

The Northwest Highlands

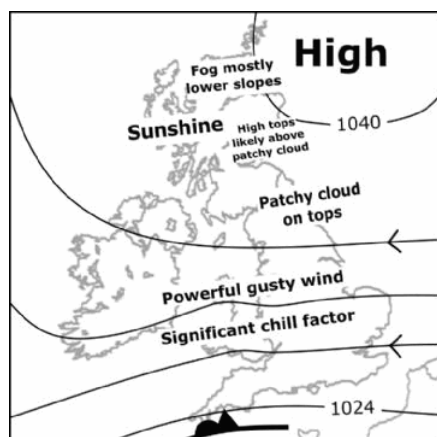
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Thursday, 25 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 25 December, 2025

Dry with sunshine best in west and northern Scotland, high terrain warmer than many lower slopes, local low-level fog. High summits SE Highlands likely just above patchy cloud. Mostly cloudy Pennines, grazing tops, clearer westward across the Lakes. Gusty easterly winds, strongest further south, gale-force in Wales.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Sunshine, mostly light wind; fog mainly lower eastern areas.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 25 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	East-southeasterly 10-15mph, some gustiness.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small though gusty at all elevations
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Dry all day
Cloud on the hills?	Fog in lower areas east and northeast; tops clear; largely clear west Persistent fog confined to lower slopes, mostly glens which drain eastwards to the North Sea. In places the top of the layer up to around 600m in the morning, tending to lower. Western coastal areas and Skye largely clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Above 90% (some hills above fog)
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly sunny west coast. Toward east and north, sunshine above low fog which may persist all day glens and near east coast. Excellent visibility over the mountains.
How Cold? (at 900m)	4 to 6C, warmer than many lower slopes; little change or slight rise in temperature with added height. Feeling nearer -3C if exposed to gusts.
Freezing Level	Above the summits, though some frost in the glens at dawn, which may linger where shaded from sun or if fog persists.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 26 December	Saturday 27 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Variable 5 to 10mph or less. Toward and beyond dusk tending to increase northeasterly 15-20mph. Mostly small	East to northeasterly 20 to 25mph, but possible stronger gusts around some slopes, not just highest tops. Blustery in places, may start to feel noticeable and giving a distinct chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Dry all day	Rare light precipitation Largely dry; a few brief spots of light rain, or snow grains on some slopes, mainly in the morning; unlikely toward Skye.
Cloud on the hills?	Most hills clear, locally above fog Patchy fog mainly glens or lower slopes, the mountains generally clear. Some cloud banks may drift higher onto north coastal slopes above 500-700m.	Covering some slopes, less in west Banks of cloud mostly between 700 and 1000m, mainly areas from Ben Hope to Ben Wyvis, patchier westward toward Skye; may break up more widely.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%	50%, to 70% Skye & Wester Ross
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bright sunshine and excellent visibility. Misty in places lower down.	Patchy sun, most common toward coast near Skye. Visibility excellent away from cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0 to 2C, small variation with height inland, some corries and glens stay colder. Frost in many inland glens, terrain at least partly frozen higher up, but air temperature just above freezing on high tops.	-1 to 2C, coolest in far north; slightly warmer on higher tops above an inversion. Feeling like -5 to -8C in stronger wind. Varied partly frozen terrain, including frost inland glens, but above freezing on most west coastal slopes and some tops.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 26 December, 2025

Dry weather continues into the weekend as a strong area of high pressure resides near or north of Scotland. Inversion conditions Scottish mountains, high tops generally above freezing and above most patchy cloud, some frost and fog in glens. Gusty east-northeasterly wind increasing for Scotland by Saturday, easing again for Sunday. Strong and gusty winds prevail for England and Wales, often cloudy, a little light rain occasionally Pennines; some sun toward west. Next week stays dry for many, local showers northern Scotland, possibly turning chillier with northerly winds.

*** Wishing you a very happy Christmas and New Year from all the team at MWIS ***

Forecast issued at 16:20 on Wednesday, 24 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.