

The Northwest Highlands

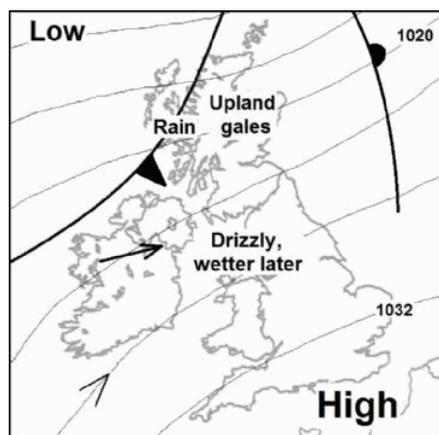
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



sportscotland
the national agency for sport

Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding
Visit www.skyebasecamp.co.uk to book your stay

General Summary for Tuesday, 12 February, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 12 February, 2019

Milder southwesterlies extend across Britain - lifting above freezing up to higher tops. Gale force winds on many mountains; storm force Scottish high tops. Rain for many hours for the West Highlands, fading through afternoon. Rain steadier later Lakes & west Wales. Driest eastern hills.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Storm force winds higher tops. Rain or drizzle, fading PM.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 12 February, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly, veering a little toward west later; 50 to 70mph for several hours, easing slightly by afternoon to 40mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Marked increase of speed with height. Walking widely difficult or very difficult on higher areas. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain, persistent into middle of day, then fading Patches of drizzly rain will come and go across the hills, most persistent in the west. May begin as sleet just at dawn, soon all rain. From about mid-morning, steady rain for a few hours on western hills, then fading to drizzly showers through afternoon. Least rain in 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, particularly afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	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; improving through afternoon.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Near 1C inland from dawn, rising to 3C, or briefly a degree or so higher middle of day. Feeling like -15C or below where exposed to wind.
Freezing Level	Generally above the summits, but some slopes close to freezing inland at dawn. A gradual thaw setting in.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 13 February	Thursday 14 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southwesterly, 45 to 60mph; strongest western mountains and near/north of major summits. Arduous conditions on the hills. Considerable buffeting through passes and cols and locally gusty to lower slopes. Significant wind chill.	Southerly, 40 to 55mph; strongest winds not necessarily higher slopes. Walking arduous in places; buffeting through passes and cols, and sudden turbulent gusts locally to lower slopes north of major ridges.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly west Drizzly rain will come and go on western hills from Skye to Wester Ross - may be persistently damp for many hours. Mostly very little precipitation across Sutherland.	Substantially dry Rare patches of drizzle confined to Skye and nearby coastal hills early in day, otherwise dry.
Cloud on the 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.	Becoming very little Banks of cloud drifting around some tops and corries, may linger around Skye for several hours, but increasingly likely to break up. Often very little low cloud inland and far north.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun, mostly Sutherland, where visibility often good. A general haze across western mountains, visibility reduced further in rain/drizzle.	Sunshine frequent, may break through widely; cloudiest around Skye. Visibility mostly good, but a general haze.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	3 to 5C; small change of temperature with increasing height on the hills. Above the summits.	In range 5 to 10C, warmest toward north; some higher tops warmer than lower slopes. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 13 February, 2019

South to southwesterly winds persist all week and into the weekend; often windy, gales 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. Some inversion conditions developing, and cloud breaking up increasingly from south into Thursday. By Friday, cloud and drizzly rain will return from the west as the next fronts move in. Temperatures above freezing for several days, with a period of thaw across all areas.

Forecast issued at 14:32 on Monday, 11 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.