

The Northwest Highlands

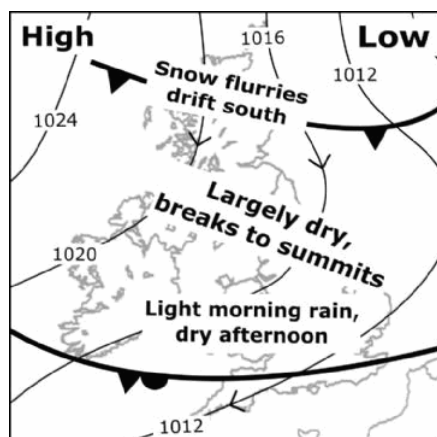
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Sunday, 16 November, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 16 November, 2025

Snow flurries (rain lower down) arrive in northwest Scotland early and slip into the central highlands. Mixed cloud and sun for southern Scotland and England; only odd light showers on easternmost hills, many hills clear. Drizzly showery rain early in Wales, abating with cloud lifting to high slopes.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Patchy cloud and sun; showery rain passes south

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 16 November, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	North-northwesterly 15 to 25mph. Stronger gusts up to 30mph for a few hours as rain passes. A trend towards higher speeds around and after dusk, approaching 35mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small effect on walking from morning, but becoming blustery on exposed slopes with wind chill, increasingly so later in the day with strenuous walking into nighttime.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Band of rain, snow tops, moving south Odd spots of showery rain early (snow mostly above 800m). A band of showery rain arrives from the north in the morning and moves south, snow isolating to high tops as the rain passes. Southernmost hills mostly dry until afternoon. Likely dry behind the rain.
Cloud on the hills?	Most frequent north, lowering at times Patchy cloud mostly on upper slopes, becoming more extensive above 600-700m in precipitation in the north, then broken cloud here later. Areas toward Kintail starting clearer, then banks drifting onto high ground in the afternoon as rain passes.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%, though dropping to 20% as rain arrives
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunny bursts mostly Skye to the Great Glen in morning, clouding over from north, then some bursts of sun appearing in the north. Visibility excellent for periods, but reduced to very poor when in rain/snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0C most of the day, briefly rising slightly as showers pass. Dropping to -1C into dusk, further dropping overnight. Feeling like -7C in exposure to wind, down to -10C by dusk.
Freezing Level	Frost many inland glens from dawn, mid-slopes above freezing; near or just below freezing all day above 900-1000m, lowering into nighttime.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 17 November	Tuesday 18 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 20-25mph, stronger gusts north and east hills. An easing trend from the west later.	Low confidence: speeds perhaps between 15-30mph most of the day, though risk much stronger; uncertain direction.
Effect of wind on you?	Comfort of walking affected, particularly north where strenuous at times with buffeting; significant wind chill. Easing	Effects may be fairly small at times but beware sudden strengthening speeds and direction changes.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent coastal snow showers Frequent snow showers drift onto slopes of the north and west coasts (mostly north of Ullapool) - snow down to middle slopes. Southern areas may be substantially dry, including Ben Wyvis.	Often snowing Snow showers likely for many areas, merging into a more widespread area of snow for several hours. A few breaks may form but with sudden returns to snow as well.
Cloud on the hills?	Coming and going on high terrain Cloud comes and goes around 900m or up throughout the day - well inland southern areas will see extended breaks. Coastal aspects towards the north may be more often shrouded.	Likely extensive, some variability Most hills shrouded above 600-700m all day. Bases may locally rise with breaks towards high terrain, but also filling in to lower slopes during periods of snow.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% coastal tops, 60% inland tops	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A patchwork of cloud and sun, though at times more cloudy. Variable visibility - excellent though turning very poor in cloud and snow.	Overcast with near-zero visibility during periods of snow which may be extensive and prolonged. Chance of bright breaks.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C (colder on highest tops). Feeling as cold as -13C in strongest wind.	-3C
Freezing Level	500-600m, though frosts likely widespread into the glens at dawn. Slightly higher Skye.	Terrain likely widely frozen at dawn. Coming up to 600m coastal slopes, perhaps higher southern areas.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 17 November, 2025

Cold air spreads widely across the country; staying below freezing over higher mountains most likely throughout the next week with morning frosts to lower elevations. Snow flurries move in onto slopes exposed to coasts; snow most frequent toward north of the Highlands with some locally more substantial accumulations over higher terrain. Sunny and dry for many away from the coasts on the northerly wind. Tuesday and Wednesday are more unsettled: broader areas of snow and rain pass southward with variable wind - navigation could become challenging in the Scottish Highlands on Tuesday with notable snow accumulations. West-northwesterly winds will likely return into next weekend, brining periods of rain and strong winds with intermittent drier, brighter spells.

Forecast issued at 15:49 on Saturday, 15 November, 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.