

The Northwest Highlands

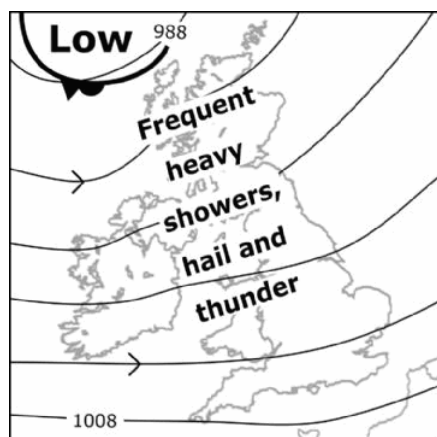
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Thursday, 11 September, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 September, 2025

Gale force winds over many Scottish high tops in the morning, but persistent all day toward the northwest; powerful squally gusts around showers. Up to gale-force also on Welsh high tops. Heavy downpours already affect most of western Britain from dawn, increasingly widespread with hail, thunder & lightning.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales widely on mountains. Showery bursts, hail & thunder.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 11 September, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 40 to 50mph, up to 60mph at times on summits nearer the west coast, for longest in northern areas, easing a little in afternoon around Skye.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking widely arduous in exposure over the mountains; often difficult conditions over higher tops, gusts frequently knocking you off balance. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers, frequent west and heavy Often raining on Skye with heavy bursts coming and going. Showers develop inland and further eastward with time, at times frequent, brief heavy bursts with risk of hail and thunder.
Cloud on the hills?	Most persistent west coast, varied around showers Fairly extensive on Skye and coastal mountains from middle slopes up. More patchy inland with higher bases, a few odd breaks to tops possible. Cloud tending to lower more widely as showers form. Breaks best toward Ben Hope and Ben Wyvis.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%, to 40% far north/east.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some bursts of inland sun in the morning, though likely becoming mostly cloudy. Visibility often poor in rain, locally very good where dry.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5 or 6C. Feeling like -7 to -10C in exposure to wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 12 September	Saturday 13 September
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 25-35mph during daytime. At or before dawn, 40-45mph northern areas. May also increase again by dusk.	South turning southwesterly, speeds varied 20 to 30mph, at times 35mph, but a few hours of lower speeds middle of day.
Effect of wind on you?	Strenuous walking in exposure, affecting balance on tops and ridges. More widely challenging early and late. Feeling chilly.	Blustery winds for periods, affecting ease of walking and balance in exposure; smaller for a time. Marked wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Heavy showers, often raining Skye Frequent showers along west coast near Torridon, periods of constant rain Skye. Drier start inland, then increasingly showery for several hours afternoon, at times merging into broader areas of rain with hail/thunder periods.	Showers, some heavy Clusters of showery rain, most frequent over coastal mountains near Skye. Some heavy bursts, risk of hail and thunder.
Cloud on the hills?	Persistent near Skye, some breaks inland Extensive on Skye and nearby from middle slopes up. Similarly low bases but more broken further north, some higher bases well inland. Some breaks to inland tops for a time, cloud returns more extensively around showers.	Most frequent west and Skye Often covering higher western mountains, cloud base changing quickly in and out of showers. Some breaks toward tops mainly far north and eastern areas.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% inland, 10% west coast	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine well inland, clouding over at times. Little or no sun west coast. Good visibility for a time inland, deteriorating as showers arrive.	Brief glimpses of sun, most in north/east. Visibility very good where dry, but reduced to poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5C. Feeling like -5C or cooler in direct wind.	4 or 5C. Feeling like -5C directly in the wind on tops.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 12 September, 2025

Unsettled southwesterlies dominate through the weekend into early next week - often windy with frequent rain, cloud capping the tops. Showery bursts at times with a risk of hail and thunder. Drier and highest cloud bases toward eastern Scotland. Temperatures on the cool side, often feeling below freezing in exposure to wind on higher terrain. During Sunday and into Monday, a deeper Atlantic low is expected to move in, bringing more extensive heavy rain and gales - the strongest wind probably focused on England & Wales. Some improvement expected for a time into middle of next week, but the longer range outlook into late September remains unsettled.

Forecast issued at 16:16 on Wednesday, 10 September, 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.