

The Northwest Highlands

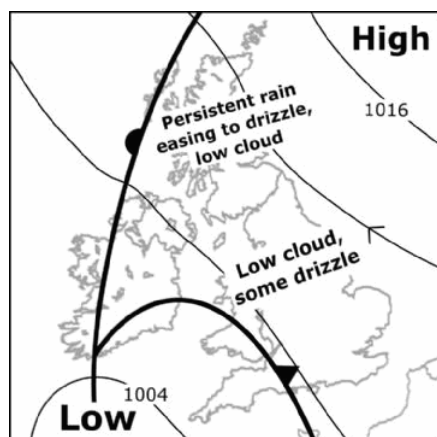
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Monday, 22 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 22 December, 2025

Strong and gusty SE'ly winds. Rain fairly widely across the Highlands in the morning, easing but leaving patchy drizzle and low cloud shrouding the hills. Low cloud and some drizzly rain for England and Wales, but some breaks for the Lakes, also clearing conditions moving into south Wales.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Windy, gusty. Rain pushing northwestwards, low cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 22 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly 30 to 40mph; gusty over the tops and downslope, strongest gusts reach 50mph in the north; lessening a little from the south during afternoon.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous conditions for several hours, sudden strong gusts will challenge balance. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain for several hours, then drizzly Widespread rain and drizzle arrives from the southeast early morning, becoming fairly persistent for a few hours most areas, pushing northwestward, tending to ease off during afternoon, but leaving patchy drizzle, most on eastern hills.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied, lowest east, breaks west coast Fairly extensive banks at varying heights, lowest in the rain and eastern slopes. Briefly clearer around dawn some west coast areas. Then later as rain clears, very disorganised cloud banks, ragged patches clinging to forest canopies for a time; clearest hills northwest coast.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%, to 40% toward west coast
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mainly overcast. Rain will often limit visibility through the day, though if locally drier at first, very good visibility near west coast.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3 or 4C, warmest in the northwest. Feeling closer to -10C where exposed to the strongest winds.
Freezing Level	Above the summits

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 23 December	Wednesday 24 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly or variable 10 to 25mph.	Variable, generally easterly or southerly, 10mph or less.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small, local lulls, though some uncomfortable gusty spots possible.	Negligible
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little rain on and off Periods of patchy rain for most mountains, likely more frequent on hills nearest the west coast, but total amounts likely small.	No rain expected
Cloud on the hills?	Varied cloud banks, lowest in rain Cloud often capping tops, some higher breaks, best inland north areas. During rain, bases lower to 700-900m, most persistent Skye and nearby mountains; some lower banks too including patchy fog in the glens.	Patches on middle-upper slopes Patchy cloud clinging to slopes between 800-1000m, will variably come and go for most areas, many slopes often cloud free. A chance of morning fog in the glens as well.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some glimpses of weak sun possible inland and north. Good visibility but variable as rain comes and goes, some haze east.	Often sunny on higher and low terrain, sun more variable at middle elevations. Very good visibility though a slight haze.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 to 4C, may lower slightly from north later.	0 or +1C at dawn, rising a degree or two.
Freezing Level	Above the summits, may drop to 1000m later in day.	Around 1000m, though frost likely inland glens at dawn. Lifting above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 23 December, 2025**

Cloud and patchy rain lingers early this week, then a slow change to drier and chiller weather into the Christmas period as high pressure builds to the north. Easterly winds will be dominant, the strongest winds in England and Wales. Cloud may be fairly sheet-like in the east sometimes, though variably more extensive or broken, best northwest. The coldest air will reach England and Wales on the easterly wind with freezing levels reaching as low as 400-600m in Wales, staying slightly warmer in northern Scotland with some inversion conditions likely over higher terrain; frost into glens.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Sunday, 21 December, 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.