

The Northwest Highlands

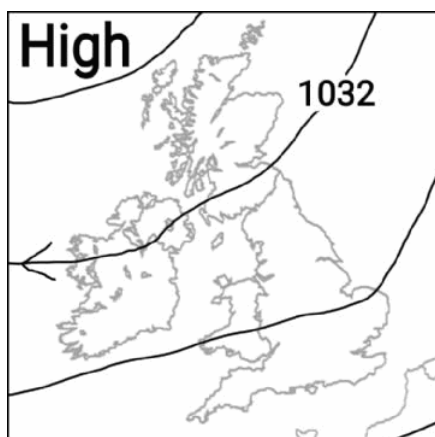
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Monday, 29 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 29 December, 2025

Chilly northeasterly winds with extensive cloud with patchy precipitation locally. Best breaks and sun western Scotland, also toward west in England and Wales. As a cold front edges south, cloud may break up more widely later for the Highlands with colder conditions developing on the hills.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cloud banks and a little patchy light rain/snow. Clearer near Skye.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 29 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northeast 15 to 25mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small, but considerable wind chill where exposed to the wind.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little patchy precipitation from cloud A little patchy light rain or snow grains from the banks of low cloud, most likely as weak cold front edges through late morning period.
Cloud on the hills?	Cloud banks, tops initially clear above. Cloud banks from 500-1000m, highest tops may be clear for a time, before banks lift onto all higher terrain above 700m. Clearer Skye/Wester Ross.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70% on and near Skye. 30% elsewhere.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloudiest in north and east, will brighten up here following cold front. Clearer with sunny breaks in south and west. Visibility mostly very good, away from any precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0C lowering to -2C. Feeling like -7 to -10C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Morning frost in glens/corries and little change in temperature with height, but turning colder on tops as freezing level stabilises around 700m by afternoon.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 30 December	Wednesday 31 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northerly 15 to 30mph, strongest up towards Ben Hope. Blustery at times with considerable wind chill.	Westerly 25 to 35mph, increasing to 35 to 45mph, risk 50mph late in day toward Ben Hope. Be prepared for increasingly arduous conditions through the day with significant buffeting and wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow flurries, mainly north. A few snow flurries possible in the north. Otherwise, dry.	Patchy rain or upper slopes snow Patches of rain and snow increasingly developing. Level to which snow falls tending to vary between 700 and 900m.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Patches or banks, mainly in the north. Patches or banks of low cloud increasingly on upper slopes from 700m upwards across northern areas and perhaps also on Skye. Little elsewhere. 40% north, 80% south.	Extensive Soon after dawn, if not before, low cloud becoming extensive and increasingly to lower slopes toward west coast. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Broken cloud and sun, best sun in the south. Visibility very good, away from any snow flurries.	Increasingly overcast. Becoming increasingly misty and murky, with poor visibility in precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -13C. Terrain frozen from lower slopes upwards, with frost into the glens in morning.	-1C, lifting to 0C or just above. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the strongest winds. 300-600m, lifting to 800-1000m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 30 December, 2025**

Up until end of the year, high pressure still dominates.

Significant change from New Year's Day as a cold front introduces, a much colder and strong northerly giving severe wind chill with temperatures well below average for the first week to the New Year with frequent and heavy snow showers moving into northern areas and running down coastal extremities with significant accumulations. Elsewhere, lots of dry and sunny weather, although occasional organised bands of snow will feed south at times in the Arctic airflow. All terrain becoming frozen, with scope for very low valley temperatures over snow cover when northerly flow eases.

Forecast issued at 7:00 on Monday, 29 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.