

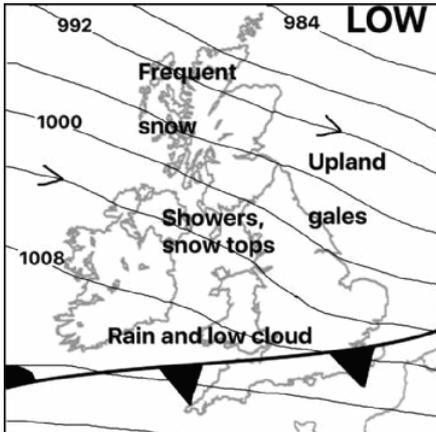
The Northwest Highlands

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, 15 March, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 March, 2019

Upland gales will bring difficult conditions across the hills with significant/severe wind chill. Frequent snow/hail showers will drive across Scotland through the day, risk thunder in north. Further south, extensive low cloud and rain will edge south to become largely confined to south Wales in afternoon. Showers following to north England, snow on tops.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales/severe chill. Frequent snow and whiteout. Hill fog.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 15 March, 2019

| | |
|--|---|
| How windy? (On the Munros) | Westerly in the range 45-65mph, but may be nearer 30-35mph for a time around dawn. |
| Effect of wind on you? | Walking widely arduous or difficult across higher areas with widespread buffeting. Strong gusts reaching lower slopes. Severe wind chill. |
| How wet? (Precipitation and its impact) | Frequent snow and whiteout Frequent hail snow showers through the day, merging at times to near constant precipitation with resultant whiteout. Snow increasingly down to 400m or so. Risk of isolated lightning. |
| Cloud on the hills? | Extensive Often covering mountains above 600-800m, or lower during constant precipitation. Occasional higher breaks may form away from showers. |
| Chance of cloud free Munros? | 20% |
| Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud) | Little or no sun. A general haze, and visibility reduced significantly by rain or snow. |
| How Cold? (at 900m) | 0 or -1C at dawn, dropping to -3C. Feeling closer to -20C in direct exposure to the wind. |
| Freezing Level | Initially 800-900m, but soon lowering to 600m. |

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

| | Saturday 16 March | Sunday 17 March |
|--|--|---|
| How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you? | Low confidence in forecast: Westerly later northwesterly 15-30mph. May be major lull in wind for several hours. May impede walking at times across higher areas with marked wind chill. | Northwest later northerly in the range 30-40mph. Walking arduous at times across higher areas with significant wind chill and buffeting. |
| How wet? (Precipitation and its impact) | Snow showers in the west. A few snow showers towards west coast. Otherwise, dry for most areas, but small risk of a little snow spreading into southern areas later in the day. | Frequent snow/hail showers Frequent snow and hail showers through the day; may merge to give prolonged spell of snow and whiteout. Risk of isolated lightning. |
| Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros? | Good breaks, lowering if snow develops. Many hills likely clear much of the day, although banks of cloud may affect western hills above 800m for a few hours. Should snow develop in the south later in the day, cloud will become extensive across the hills. 60% | Often shrouding hills in north and west. Cloud base will vary; shafts below 500-600m in snow, but generally 800 to 1050m, lowest across coastal areas in north and west. Away from these areas, cloud intermittently breaking off higher summits. 30% |
| Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud) | Glimpses of sun through high level cloud. Visibility good or very good, but becoming very poor should snow develop in south. | Occasional bursts of sun between the showers, mostly in the south. Visibility at times very good, but often very poor due to snow with risk of whiteout. |
| How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level | -3C 500-600m. | -2 to -4C, highest around middle of the day. 400-600m, highest around middle of the day. |

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 16 March, 2019**

Despite significant uncertainties on track, an area of low pressure will move in on Saturday with bring widespread precipitation, low cloud and upland gales across many hills. Snow is expected to fall across higher parts of the North Pennines/Lakes for a time, but more widely, and to low levels, across the Southern Uplands and later central/southern Highlands. By Sunday, northwest winds will bring snow showers across many hills, increasingly rain to lower slopes through day. Largely fine on Monday, but low cloud and rain will reach western hills late on. This will then herald a change to milder, cloudier and across Scotland damp conditions through the middle of the week with a period of sustained thaw.

Forecast issued at 16:37 on Thursday, 14 March, 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.