

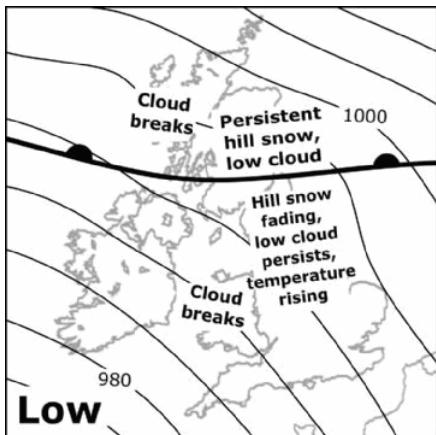
The Northwest Highlands

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, 4 February, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 4 February, 2026

Easterly winds gale force across northern Scotland, easing further south. Ongoing snowfalls over E & SE Highlands, sleet or rain lower down; low cloud and whiteout over hills. Early sleet or snow over northern England fades, but low cloud lingers. Largely dry much of Wales, clearer hills west, but increasingly windy.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales, gusty. Snow toward east and north, clearer hills west.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 4 February, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Easterly 35 to 50mph, very gusty, strongest speeds and gusts toward the north, often 50mph all day Ben Hope, lessening a little around Skye to Torridon. Speeds then increasing again widely into night.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging conditions with frequent buffeting gusts around higher mountains and downslope to west; often difficult over northern mountains. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow mostly east Snow frequent or persistent over eastern hills from Ben Wyvis area to Caithness and at times Ben Hope, sleet or rain lowest slopes below 200-300m. Patchy flurries westward, often dry much of west coast.
Cloud on the hills?	Most persistent east, breaks west Cloud covering higher mountains inland above 800m, or to some lower elevations toward eastern coasts. Further west, higher and more broken, best toward Torridon coast and Skye.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Largely cloudy, dull and misty eastern hills, poor visibility, whiteout if in fog and snow. Brighter toward west coast, local glimpses of sun and good visibility below cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C, up to -1C near Skye, rising slightly during day, widely to 0C into night. Wind chill feeling like -12 to -17C.
Freezing Level	300-400m in east, to 600m or locally higher toward west coast. Variable rise further onward into night, above 800m in many areas.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 5 February	Friday 6 February
How windy? (On the Munros)	East to southeasterly 35 to 50mph, powerful gusts around higher mountains and downslope to the west.	Easterly 40 to 55mph, powerful gusts around higher mountains and downslope to the west.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous conditions, difficult mobility in places, buffeting gusts knocking you off balance. Significant wind chill.	Difficult mobility on high terrain, buffeting gusts knocking you off balance some lower slopes. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow northeast tops Snow flurries mostly eastern hills near and north of Dornoch Firth, more frequent snow at times on tops, initially rain below 500m, becoming snow lower down with time. Largely dry west coast, particularly Skye.	Snow mostly east and north Frequent snow over eastern hills from Ben Wyvis area to Caithness and at times Ben Hope, sleet or rain only lowest slopes. Flurries extend west to Ullapool, but few if any coastal Wester Ross to Skye.
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly east, breaks west Cloud banks persistent inland and toward east & north above 600 to 800m, lowest near North Sea. Higher and more broken cloud westwards, patches mostly on high tops, often clearer Skye and south of Torridon.	Lowest and most persistent east Covering mountains above 600-800m in east, or lower nearest the North Sea. Fairly extensive above 800-1000m in west, some breaks toward Torridon and Skye.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sun mostly west coastal hills toward Skye with very good visibility. Cloudier inland, hazier north and east, poor visibility in precipitation.	Largely cloudy, glimpses of sun mostly toward Torridon coast. Hazy, visibility poor in snow, whiteout in cloud on tops.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to -2C, coldest north/east, tending to lower more widely during day. Wind chill feeling like -12 to -15C.	-4C north and east, to -2C toward west coast and on Skye. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -20C.
Freezing Level	700m dropping to 500m with time in east; locally varied to 900m or above for a time toward west coast and on Skye.	300-400m east and northern areas, up to 600m further westward, or variably higher up nearest to west coast around Skye.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 5 February, 2026

East or southeasterly winds prevail, persistent gales later this week, severe chill factor over the mountains. Freezing levels will vary, lowering widely again below 600m during Thursday, though staying higher in Wales; then less cold widely into the weekend, rising just above freezing point in Scotland toward 1000m or briefly higher. Colder air then likely returns from east next week. Further snowfalls mostly over eastern hills in Scotland, occasionally hills in England & Wales, mixed with rain here. Indications of less precipitation and lower wind speeds for periods during next week. Highest cloud breaks generally west & northwest Scotland.

Forecast issued at 16:25 on Tuesday, 3 February, 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.