

The Northwest Highlands

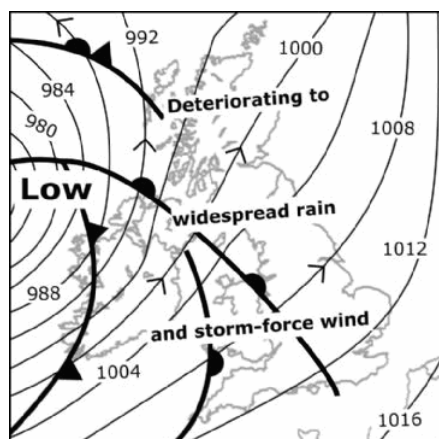
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Friday, 3 October, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 3 October, 2025

Mostly dry conditions early with modest wind effects, deteriorating as Storm Amy arrives. Winds reach gale-force around midday, further deteriorating through afternoon, reaching hurricane-force over high Scotland tops later. Rain becomes widespread with sustained heavy falls on western mountains; local flooding is likely.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Variable morning conditions, deteriorating to rain and violent wind

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 3 October, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	From dawn, west-southwesterly 20-30mph; risk of stronger winds before dawn. May briefly lull before a southeasterly shift and rapid rise after midday to 40-50mph, returning southwesterly and further rising to 80-100mph by nightfall.
Effect of wind on you?	Rapidly changing conditions: fairly benign for several hours in the morning, then significant deterioration through afternoon. Any mobility will be difficult by evening.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Morning showers, locally dry, then widespread rain Overnight rain easing to showers early morning, mostly dry for a few hours in the north. Rain developing from the southwest afternoon, spreading widely and setting in heavy on/near Skye. Wet underfoot, streams in spate.
Cloud on the hills?	Breaking to tops mostly inland, extensive later Varied cloud banks over the hills above 700m from dawn, most extensive western areas. Breaks forming to upper slopes, clearing for periods inland/north before becoming extensive as rain develops. Cuillin likely stay often covered.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% for a time, becoming practically nil.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun through high cloud, possibly more frequent for a time, then becoming overcast through afternoon. Visibility excellent before rain arrives, becoming very poor.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5 or 6C. May briefly rise to 7C later in the day. Feeling increasingly chilly as winds rise, near -10C afternoon, then colder into night.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 4 October	Sunday 5 October
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwesterly, 70 to 90mph, gusts likely 100mph on higher mountains. Severe conditions, difficult mobility on hills from lower elevations upward. Damaging gusts possible on low ground.	Northwesterly 45-55mph, up to 60mph over tops early. Shifting westerly and may ease somewhat for a few hours. Arduous conditions most of the day - bracing likely needed in exposure. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain most of the day western areas Persistent heavy rain from before dawn, remaining frequent or constant over western mountains all day, but tending to break up, more showery at times. Falling as sleet on highest tops. Expect flooding.	Drizzly rain increasingly frequent Intermittent drizzly rain drifts from the west. Increasing in frequency and intensity later in the day, may set in for a few hours.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Extensive Cloud base varying, but covering most mountains throughout the day, lowest sustained bases near west coast and on Skye, 500-700m. Some higher breaks forming later in the day. 10%	Extensive Fairly extensive above 800-900m at dawn, though some higher breaks well inland for a time. Cloud soon sets in extensively down to middle slopes with banks down to coastal cliff edges. 20% east for a time, lowering to less than 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare sun until later where a few sunny bursts may break out on low slopes. General haze, poor visibility in rain.	Patchy sun east and north for a few hours, increasingly limited by high cloud. Visibility soon turns poor in cloud and rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	3 or 4C. Wind chill making it feel like -10 to -15C. At or just above highest summits.	3C rising to 6C. Feeling like -10C in direct wind exposure. May just touch the highest summits at dawn, soon lifting above.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 4 October, 2025

Storm Amy clears to the northeast on Saturday, behind which temperatures drop much cooler, to freezing on higher Scottish summits. Showery and windy conditions prevail through the day easing only gradually into Sunday as another mild and humid westerly brings cloud and drizzle to high tops and western slopes. Changeable westerlies continue into the week with frontal boundaries in northern England and Scotland: frequent rain and cloud on western mountains, rain at times passing eastward. Rain and cloud slip south through England and Wales around midweek, though weakening as it goes. Early indications of several days of northerly winds late in the week, which will bring cool, showery conditions to many with a mix of sunny and rainy spells with snow on northernmost tops.

Forecast issued at 16:09 on Thursday, 2 October, 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.