

The Northwest Highlands

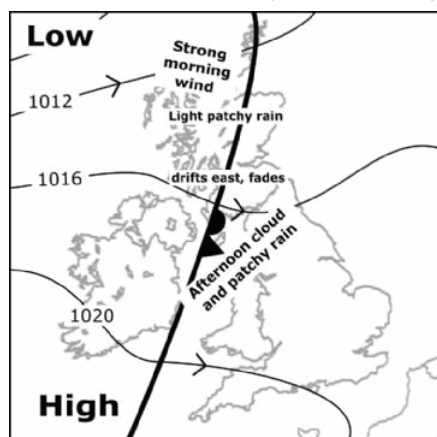
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Friday, 25 July, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 25 July, 2025

Cloud and patchy rain in western Scotland clears east, progressively easing; far east Scotland substantially dry and clear. Patchy cloud over high English and Welsh summits in the morning, deteriorating with the arrival of patchy rain through afternoon. East Wales and south Pennines substantially dry and free of cloud.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cloud, rain, and strong winds early; improving, best inland

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 25 July, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	In the morning, winds southwesterly gusting up to 35-40mph over tops. Easing to 25 to 30mph through morning, most persistently strong in the north.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking starting to be impeded with occasional stability challenges in exposure. Strongest morning winds will challenge balance. Feeling cool on higher terrain.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Morning patchy rain drifts east, largely fading Patchy rain soon arrives on Skye and quickly spreads up the west coast. Drizzly over the high tops of Skye and nearby mountains. Rain will drift inland, tending to fade as it passes east through afternoon. Toward evening, some local light showers will drift onto west coast hills.
Cloud on the hills?	Lifting to higher slopes with regular breaks, most frequent well inland Covering many hills from dawn above 600-800m, lowest cloud toward the west. Bases lifting through morning to upper slopes, then regularly breaking to inland tops through afternoon. Cloud likely to come and go above 900-1000m in west.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% rising to 50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sun beginning to break out later morning/early afternoon, breaks most frequent well inland/east. Visibility becoming very good below cloud though some haze around coastal and nearby inland slopes.
How Cold? (at 900m)	9 or 10C at dawn, soon cooling to 8C along west coast mountains. Little or no change for inland mountains. Feeling near or just below freezing where exposed to wind on high tops.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 26 July	Sunday 27 July
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 25 to 35mph, strongest sustained speeds toward north. Trending towards stronger speeds into evening.	Soon westerly 20-25mph; winds up to 35mph pre-dawn. Breezes up to 30mph later.
Effect of wind on you?	Blustery, strenuous walking on exposed terrain, frequent buffeting making balance challenging on ridges. Feeling chilly.	Comfortable walking often affected; some stability challenges in exposure early and late in the day. Feeling cool.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showery rain Often raining on western mountains, likely on and off much of the day, may develop more persistently at times. Smaller amounts further eastwards, but greater risk of showers here in afternoon.	Persistent rain, breaking somewhat north From dawn, persistent rain on most west coast hills, extending inland south of Ullapool. Tending to become more showery in the north; may persist well into afternoon Skye/Wester Ross.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, lowest west Covering western mountains throughout the day, bases 600-800m, lower at times near coast. Some variation inland, occasional breaks forming further east. Filling in again as nighttime approaches.	Extensive, improving somewhat inland Extensive down to lowest west coast slopes much of the day. Well inland, bases tending to rise and a few patchy breaks to higher terrain appear (most likely near Great Glen), though much terrain above 800-900m will often be in cloud.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Largely cloudy, glimpses of sun east. Visibility good below cloud, slight haze toward west coast.	Chance of glimpses of sun well inland later, otherwise mostly cloudy. Very good visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	7 or 8C, rising to 9C well inland. Feeling at or just below freezing in the wind, as cold as -5C on higher tops.	8C. Well inland areas may rise a degree. Feeling near freezing in the wind, cooler early and late.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 26 July, 2025

Westerly winds with mixed weather will prevail through the weekend into next week, bringing patchy rain and some heavier showers at times pushing eastwards - Saturday into Sunday may be quite wet for the west of Scotland. Through the week, periods of rain will be punctuated with decent sun breaks, though northwest Scotland will struggle to clear for sun. Often breezy and feeling cool with temperatures lingering near or below average. Likely remaining unsettled into the following weekend though details are uncertain.

Forecast issued at 16:29 on Thursday, 24 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.