

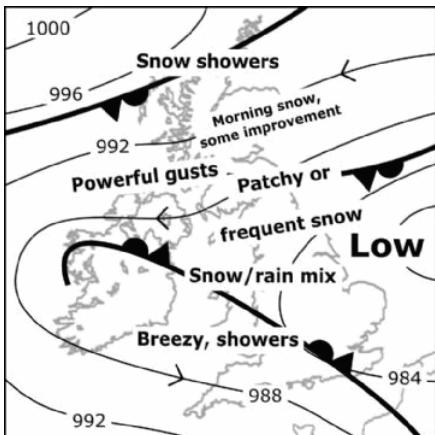
# The Northwest Highlands

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, 12 February, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 12 February, 2026

Very cold in Scotland with strong wind. Snow in the central/south highlands, some improvement from the north. Blustery too in north England, cloudy with patchy morning snow, later more frequent. South Pennines and north Wales see rain and snow with lighter wind. Blustery with patchy rain south Wales.

#### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Bitterly cold and windy; northern snow showers

## Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 12 February, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Northeasterly 30-40mph in the morning, strongest in the south. A gradual easing from the north with time, speeds near 15-30mph, always strongest in the south.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Arduous walking with severe wind chill early; powerful gusts to the west may greatly challenge balance. Effects slowly easing with time, though always blustery in exposure in the south.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Early snow south, then northern showers</b> Some early snow in southern and eastern areas. Becoming drier for a time, a few snow showers affecting Ben Wyvis, then a band of showery snow arrives onto northern Munros and slowly moves south afternoon.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Most high terrain south and east early, then patches from the north</b> Cloud fairly extensive on high terrain from Kintail towards the hills east of Ullapool. More patchy further north, well-broken towards the west coast. With time, cloud becomes well-broken more widely, though patches will drift down north and west coast high terrain in snow showers, some further south. Skye largely clear.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Frequent bursts of sunshine in the north and west, most often cloudy east and south but some bright moments here too. Excellent visibility out of snow.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-4 to -5C; may start slightly warmer Skye. Temperature drops overnight. Feeling like -20C in strongest wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Most terrain frozen, locally to glen level north/east; up to 500m Skye early. Lowering later and overnight to glen level.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 13 February	Saturday 14 February
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Generally northerly between 15-30mph, some variability in speed and direction, gusty near showers.	Westerly 10-15mph from dawn, shifting southwesterly, strengthening to a gusty 30-40mph, deteriorating overnight.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Blustery on high terrain with significant wind chill; walking may become strenuous at times.</b>	<b>Small at first, walking increasingly affected, arduous near the coast later with buffeting and significant wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Snow showers</b> Snow showers affect north and west coastal slopes most of the day, all the way to Skye, some hail mixed in as well, small risk an odd lightning flash north. Showers at times push inland too.	<b>Rising chance of west coast snow</b> A few odd snow flurries on slopes abutting the west coast. A rising chance of larger bursts of snow affecting Skye and drifting up the coast. Snow spreads more widely after nightfall.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Patchy cloud on high terrain</b> Patchy cloud drifts onto coastal slopes all day, mostly on higher terrain, lowest bases near Ben Hope to 700-800m; towards the south, summits will see breaks. The inland south often, but not always, cloud-free.	<b>Some cloud west later</b> Most hills substantially free of cloud, a few caps over high summits possible from time to time. Later, a greater chance of cloud banks coming above 800m near the west coast and southern tops.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine in-and-out near the coast, more consistent inland. Excellent visibility away from snow showers.	Extensive sunshine, some patchy cloud near the coast. High cloud moves in with time. Excellent visibility.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-5 or -6C, rising a degree or two in the sun. Feeling like -20C or colder in strongest	-3 or -4C. With time, feeling as cold as -15 to 18C in wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Nearly all terrain frozen from dawn, just some coastal slopes/Skye up to 300-400m. Some thawing on sun-exposed	All terrain frozen from dawn. Near the west coast, lifting to 300-400m. Some sun-exposed low slopes to thaw as well.

**Planning Outlook****All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 13 February, 2026**

Colder for all areas during the transition into the weekend, mountain terrain frozen to increasingly lower elevations - soonest toward the north and east of Scotland. A widespread frost early on Saturday. Northeastly wind will be dominant - the distribution of snow showers shifting with time from eastern hills to more north-facing mountains, particularly Scotland. Brighter than recently with sunshine and clearer hills later Friday and Saturday.

Gales with heavy snow (rain to increasingly higher elevations) overnight into Sunday brings a return to unsettled weather for the following week - wet and windy periods come and go, freezing levels rising (high Scotland terrain stays frozen), then lowering again during periods of northwesterly wind.

**Forecast issued at 16:09 on Wednesday, 11 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.