

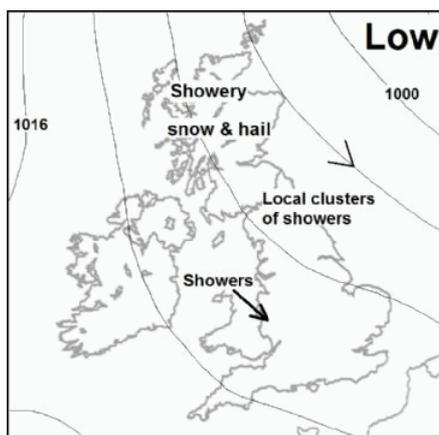
# The Northwest Highlands

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.)



**Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding**  
 Visit [www.skyebasecamp.co.uk](http://www.skyebasecamp.co.uk) to book your stay

## General Summary for Wednesday, 5 May, 2021



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 5 May, 2021

Another very cold day for May; higher mountains sub-zero, some rise of freezing level through the day. Showers with hail or snow, to lower slopes in the Highlands, locally frequent, heavy with isolated thunder. A brisk northwesterly breeze, feeling bitter where exposed.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cold. Hail and snow showers, chance of thunder.

## Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 5 May, 2021

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	North or northwesterly, around 25mph, very gusty near precipitation. Strengthening from north toward 40mph up to dusk.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Cold in exposure and noticeable gusts near showers. Deteriorating up to sunset from north.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Hail and snow showers, some heavy</b> Hail and snow showers throughout the day - although most frequent by afternoon well inland from Torridon southwards. Snow often falling to lower slopes. Isolated thunder. By evening, snow may set in from north for an hour or so. Lying snow on many higher slopes. Icy in places.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Intermittently clearing away from showers</b> Cloud often covering coastal hills, where patches above 500m, and fairly frequently above 800m, although breaks to higher tops. Inland summits clearing more frequently, but near precipitation cloud forming 600m upwards.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30% coasts, 50% inland.</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Bursts of sunshine. Periods of excellent or superb visibility but abruptly very poor in snow.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-5C; rising marginally during the day, particularly well inland, to around -2C. Wind chill feels as cold as -15C.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Most terrain at least partly frozen at dawn. By early afternoon freezing level typically 600 to 750m, lowest near the coast.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 6 May	Friday 7 May
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	North or northwesterly 20 to 30mph, strongest west coast, risk up to 35-40mph Skye for a time. <b>Remaining notably chilly where exposed on higher terrain; considerable buffeting at times, especially in west.</b>	Northerly or variable, 10 to 15mph or at times less. <b>Mostly small, but still a notable chill on higher slopes.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Risk hail and snow setting in for a time</b> Frequent hail and snow showers overall, but locally may cluster together to give constant precipitation for an hour or more. Some places intermittently drier for spells. Chance isolated thunder.	<b>Scattered hail and snow showers</b> A few hail or snow showers, mainly near west coast in morning, then focused toward east by afternoon. Becoming mostly rain lower slopes.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Breaks away from showers</b>  Mostly confined to higher slopes, with breaks to many summits away from showers. Patches below 700m where precipitation is frequent.	<b>Mostly very little</b>  Occasional patches capping higher slopes around showers.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun. The air very clear, but visibility very poor periodically in showers.	Occasional sun, mostly inland in morning, then near west coast in afternoon. The air very clear indeed, but very poor visibility around showers.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	-2C, rising toward 0C inland by afternoon.  Frost widely from dawn away from coasts. Rising to 800 to 900m.	-2C rising to 0 to 2C by afternoon, highest around Great Glen.  Frost at most elevations at dawn. Rising to 900-1000m by middle of day.

**Planning Outlook****All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 6 May, 2021**

Unusually cold weather for early May is expected to continue into next week, particularly in Scotland, whilst some milder air is likely to move across England & Wales from the south during the weekend. Higher Scottish mountains persistently sub-zero; the freezing level sometimes widely below 900m, plus frequent frosts on lower terrain overnight.

Areas of hail and snow showers, some heavy with thunder, most widespread in the afternoons.

Another deep Atlantic low is due to move in from the southwest by Saturday - a threat of widespread upland gales, heavy rain, and further snow some areas. Chilly and showery northwesterlies are then likely to resume for a few days.

**Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 4 May, 2021**

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering 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 Mountain Weather Information Service, 2021.