

The Northwest Highlands

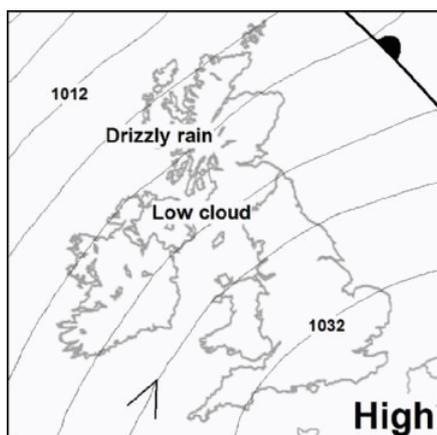
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Wednesday, 13 February, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 February, 2019

Mild south to southwesterlies bring patchy rain or drizzle, and extensive low cloud, focused on western hills. Small amounts of drizzle England and Wales, plus the north/east of Scotland. Gale force winds across many hills, very gusty in places through passes and cols.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales. Occasional rain, low cloud focused west.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 13 February, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southwesterly, 45 to 60mph; strongest western mountains and near/north of major summits.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous conditions on the hills. Considerable buffeting through passes and cols and locally gusty to lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
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.
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.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% Skye to Wester Ross, up to 50% Sutherland.
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.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3 to 5C; small change of temperature with increasing height on the hills. Where directly exposed to wind, feeling like -12C.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 14 February	Friday 15 February
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	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.	Timing uncertain in this forecast: South veering westerly, risk 50-70mph for several hours, may drop markedly later. Threat of difficult conditions on the hills for at least part of the day, with sudden gusts to lower slopes. May improve.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Substantially dry Rare patches of drizzle confined to Skye and nearby coastal hills early in day, otherwise dry.	Rain may set in A cold front moving in from the west (timing uncertain) brings an increasing risk of rain developing and becoming persistent for several hours, focused around Skye & Torridon. May turn to snow above 700-800m before fading.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	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. 60%	Lowering in rain Many tops may start cloud free, but as rain arrives, cloud will lower onto the hills, forming to lower slopes near west coast around Skye. The far north may just see patches on high tops. 40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine breaking through, most widely Sutherland; cloudiest around Skye. Visibility mostly good, but a general haze.	Any early sun soon weak, giving way to overcast skies. Visibility reducing, becoming poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	In range 5 to 10C, warmest toward north; some higher tops warmer than lower slopes. Above the summits.	Initially 4 to 6C or above, but may later drop toward 0C. Starting above the summits, but dropping (perhaps abruptly over the space of a few hours) to 900-1000m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 14 February, 2019**

South to southwesterly winds persist into the weekend; often windy, gales at times, particularly Scottish Highlands. Low cloud will often plague western hills, with patchy rain or drizzle as weak fronts come in from the Atlantic from time to time. Generally small amounts of precipitation; often dry away from west coasts. Apart from a brief drop of temperature during Friday in Scotland, the mountains will be above freezing for several days ahead. A period of thaw across all areas, leaving mostly very little snow cover into next week.

Forecast issued at 14:39 on Tuesday, 12 February, 2019

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