

The Northwest Highlands

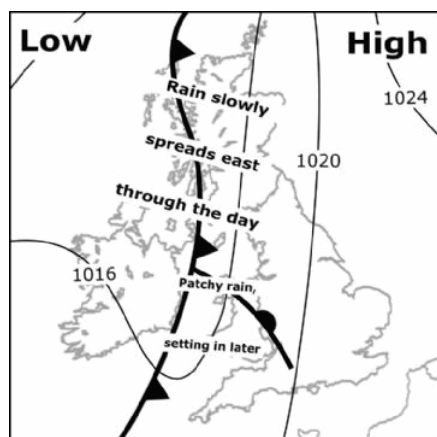
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding

Visit www.skyebasecamp.co.uk to book your stay

General Summary for Saturday, 27 September, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 27 September, 2025

A dry dawn, rain soon arriving on Scotland's west coast and slowly spreading east, reaching England and east Scotland through afternoon. Dry most of the day over the central and south Pennines though hazy. Light patchy rain for Wales, then substantial rain later afternoon. Blustery, morning gales over high Scotland summits.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Rain and cloud slowly build from the west; morning gales

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 27 September, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 40-50mph from dawn, risk up to 60mph Skye. Gradually easing to 20-30mph, some chance of a sharper drop on Skye and Wester Ross later to 15mph or lower.
Effect of wind on you?	Gales likely start the day with significant buffeting. Easing down through day and feeling chilly, some chance of a lull on Skye later, but still blustery inland.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Dry for many early except Skye, slowly becoming widespread A band of rain touches the west of Skye from dawn and slowly moves west, reaching Wester Ross by midday and continues to spread east and north into afternoon, staying wet overnight. Rain could be heavy at times on Skye.
Cloud on the hills?	Well broken mainland early, becoming extensive Skye shrouded above 900m at dawn, only patchy cloud on high mainland slopes with cloud-free tops. Cloud slowly lowers on Skye as rain sets in and drifts inland and north, most mountains shrouded above 800-900m by later afternoon with local lower bases.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80% mainland at dawn, lowering to 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast from dawn on Skye, bright to the north and east for a few hours before widely overcast. Good visibility, turning poor as rain sets in.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6C, locally 7C north of Ullapool. Feeling like -8C in direct wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 28 September	Monday 29 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Low confidence - westerly 20-30mph, though could be lighter or even a lull. Risk of uncomfortable winds much of the day with strenuous conditions in exposure - could be mostly small.	From dawn, southwesterly 15mph; 25mph Skye. Speeds rising afternoon, up to a gusty 25-35mph, 40mph gusts Skye. Ease of walking gradually affected, becoming strenuous over many tops with considerable buffeting.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain, likely most of the day Frequently raining, quite persistent onto the west coast. Tending to break into showers from the south later, though perhaps fading sooner - low confidence.	Drizzly Skye, otherwise largely dry Some fine drizzle over high tops of the Cuillin. Light rain arrives onto Skye afternoon with patches increasingly drifting east and north into evening.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Likely extensive much of the day Extensive through most of morning, down to lowest slopes on the west coast. Bases lift somewhat with odd breaks here and there, but high tops unlikely to clear except in the south later. 20%	Mostly over the Cuillin, filling in late in the day Some local mist in northern glens with ragged patches drifting over tops; high tops of the Cuillin likely more extensively covered. Later afternoon, becoming extensive on Skye and spreading inland and northward into night. 70%, lowering to 30% later
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, sunny bursts starting to form around Skye later in the day. Poor visibility in cloud and rain.	Mostly sunny in the morning, high cloud drifting in from the west gradually shrouds sun. Very good visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C Above the summits	5C rising to 6C, up to 7C Skye later. Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 28 September, 2025

A footprint of moisture remains on Sunday with morning valley mist and areas of patchy low cloud and rain, mostly affecting western areas. Into the following week, the UK is situated under a boundary between high and low pressure with a trend towards more settled conditions south, unsettled north. Northwest England and west Scotland could be rather wet with persistent cloud covering tops and drifting down western slopes. Heavier spells of rain can pass into northeastern areas too. Generally dry for the Pennines and Wales, though cloud and occasionally drizzly rain will impact western areas. The position of the pressure pattern is crucial, as a slight northward shift could bring settled weather to southern Scotland; a southern shift could bring unsettled weather more widely.

Forecast issued at 16:03 on Friday, 26 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.