MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

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, 24 May, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 24 May, 2024

Weakening low pressure over Scotland leaves extensive low clouds over the hills. Inland Scotland and northern England patchy rain in the morning and in the afternoon. Some sunshine in the south (Peak District, Brecon Beacons) and on western Scottish coast second part of the day. Only gentle breeze even on the highest tops.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cloudy inland with few showers, mostly fine near the coast.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 24 May, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable 10-15mph or less.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small
How wet?	Local rain or showers inland by afternoon.
(Precipitation and its impact)	Mostly dry in the morning with a few odd spots of light rain. By afternoon local brief showers forming, mainly inland areas.
Cloud on the hills?	Often covering tops
	Varied banks of cloud covering the hills in the morning, bases tending to rise during the day, some breaks to upper slopes, but returning as ragged patches around showers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% to 70% in the west afternoon
Sunshine?	Some sunshine possible in the afternoon, best chance near to the coast, especially
Air clarity (below cloud)	Skye. Visibility good away from rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	4 to 6C
Freezing Level	Above the summits

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The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 25 May	Sunday 26 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southeasterly, 15 to 30mph, on and near Skye gusts up to 40mph in the afternoon. Considerable wind chill, walking strenuous and balance affected on exposed ridges.	South to southeasterly, 20 to 30mph, north of Ullapool gusts up to 40mph. Most gusty in the morning. Fairly small, on the northern coast moderate at times, there walking impeded.
How wet?	Morning drizzle, afternoon mostly dry.	Chance early rain, showery bursts later.
(Precipitation and its impact)	Light drizzle possible in the morning, later only odd spots of rain on the west coastal mountains.	Highly uncertain development, most likely dry morning and noon apart from few rain spots south of Torridon. In the late afternoon widely developing showers and risk of isolated thunder.
Cloud on the hills?	Morning dense cover, later partly lifting	Hills covered most of the day.
	Starting with dense clouds covering hills and valleys, later widely lifting. Tops above around 1100m covered all day.	Only some hills clear in the morning, most likely those north of Torridon. Later lowering bases and hardly any tops clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%, rising to 70%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little sunshine through clouds later in the day. Visibility good, possible slight haze.	Few sunbeams in the morning north of Torridon, later with dense clouds hardly any sunshine. Visibility moderate at start, worsening.
How Cold? (at 900m)	7 to 10C.	7 to 10C, feeling close to freezing where exposed to strong winds.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 25 May, 2024

Low pressure system will fade upon the weekend arrival, allowing for a short improvement in the weather on Saturday. Into Sunday, shallow low from the east brings a risk of worsening conditions in Scotland and northern England, while western areas will see a new cold front coming from the Atlantic bringing moist, unstable air and spells of rain or showers, continuing into Bank Holiday. With a series of fronts from the west, next week will likely stay changeable, with more cloudy and wet days than sunny spells.

Forecast issued at 16:22 on Thursday, 23 May, 2024

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, 2024.