

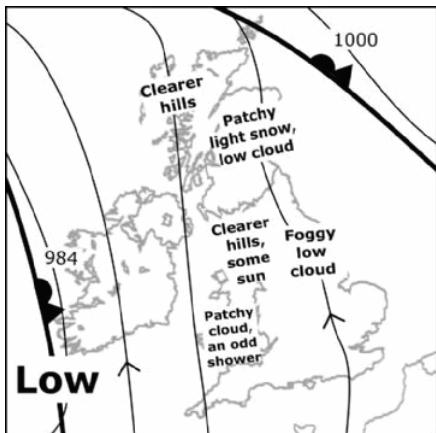
# The Northwest Highlands

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 Wednesday, 28 January, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 28 January, 2026

A fairly quiet day with plenty of dry weather and some good cloud breaks toward the west and northwest of major hill groups. Some snow flurries and low cloud lingers over the Cairngorms to SE Highlands. Moderate S-SE wind, locally gusty.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Largely dry, cloud breaks west & north. Gusty in places.

## Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 28 January, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	South to southeasterly, overnight gales easing through to dawn, soon 20-25mph most areas, locally less, but near Ben Hope risk gusty 35mph for longer into day. Some gusty spots over 30mph on Skye, tending to increase here later.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Soon mostly fairly small effect on walking, but some local sudden gusty areas not necessarily on highest terrain may be noticeable, feeling chilly particularly in exposure on Cuillin.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Most or all day dry except far northeast</b> Rain locally around dawn, some snow on high tops mainly inland. Soon fading, leaving most of day dry. Locally in east north of Dornoch Firth, light rain and wet snow on highest tops.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Very little west coast, varied inland</b> Covering easternmost hills much of day to mid-slopes, though tending to lift around Ben Wyvis. More broken and higher cloud westwards, many coastal hills largely clear. Some patches drift onto south Cuillin occasionally.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>50% inland, to 70% west coastal hills.</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Sun mostly west coast, often weak through high cloud. Visibility very good west, more haze toward east coast.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	0 or +1C. Wind chill feeling like -7C in stronger speeds locally on tops.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	800 to 1000m, but just above freezing on many west coastal higher slopes. Patchy frost some glens from dawn.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 29 January	Friday 30 January
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Southeasterly 30 to 40mph, strongest around Skye, gusty in places downslope toward west.	Southeasterly 25 to 40mph, very gusty in places downslope toward the north/northwest of higher mountains.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Strenuous walking, arduous on some exposed higher terrain, buffeting gusts locally lower down. Considerable wind chill.</b>	<b>Affecting comfortable walking and balance in exposure, local frequent buffeting not just on tops. Significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Occasional snow mostly northeast</b> Snow flurries mostly over hills from Ben Hope to Easter Ross, sleet or rain on lower slopes toward coast. Rare light flurries or spots of rain elsewhere.	<b>Largely dry</b> Occasional light flurries, or spots of rain toward west coast, but amounting to very little, many northwest areas stay dry.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Often covering eastern tops, breaks west</b> Fairly persistent cloud banks over eastern hills, bases mostly above 800m inland with breaks higher up Wester Ross and Skye.	<b>Local banks, clearer west &amp; north</b> Patchy cloud around some higher slopes, most common inland and toward Great Glen. Often clearer much of west coast and near Ben Hope.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun mostly near west coast around Torridon where visibility good. Hazier further east and north.	Sun and some high cloud, very good visibility west and northern areas. Cloudier toward east and Great Glen.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-1C inland and east, up to +1C locally nearest to west coast and on Skye. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C.	-1 or -2C. Wind chill feeling like -10 to -15C.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	700 to 800m, or slightly lower toward Caithness. Higher toward west coast, just above freezing on some upper slopes.	600m inland, north and east, to nearer 800m next to the west coast and on Skye, slight rise during daytime.

## Planning Outlook

## All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 29 January, 2026

Slow-moving weather patterns and a broadly similar regime to recent times over the next week or so. Scottish mountains generally below freezing point, with snow cover and drifts most substantial from the Cairngorms to central and southern Highlands, some additional falls in the week ahead, much less northwestward. Hills in England and Wales will see varying freezing levels, sub-zero for periods to 600m or lower, but intermittently lifting just above the tops - a mix of rain and upland snowfall. Wind speed will vary, some periods of lower speeds than recently, though gusty SE'ly winds remain common in the Highlands. Scope for widely colder conditions toward mid February.

## Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 27 January, 2026

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.