

The Northwest Highlands

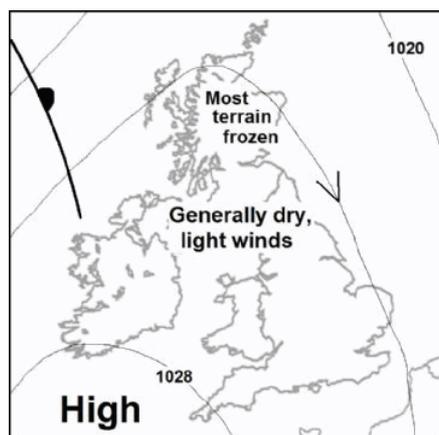
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Monday, 11 February, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 February, 2019

A ridge of high pressure moves across the country, producing a fair, crisp winter's day. The air very clear. Sunshine weakening as cloud builds from the west. Widespread frost in the valleys and glens in the morning. Most mountain terrain frozen. Light winds much of the day.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Dry, cold and sunny, many tops clear. Light winds.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 11 February, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northerly 20-25mph at dawn, will soon ease to 10mph or less through middle of day. Backing southwesterly by afternoon, freshening to 15-25mph by dusk, strongest Skye. Gales arriving overnight. Considerable wind chill at dawn, soon becoming negligible.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	No precipitation until after dusk. Any flurries pre-dawn likely clearing to leave a dry day. After sunset, patchy snow, rain lower slopes, arriving from the west onto coastal hills.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Generally very little Patches will drift across some higher tops and corries at times, mainly around dawn. Otherwise, hills very likely often clear. Patches may form on coastal tops around Skye by dusk into evening. 70% at dawn, rising to 90%.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine frequent, but weakening as high cloud builds from west during afternoon. Visibility excellent.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-5C, lifting to -2C into afternoon near west coast. Most terrain frozen from glens upwards, some partial thawing lower sunlit slopes and more especially lower coastal slopes.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 12 February	Wednesday 13 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southwesterly, veering a little toward west later; 40-60mph, strongest in morning when risk of 70mph. Marked increase of speed with height. Walking widely difficult or very difficult on higher areas. Significant wind chill.	South to southwesterly, 40 to 55mph; strongest western mountains and near/north of major summits. Considerable buffeting, in places through passes and cols and locally gusty to lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Occasional drizzly rain Patches of drizzly rain will come and go across the hills, most persistent in the west. For a time in morning, falling as snow over tops in the east.	Drizzly west Drizzly rain will come and go on western hills - may be persistently damp for many hours. Mostly very little precipitation across Sutherland.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Cloud will likely shroud the hills extensively through the day, with bases generally around 500-800m, although perhaps some patches to 300m in the west. Highest bases, and best of the breaks, will be across eastern hills.	Most persistent west Often shrouding coastal hills on/near Skye from low levels upward. Inland and particularly toward the far north, cloud more broken, and some tops may emerge above or between cloud layers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare glimpses of sun in the east. Visibility often poor in west due to drizzly rain, but good at times in the east.	Glimpses of sun, mostly Sutherland, where visibility often good. A general haze across western mountains, visibility reduced further in rain/drizzle.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	Near 0C inland from dawn, rising to 2C, and may lift to 4C for a few hours middle of day. Generally above the summits, but around 900m inland for a time in morning.	3 to 5C; small change of temperature with increasing height on the hills. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 12 February, 2019**

South to southwesterly winds will dominate from Tuesday onward and through next weekend; gale force at times, particularly the Scottish Highlands, with local strong gusts to lower slopes and through passes. Low cloud will often plague western hills, with patchy rain or drizzle. Generally small amounts of precipitation; often dry away from west coasts. Highest cloud breaks toward the north/east of major upland ranges. Temperatures lifting above freezing even up to higher summits for several days, with a period of thaw across all areas. Local inversion conditions developing at times as the week progresses.

Forecast issued at 14:34 on Sunday, 10 February, 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.