

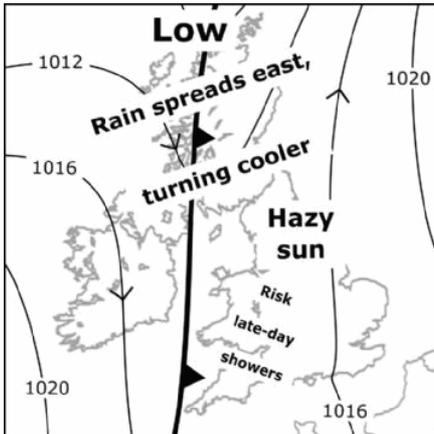
# The Northwest Highlands

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, 5 March, 2026



### British Mountain Summary:

**Based on forecast chart for noon 5 March, 2026**

A slow-moving front from the west brings rain and low cloud to western Scotland, turning to snow on tops as colder air arrives; freezing level later below 800m. Patchy rain encroaching further into Cumbria with time. Some heavier thundery bursts possible in Wales. Strong southerlies ease and turn W-NW'ly.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Rain and wind; easing, but turning colder

## Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 5 March, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Gusty south-southwesterly 35-45mph. A westerly shift in the morning and wind easing, 20-25mph, briefly lower.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Arduous walking early in the day with significant wind chill; an easing trend, may be fairly small for a period, but wind remains a nuisance on high terrain.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Often raining, turning to snow on high terrain; easing trend later</b> Rain fairly widespread, heaviest falls from Skye towards Ullapool, the rain more patchy to the east but bands passing here too. Precipitation increasingly falls as snow to tops, the snowfall level lowering. Trending drizzly with a breaking trend through afternoon.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Fairly extensive, may improve later</b> Most hills shrouded from 600m up from dawn, bases to low Skye slopes early. Higher bases with some variable layers towards the east, though lowering here too as rain passes. Later beginning to lift from the west, increasing chance of high breaks.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20% rising to 40%</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Sunshine unlikely until late in the day. Often poor visibility though locally good out of cloud and rain.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	3 or 4C from dawn, soon beginning to lower from west, -1 or -2C afternoon into evening. Feeling like -7 to -10C in the wind.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Above the summits from dawn, lowering as rain passes, to 600-700m evening, frosts forming in sheltered lower terrain overnight.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 6 March	Saturday 7 March
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Southwesterly 15-25mph, strongest west coast; steadily rising, 30-40mph by evening with strong gusts over high <b>Starting small, deteriorating to strenuous walking with wind chill; buffeting in exposure will challenge balance.</b>	Southerly 20 to 30mph, but locally risk gusty 35-40mph mainly Cuillin and nearby higher mountains on mainland. <b>Gusty winds in places may affect comfortable walking in exposed western areas. Fairly small further east.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Precipitation not expected</b>	<b>Precipitation not expected</b>
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>  <b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>Mostly just Skye and nearby</b>  Cloud comes and goes on the Cuillin from 700m upward, bases higher on north aspects. Inland and northern hills often free of cloud, occasional banks may form around 900-1000m but these fleeting.  <b>80%; 60% Skye</b>	<b>Hardly any</b>  Rare fragments or patches around some south-facing slopes for a time, mainly near Skye. Otherwise the mountains clear.  <b>90%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Extensive sunshine, occasionally some low hills cloud Skye and nearby. Excellent visibility, a distant haze to the west.	Mostly sunny Visibility excellent.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	-2C rising to 0C, locally higher north, rising further into night. Feeling increasingly cold in wind, to -13C by evening.  700-800m, though frosts to lower slopes and glens in the morning. Lifting, 900m by evening, above summits overnight.	4C, but some lower slopes colder in the morning.  Slight frost some glens and sheltered higher areas after dawn, but lifting above freezing to the tops.

**Planning Outlook****All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 6 March, 2026**

Higher pressure extends back across the country to bring dry conditions on Saturday, feeling mild in sunshine by day after a chilly start. More cloud by Sunday as weak fronts encroach in from the west, some drizzly rain moving into western Scotland. Patchy rain likely in the west at least early in the new week, likely dropping back just below freezing on the Munros for a time with some snowfall on higher areas. Winds fairly light early week, then a risk of strengthening southwesterlies later in the week; changeable weather conditions with spells of rain coming in from the Atlantic. Remaining old snow cover on Scottish mountains stays largely consolidated with little change, only very patchy snow remains around highest tops in England and Wales.

**Forecast issued at 16:13 on Wednesday, 4 March, 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.