

# The Northwest Highlands

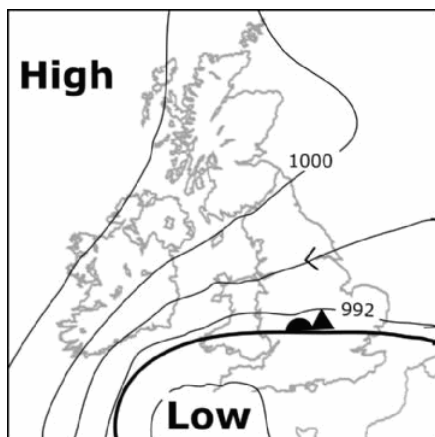
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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## General Summary for Friday, 13 February, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 13 February, 2026

A change in the pattern as cold air will have extended south overnight. Nearly all mountain terrain frozen in Scotland whilst further south, particularly higher terrain progressively freezes. Patches of snow, at times persistent Wales, but otherwise total precipitation small.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Snow and hail showers. Nearly all terrain frozen.

## Detailed Forecast for Friday, 13 February, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Northerly 20mph. Abruptly gusty near showers.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Mostly small; nevertheless sudden buffeting and considerable wind chill near showers.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Snow and hail showers; frequent Sutherland and near coast</b> Snow and hail showers, some heavy, mostly Sutherland, Wester Ross and Cuillin. Elsewhere, showers occasional, mostly only a few flurries toward Great Glen.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Cloud base varying; lowest and most persistent Sutherland &amp; coastal hills</b> Sutherland, Wester Ross and Cuillin: Cloud base varying typically from 450m near precipitation to otherwise 600 to 800m - although a few breaks to higher tops. Elsewhere: well scattered cloud, rarely below 900m and summits often clearing.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20% Sutherland, Wester Ross and Cuillin to 60% elsewhere</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Sutherland, Wester Ross and Cuillin: Sunshine briefly, excellent or superb visibility but very poor in snow. Elsewhere: Patchwork of bright sun and superb visibility.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-5C.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Nearly all terrain frozen although partial thawing lower, mainly sunlit slopes.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 14 February	Sunday 15 February
How windy? (On the Munros)  Effect of wind on you?	West later southerly, initially 20mph before a prolonged lull of 10-15mph. Strengthening quickly toward dusk.  <b>Small by day - but very difficult conditions quickly developing into the night.</b>	Mostly westerly 30 to sometimes 40mph. But at first, a very gusty 55mph, then perhaps a temporary lull.  <b>Significant wind chill and widely arduous walking on higher areas. Particularly difficult conditions near precipitation.</b>
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Extensively dry: risk snow showers</b> Most mountain areas dry. But a few snow showers and small risk of frequent snow for 2 or 3 hours Sutherland.	<b>Frequent hail and snow</b> Persistent snow before dawn soon easing. Then succession of sudden, sometimes heavy, hail and snow showers - in places precipitation rarely ceasing over an hour or two giving whiteout. Small risk lightning.
Cloud on the hills?          Chance of cloud free Munros?	<b>Many mountains free of cloud</b>  Most hills free of cloud,. Here and there, cloud persisting higher slopes and corries, whilst near showers cloud will come in at around 600m. In far north, risk of extensive fog above 450 to 600m.  <b>80%</b>	<b>Almost persistently covering the mountains; rapid cloud base changes.</b>  Sometimes breaking to near or above 900m at least fleetingly, but overall extensive cloud above 600m, and sometimes forming on lower slopes near precipitation.  <b>Less than 10%</b>
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Bright sunshine many areas before high level cloud spreads east afternoon. Toward the coast, particularly far north may be cloudy. Excellent or superb visibility.	Bursts of sunshine, mainly lower slopes near Ben Wyvis. Fleetinglly excellent visibility, but abruptly appalling or near zero in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)  Freezing Level	-3 or -4C. With time, feeling as cold as -15 to 18C in wind.  All terrain frozen from dawn. Near the west coast, lifting to 300-400m. Some sun-exposed low slopes to thaw as well.	-1C. Will feel as close to minus 12C where exposed to the wind.  Nearly all terrain frozen, albeit freezing level rising erratically toward 800 or 900m.

## Planning Outlook

**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 14 February, 2026**

Widespread snow and severe upland gales Saturday night followed by very blustery showery conditions on Sunday - although a temporary thaw at least on lower slopes. Otherwise very much drier over the coming week. Bright sunshine and excellent visibility frequently on many mountain areas, although hail and snow showers in some areas with most upland areas frequently frozen.

**Forecast issued at 7:57 on Friday, 13 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.