

The Northwest Highlands

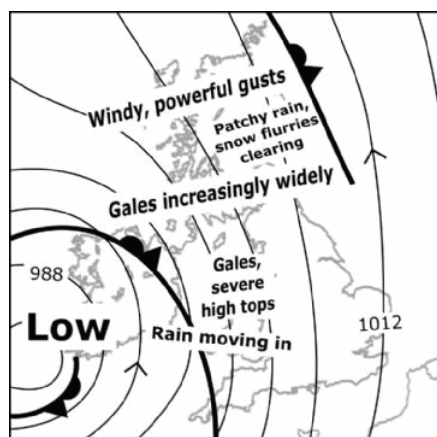
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Tuesday, 20 January, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 20 January, 2026

Strong southeasterlies, gusting gale-force Scottish mountains, strengthening widely. Gales all day for Wales, severe on high tops, increasingly northern England also. Some light rain and hill snow flurries, mostly eastern Scotland, fading with rising cloud base. Heavier rain develops in south Wales.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Windy, strengthening. Largely dry, patchy cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 20 January, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly 25 to 35mph, tending to strengthen around Skye, often 40mph high tops, very gusty in places including downslope to north. By dusk onward widely reaching 50mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Affecting comfortable walking and making balance challenging on exposed ridges, particularly Skye; marked wind chill. Deteriorating further up to and beyond dusk.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Often dry, rare light rain, snow on tops Small amounts of patchy of rain moving northwards, snow flurries mostly above 800-900m. Small amounts most western areas north of Torridon, often dry all day.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied, better northwest Banks of cloud persistent over hills inland, toward east and the Great Glen, often above 800m, some patchy lower banks. Best breaks near to coasts Ullapool north, many hills often clearing.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%, to 70% northwest
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of weak sun mostly northwest coastal areas. Visibility good toward north/northwest, hazier around Skye.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to 2C. Wind chill feeling near -10C, later in day nearer -15C.
Freezing Level	900 to 1000m, higher northwards. Patchy slight frost some lower slopes.

[illegible]

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 21 January, 2026

Strong east to southeasterlies continue beyond midweek, sustained gales over most mountains with powerful gusts downslope toward west. Near or just below freezing on higher tops - colder air is likely to move into Scotland at least late in the week, much mountain terrain then frozen with severe chill factor. Scope for substantial snowfalls over eastern Scottish hills later this week. Sleet or snow mostly higher tops in England and Wales, may fall lower over the weekend. Low cloud often covering many hills across Britain, clearer and drier toward western coasts. Circulating low pressure and cold air likely into next week, with further snowfalls likely.

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, 2026.