

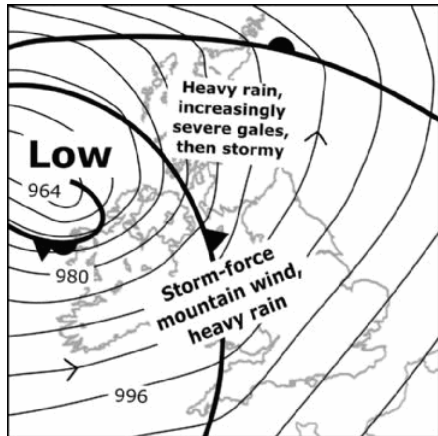
The Northwest Highlands

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, 9 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 9 December, 2025

Severe conditions becoming widespread and lasting onward into the night and Wednesday - stormy conditions, hurricane-force winds on higher mountains. Heavy rain sweeping northwards across Scotland during the day, breaking up into showers for England & Wales; flooding likely.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Soon heavy rain, increasingly stormy winds.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 9 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southeasterly, an hour or so from dawn 30mph or less in north, rapidly strengthening in morning to 50-60mph, soonest Skye; gusts 70mph develop, turning S'ly afternoon. Rising further by dusk onward to reach SW'ly 90-100mph evening into night. Deteriorating during the morning to make mobility difficult on exposed terrain, powerful gusts could knock you over on downslopes N/W of major hill groups. Later increasingly severe conditions low-levels upward, damaging gusts.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Near-constant rain sets in, flood risk Rain arrives in the south as dawn breaks and rapidly spreads widely, setting in persistent and heavy for several hours, beginning to break from the south afternoon, but showery rain in west, in evening frequent or setting in again; into night turning to snow above 1000m. Beware fast-rising streams and flood risk.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Becoming extensive From dawn, shrouding high ground from Skye towards Ben Wyvis, some eastern Munros further north as well. Northwest coast clearer tops just after dawn. Deteriorating widely, from lower or middle slopes upward, though bases always highest west coast north from Torridon. Lowering to less than 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Soon widely overcast and dull. Poor visibility as rain sets in, though northern areas in particular starting good.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	3 or 4C, rising to 6 to 8C for several hours, then lower again later, to 2C into night. Feeling like -10C in strongest daytime wind; colder into the night. Above the summits until after dark, then lowering to just touch the highest Munro summits overnight (1100m+).

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 10 December	Thursday 11 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 60 to 80mph, gusts over higher mountains approaching 100mph.	South-southwesterly 40 to 60mph, some uncertainty of peak speed, risk 70mph+ west coastal mountains.
Effect of wind on you?	Difficult walking conditions from modest elevations upward, severe over the mountains; significant wind chill.	Widely arduous, but risk of more difficult or severe conditions ongoing, particularly western areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showery with hail Frequent showery precipitation, merging to be near-constant at times in the west, falling as sleet on the Munros, possible snow highest tops, also hail.	Risk rain on and off west Pulses of rain may run in from the southwest, greatest risk more persistent on Skye, sometimes passing northward, but much of Sutherland more often dry.
Cloud on the hills?	Often covering high tops Cloud base constantly changing, but often shrouding higher slopes, at times down to 600m in west, brief breaks to tops inland.	Most persistent on and near Skye Covering the Cuillin and nearby coastal hills on mainland most of day, lowest in rain to mid-slopes. Further inland, capping tops for periods, some local breaks north.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A little sun mainly eastern areas. Hazy particularly in west, visibility poorer in rain.	Glimpses of sun mainly north and east, often cloudy west. Hazy, visibility poor in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 or 3C. Wind chill feeling near to -15C.	4C, may start to drop into evening. Feeling near -10C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Near or just above highest summits (1100m+).	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 10 December, 2025

A very unsettled pattern as southwesterly winds prevail and low pressure systems move in from the Atlantic, sustained gales over the mountains, severe or stormy for periods. Temperatures only close to freezing on higher Scottish tops this week, even here will experience spells above freezing with thawing, leaving snow increasingly patchy, but beware some icy surfaces on the very highest tops where some refreezing occurs. Drier for most places on Thursday this week, otherwise rainfall will be frequent and heavy, sometimes showery with hail. Expect wet ground conditions and further flooding of streams and some rivers.

Forecast issued at 16:01 on Monday, 8 December, 2025

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