or rain lower slopes. Chance of thunder.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Hurricane force winds on mountains. Heavy snow, whiteout.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 7 December, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwest veering westerly, 60 to 80mph most or all of daylight, gusts 100mph higher tops.
Effect of wind on you?	Any mobility very difficult even on lower slopes. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent, perhaps prolonged snow; isolated lightning A threat of constant, heavy snow, giving whiteout, focused north of Torridon or Ullapool morning. Increasingly across region, frequent snow and hail showers will merge to near-constant snow from the west. Whiteout very likely if sometimes briefly. Mostly rain below 450m. Risk thunder.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Covering the mountains extensively, from lower slopes up near west coast for sustained periods, particularly morning. Fleeting breaks to higher tops inland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare if any sun. Visibility appalling in snow; at best hazy.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1C. Where exposed to the wind, will feel close to -20C.
Freezing Level	750m, or briefly higher at first in Sutherland.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 8 December	Sunday 9 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West to northwesterly decreasing during daylight from between 20-30mph to 10-20mph. Becoming small	North to northwesterly, 20 to 30mph, perhaps 35mph. Fairly small, but risk of squally gusts around showers. Significant wind chill where exposed on higher areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain; snow Munros Drizzle and rain, most frequent morning toward the coast. Above 900m snow will lead to periods of appalling visibility.	Snow and hail showers Clusters of showers spreading from the north. In Sutherland snow may be frequent over several hours. Risk of hail and temporary whiteout. Rain only lower coastal slopes.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Never clearing most summits Broadly, lowest most persistent cloud will be on coastal summits. Well inland, breaks to 800, perhaps 1000m will develop, possibly higher afternoon. Near the coast, banks of fog widely above 600m, perhaps lifting slowly during day, most noticeably on and near Skye. 20%	Often covering higher tops Frequently covering hills above 800m. At times shafts of cloud below 600m around showers. Brief clearances to higher summits, most common toward Great Glen and Kintail. 40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun here and there only. Visibility excellent away from precipitation.	Occasional bursts of sunshine. The air generally very clear, but visibility suddenly reduced where in snow and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	1C 1050m	-2 to -4C. 500 to 700m; lowest far north, highest around Skye.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 8 December, 2018**

Becoming progressively colder and drier through the weekend as winds turn northwesterly. A few areas of snow and hail showers by Sunday, focused toward the north and west, but many areas will see sunshine.

Next week, staying below freezing on the mountains for a number of days, with hard frost in valleys early in week.

Confidence becomes low by midweek, but there is an increasing risk of unsettled conditions coming back in from the Atlantic, with gales and perhaps widespread snow on the mountains.

Forecast issued at 15:17 on Thursday, 6 December, 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.