

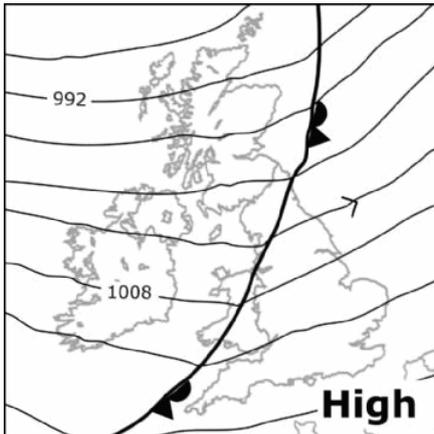
The Northwest Highlands

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 Sunday, 15 March, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 15 March, 2026

Widespread rain - snow higher areas Scotland and finishing as snow higher summits elsewhere, will from the west clear (as temperatures drop) to squally hail and snow showers. Upland winds will be close to gale force, and although improving, still extensive low cloud.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Upland gales; frequent snow and fog - whiteout.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 15 March, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly 40mph; very gusty near precipitation. At dawn temporarily 60mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous or difficult walking and significant wind chill where exposed.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow and hail; whiteout Widespread rain after dawn, snow temporarily confined to higher tops, soon above 450m. By mid or late morning, succession of sometimes heavy and very frequent hail and snow showers (most rain only lowest slopes).
Cloud on the hills?	Very extensive across the mountains; sudden drops in cloud base Extensive fog - covering even lower hills near Skye - for a few hours from dawn. Then quickly varying cloud base: between 450m (locally lower) and 600m near precipitation and otherwise 700 to perhaps briefly 1000m near Great Glen and Ben Wyvis.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun from late morning, mainly lower slopes well inland. Varied visibility; appalling in precipitation but otherwise good - although a haze.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Soon -2C, but- temporarily 0 to 2C post dawn. Will feel as cold as minus 15C where exposed to the wind.
Freezing Level	Soon between 400 and 600m; briefly up to 1100m at and post dawn.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 16 March	Tuesday 17 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West backing southwesterly; 50 to 65mph most of morning. Then gradually easing to around 40mph in a slight lull. Severe wind chill and difficult walking. Any mobility may well be a struggle at least in the morning - especially near precipitation.	Southerly 50 to sometimes 70mph. Very gusty; powerful gusts some lower slopes. Significant wind chill and in severe gales, mobility widely difficult. Balance a struggle; you could be blown over, in places on lower slopes.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent hail and snow Shower after shower; sometimes particularly morning the precipitation - often hail and above 300, later 600m snow - almost constant giving whiteout. Precipitation will become widespread at least near Skye later in afternoon.	Rain: extensive near Skye Skye and adjacent mainland as far as 10 to 15 miles inland: Frequent or incessant rain and drizzle. Elsewhere: Frequently dry, or just a little drizzle in wind - though possibly steadier rain edging inland as day proceeds.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Rarely if at all clearing higher summits. Cloud base will vary: near precipitation forming below 450m, sometimes 300m. Otherwise, cloud base 600m morning, and 800 to perhaps temporarily 1000m (most likely Sutherland and eastern summits elsewhere) into the afternoon. 20%	Blanket of fog near Skye - higher, perhaps much higher cloud base Skye and adjacent mainland as far as 10 to 15 miles inland: Persistent fog, covering some south facing coastal cliffs, to widely 100-400m. Elsewhere: In rain, patches of fog from lower slopes up. But most cloud above 750 to perhaps sometimes 1000m. Almost nil near Skye; 30% elsewhere
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun only - mainly lower slopes well inland. Persistent haze at best; appalling visibility in precipitation.	Skye and adjacent mainland as far as 10 to 15 miles inland: Dull and murky. Elsewhere: Pockets of sun here and there; visibility good or sometimes excellent.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-2C, rising toward 0C. Will feel as cold as minus 18C due to wind chill. 600m, rising toward 900m.	5C - small risk dropping to 2C from west. Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 16 March, 2026

An abrupt transition will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. Areas of low cloud, drizzly rain and strong winds will continue to affect mainly western mountains until Wednesday. But then as pressure builds north of Britain it will become extensively fine; cloud often clearing, particularly western Britain, and temperature levels more varied - fairly warm some afternoons but frost widely at night.

Forecast issued at 12:29 on Saturday, 14 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.