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 Tuesday, 15 July, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 15 July, 2025

Heavy and persistent rain for England, Wales and southern Scotland, breaking up into thundery showers into the afternoon. Windy too, gale force over Welsh mountains. Some rain reaches north of the central belt, but most of the Highlands stays dry, with early low cloud rising and the wind mostly light. Much cooler than recently.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Mostly light wind. Some early rain in north, cloud lifting.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 15 July, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Easterly or variable, 10 to 15mph, at times 20mph in far north. With time turning down the west coast, 15-20mph.	
Effect of wind on you?	Small	
How wet?	Early patchy rain, possible showers	
(Precipitation and its impact)	Possibly thundery rain in north up to dawn, may leave remnants of rain for a few hours early morning across Sutherland. In afternoon, risk isolated slow-moving heavy showers, mostly inland areas.	
Cloud on the hills? Cloud at different heights, lifting		
	Fairly extensive banks of cloud to lower slopes in morning, some slopes may emerge between or above cloud layers early in day before cloud lifts upslope. Many hills fully clearing, patches returning locally in showers.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% rising to 70%	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some sun through cloud layers, may brighten up, but expect high cloud. Misty morning in places, visibility otherwise very good.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	9 or 10C, small variation all day.	
Freezing Level	Above the summits	

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 16 July	Thursday 17 July
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Variable direction 10mph or less. Negligible	South or southeasterly, 15 to 25mph, strongest around Skye and nearby coast on the mainland, at times 30mph. Blustery on western mountains, affecting balance in places on exposed ridges. Fairly small further north and east.
How wet?	Rain unlikely	Rain and drizzle
(Precipitation and its impact)	Chance of an isolated shower, mainly inland afternoon.	Drizzle most frequent on Skye, feeling damp much of day where in cloud. Occasional pulses of steadier rain moving northwards, may set in for longer on western hills.
Cloud on the hills?	Scope for inversion in morning	Murky around Skye, clearer north/east
	Possibly extensive low level cloud around coastal areas which may be slow to clear, higher terrain above the cloud sheet. Some cloud banks drifting upslope, tending to disperse, but locally may linger in north.	Low cloud persistent across Skye and coastal Wester Ross, may fill in west coastal hills further north too. Covering Cuillin to lower elevations southern areas. Inland Sutherland generally much clearer.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%	10% on/near Skye, to 70% north inland.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Areas of cloud and sun, some coastal hills misty to mid slopes, but visibility excellent out of cloud.	Little or no sun, at best weak through high cloud toward east. Misty poor visibility west coast near Skye. Generally good eastern areas.
How Cold? (at 900m)	9C rising to 12C, locally 14C well inland afternoon.	10 to 12C, increasingly humid.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 16 July, 2025

Dry for many on Wednesday, chance of a very isolated afternoon shower. Humidity rises on Thursday with drizzly rain and low cloud particularly in western regions. A mixed outlook, as slack low pressure drifts slowly over the British Isles, giving scope for slow-moving showers and possible thundery downpours, these most extensive over England and Wales around the weekend. Staying fairly warm, quite humid.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Monday, 14 July, 2025

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, 2025.