

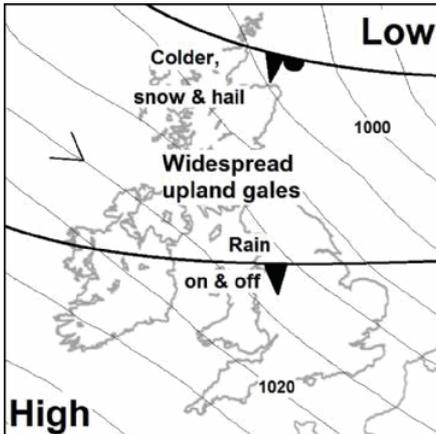
The Northwest Highlands

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, 13 January, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 January, 2019

A cold front edges southwards, producing rain for hills of England and Wales. Colder air follows, sub-zero on Scottish Munros, coldest toward the north. Snow or hail focused toward the N & W of the Highlands, frequent precipitation in places. Winds widely gale force on hills.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales. Increasing cold. Snow showers, frequent north.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 13 January, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	West to northwesterly, 45 to 60mph, strongest in morning; easing to 30mph or less only toward or after dusk.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking difficult across higher areas, and locally at times to lower slopes, with significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers, increasingly snow Showers, at times merging to periods of constant precipitation, especially across the far north. Snow initially just highest tops, but progressively falling to 600-700m or below through day. Risk of hail.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Cloud will shroud the hills fairly extensively through the day with bases around 600-800m, but patches lowering in the west down to 300-400m in precipitation. Best of the breaks toward the Great Glen.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%, or 40% near Great Glen.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare glimpses of sun, mainly towards Great Glen. Visibility often reduced due to precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Briefly 2C at dawn, soon lowering to 0C, then -2C northern tops by dusk. Due to wind chill, feeling like -17C.
Freezing Level	1050m or above at dawn, soon lowering to 900m, but nearer 700m far north late afternoon.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 14 January	Tuesday 15 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwest soon backing west or southwesterly, 15 to 25mph, or less for a time; risk 30mph by dusk, then gales Fairly small much of the day; walking becoming impeded on higher areas toward dusk.	Southwesterly, 45 to 60mph, risk over 70mph on higher areas. Marked increase of speed with height, resulting in difficult conditions on higher terrain; significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow flurries, drizzly rain later Rare snow flurries fading away in morning, but increasing threat of drizzly rain, briefly snow or snow grains above 700m, spreading in during the afternoon.	Threat incessant rain west A slow moving front is expected to give a wet day, particularly to western mountains, with sustained heavy falls of rain. Smaller amounts toward Sutherland. Becoming snow after dark.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Becoming fairly extensive in afternoon Areas of cloud will come and go above 800-1000m in the morning, most persistent towards west coast. Through afternoon, cloud will lower and become fairly extensive above 500-800m; perhaps down to lower slopes in west by dusk. 40%	Extensive Widely shrouding the mountains, from low levels up around the west coast, and extensive above 600-800m inland. Highest breaks toward Ben Wyvis. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patches of sun from dawn will tend to give way to overcast skies by the afternoon. Visibility generally very good, but may become murky towards west coast later.	Sunshine unlikely. A general haze, and visibility very poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C lifting to -1C, or up to 2C near west coast by afternoon. Widely rising to 2 to 4C overnight. Around 500m lifting to 800m, but much of terrain remaining partially frozen after frost at dawn. Above summits overnight.	3 or 4C; but dropping to 0C then below into the night. Above summits, then lowering from dusk onward to 800m, perhaps 600m before dawn on Wednesday.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 14 January, 2019

Changeable westerlies early in the new week, with cycles of freeze and thaw on the mountains. Precipitation frequent on western hills, with extensive low cloud. Very wet in W/NW Scotland on Tuesday, plus gales on many mountains.

A cold front passes southwards on Wednesday, and freezing levels will drop markedly. Showers of snow or hail to increasingly low levels Weds-Thurs. A complicated picture toward next weekend as low pressure drifts across the country, with a mix of snow and rain likely. The further outlook favours generally cold conditions becoming established.

Forecast issued at 15:31 on Saturday, 12 January, 2019

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, 2019.