

The Northwest Highlands

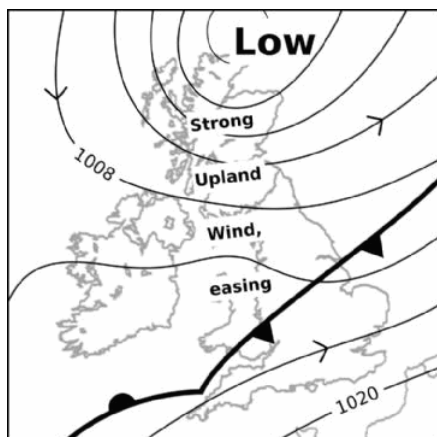
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Tuesday, 16 September, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 16 September, 2025

Strong upland winds across the UK in the morning will ease from the west into the afternoon. Frequent showers in west-coastal regions; more scattered inland with the Peak District and Cairngorms National Parks becoming or staying largely dry. Extensive cloud on most high ground. Temperatures feeling cool.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Strong upland wind, easing. Showery

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 16 September, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 30 to 40mph, will tend to moderate gradually into the afternoon toward 20mph, initially on Skye.
Effect of wind on you?	Very blustery in the morning with arduous conditions and significant wind chill. Conditions easing into afternoon.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Clusters of showers Showers drifting onto coastal hills from the northwest, more frequent and widespread at times, mainly more northern areas in the afternoon, some heavier bursts. Drifting south through the day.
Cloud on the hills?	Rising bases, but persistent near coast. Fairly extensive banks from dawn, but varying bases 600-900m. Gradual rise in bases toward tops, but may persist 800-900m toward west coast up to Ben Hope.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% lifting to 50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloudy start, mix of cloud and sunny intervals toward and into afternoon. Visibility improving to become mostly very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5C. Feeling below freezing in the wind, at times nearer -5C.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 17 September	Thursday 18 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Still some uncertainty: Southeasterly becoming southwesterly 30-40mph. Increasing further to 50mph+ evening. Expect arduous, blustery conditions, affecting ease of walking and balance on ridges. Further deterioration into evening likely.	Forecast details very uncertain. Southwesterly 40 to 50mph, risk sustained 60mph. Very gusty. Difficult walking conditions will make progress challenging. Very powerful gusts may easily blow you over. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain on and off Light rain on and off throughout the day, potentially becoming more persistent, and perhaps heavier, for a few hours in places. Northernmost regions: Reasonable chance that rain is only patchy and may escape drier.	Likely wet near west coast Heavy, on-and-off showers likely near the west coast. These may merge to become persistent rain, greatest risk toward Skye and Torridon.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive near west coast Cloud extensive on high ground, especially where rain is frequent. Northernmost regions may only have patchy cloud.	Extensive where raining Extensive cloud down to lower west-coastal slopes where in rain. Regions that remain dry will have a much higher cloud base, generally best north of Ullapool and toward Ben Wyvis.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10% Skye to Ullapool; 50% far north	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun through high cloud. Visibility very good if dry, reduced to poor if areas of rain develop.	Little or no sun in many places, but patchy or widespread sunshine if out of rain. Poor visibility near the west coast.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	4 to 6C. Feeling sub-zero in the wind, -5C or below if speeds increase. Above the summits	7C. Feeling around -5C in the wind. Well above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 17 September, 2025

An ongoing unsettled outlook generally dominated by low pressure. Extensive rain and gales into midweek, likely wettest on west-coastal regions. Areas of rain and showers frequently in the forecast later in the week. Temperatures near-average, but feeling cool when exposed to wind. A chillier northwesterly may emerge by next weekend, briefly dropping near freezing on highest Scottish tops. Indications then favour higher pressure at least briefly expanding northwards early next week for some drier days, but unlikely to settle down for long.

Forecast issued at 16:31 on Monday, 15 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.