

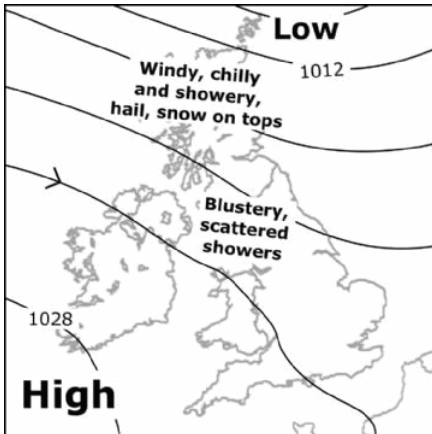
# The Northwest Highlands

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.)



[Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding](#)  
 Visit [www.skyebasecamp.co.uk](http://www.skyebasecamp.co.uk) to book your stay

## General Summary for Saturday, 18 April, 2026



### British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 18 April, 2026

Brisk westerly winds will give considerable chill factor over high terrain - air temperature near freezing on higher Scottish tops. Showery conditions - the most frequent precipitation in northwest Scotland in morning, falling as snow on Munros, also hail to lower levels. Showers become more scattered during afternoon.

### Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Windy, up to gale force; showery, hail, snow tops.

## Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 18 April, 2026

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Westerly 30 to 40mph, locally stronger in north early morning, 50mph, gusty around heavier showers. Lowering during day to 25-35mph, always strongest north.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Blustery conditions affecting comfortable walking in exposure, some buffeting, more challenging northern tops; gradually improving. Considerable wind chill.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Showery, frequent precipitation morning; hail, snow higher tops</b> Showers merging into more constant precipitation during the morning, heavy bursts on and off. Showers become somewhat more scattered during afternoon. Some hail, also snow falling on the Munros, by later in day to 700m.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Varying over tops, rising with breaks</b> Covering higher slopes fairly widely, typically 700-900m in morning, some breaks higher up, lower patches in showers; base rising during the day, brief summit breaks, more often capping west coastal tops, better breaks later.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>30% rising to 50% afternoon.</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Mostly cloudy early, then brief bursts of sun the rest of the day. Visibility varying, at times very good, but poor during showers.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	1 or 2C, slight drop through afternoon. Feeling like -10C directly in the wind, nearer -15C early in day northern tops.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Above or just touching the summits at dawn, lowering to 900-1000m later in the day.

## The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 19 April	Monday 20 April
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>  <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	Northwesterly 20-25mph early, local 30mph Ben Hope; shifting northerly, easing to 15-20mph, lowest Torridon to <b>Breezy and feeling chilly in exposure on northern Munros especially early in the day, trending to smaller effects.</b>	East or northeasterly, 20 to 25mph, gusty 30mph in places.  <b>Rather blustery with considerable wind chill on exposed higher terrain. Gusts may start to feel more noticeable at times.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Scattered showers/flurries</b> Scattered showers with soft hail drift in from the northwest through morning, falling as snow flurries above 600m in the morning, this level lifting to summits; local showers mostly in Sutherland afternoon.	<b>Scattered showers</b> Showers with soft hail, also snow falling on hills, to 400-500m in morning, mostly north and east areas, then brief showers forming more widely into the afternoon, but some places remain dry.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Summits largely clear, only fleeting caps</b> Cloud banks mostly over west coastal hills above 700m in morning, local mist inland glens. Bases lifting after sunrise, towards high terrain and likely off the tops by midday or earlier. An odd cap may graze highest northern summits.	<b>Lifting to tops with breaks</b> Cloud banks fairly widely above 600-800m in the morning, but better breaks Torridon area. Base rising toward 900m, with breaks forming higher up and increasingly lifting above many tops afternoon.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>50% rising to 80%</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	A patchwork of cloud and sun. Excellent visibility, occasionally reduced briefly in flurries.	Fairly cloudy, local sun mostly west early in day. Some sun breaking through occasionally. Visibility mostly very good, briefly reduced in showers.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>  <b>Freezing Level</b>	0C rising to 2 or 3C afternoon, mildest Ben Wyvis. Feeling like -5 to -8C directly in the wind. 900m in the morning, plus frost some inland glens at dawn. Lifting above the summits.	0C rising to 3C afternoon. Where exposed to wind, feeling like -5C, to possibly nearer -10C early in day. 800-900m from dawn, plus frost in some glens. Rising just above freezing to higher tops into the afternoon.

## Planning Outlook

### All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 19 April, 2026

High pressure expands over the British Isles on Sunday to bring a quieter day with lighter winds and only isolated showers. A scattering of showers on Monday as a cool east-northeasterly wind develops, but plenty of dry weather too. High pressure stays nearby to the north of Britain through the week ahead giving a run of dry days with sunshine typically best in the west, but many mountains often free of low cloud. A cool easterly wind is likely to prevail for England and Wales, strongest toward the south, whilst Scotland has often lighter winds. Some overnight frosts. Daytime temperatures near average, typically a few degrees above freezing on high tops through midweek.

### Forecast issued at 16:10 on Friday, 17 April, 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.