

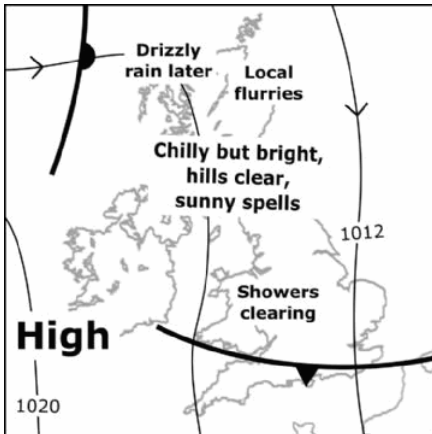
The Northwest Highlands

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 Monday, 11 May, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 11 May, 2026

Cold northerly breezes, but a bright day with broken cloud lifting above the mountains and some sun. Scattered showers with snow flurries on hills. A band of showers moves south over Wales in the morning. Later in the day, westerly winds increase and cloud thickens in western Scotland with drizzly rain arriving.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cold, isolated flurries. Later windier, drizzly rain, low cloud west.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 11 May, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	North-northwesterly 15-20mph, occasionally less; turning westerly, tending to increase to 30-35mph into evening hours, stronger up to dusk, 40mph with stronger gusts into night.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small for a time, but distinctly chilly over the mountains. Likely becoming more blustery, more strenuous walking later, deteriorating further after sunset.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Brief snow flurries fade; rain by evening Local snow flurries over the hills early in the day, but fading to be largely dry for much of day. Toward evening, drizzly rain arrives in west, preceded by snow flurries on tops, steadier rain develops up to dusk, some heavier in west into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Patches lifting, lowering in evening west Patchy cloud banks over higher slopes in morning, but lifting above most tops. During evening, cloud lowering from west onto coastal tops, tending to fill in near the coast up to dusk, banks extending inland.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	90%, dropping to 20% west up to dusk.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sun in morning, giving way to thickening high cloud from west afternoon. Visibility excellent, then reducing up to sunset from west.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C at first, rising to +1 or 2C afternoon, or slightly milder into night. Feeling colder as wind increases.
Freezing Level	600m around dawn, or lower north/east, gradually rising, toward 1000- 1100m afternoon, then lifting further above tops onward into night.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 12 May	Wednesday 13 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly 30 to 45mph, squally gusts around showers. Frequent buffeting across the hills, challenging walking at times in exposure. Significant wind chill.	North to northwesterly 25 to 30mph, strongest toward Skye, risk increasing all western hills later toward 40mph. Significant wind chill, very blustery, may become more challenging in exposure over west coastal mountains.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showery, hail and snow on tops Frequent showers, mostly toward west early in day, but soon more widely; some heavy bursts, snow falling at times to 700m, also hail to lower slopes. Risk of isolated thunder and lightning.	Showery, hail and hill snow Showers mostly coastal mountains in north and west early morning, but becoming widespread, heavy bursts with hail, risk isolated thunder; snow often falling on the Munros, at times down to 600-700m.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied on tops, lifting higher with breaks Cloud frequently changing, covering tops above 800m for periods, but tending to rise higher in afternoon, with time only occasionally capping tops.	Varying quickly over high terrain Cloud frequently changing over the tops, often capping windward higher slopes in the west and north above 800-900m, ragged patches to 600m in showers; occasionally breaking above higher slopes.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief bursts of sun. Visibility often very good, but intermittently very poor during showers.	Brief bursts of sun and intermittently excellent visibility, but suddenly appalling where in cloud, snow or hail.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0 to 2C. Feeling like -10 to -15C directly in the wind on tops.. 900 to 1100m, highest toward Great Glen afternoon.	0C rising to 2C. Wind chill feeling like -10C, nearer -15C as speeds increase. 900m early morning, rising toward or just above highest summits into afternoon, but lowering slightly in showers.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 12 May, 2026**

Notably chilly for mid-May across the hills this week as air from the north-northwest prevails. Frequently near or below freezing over Scottish Munros, and at times dropping to freezing on high tops in England and Wales. Wind speed will vary, but increasing at times to gale force on hills, giving significant chill factor. Broadly showery, heavy bursts with hail and thunder in places, also often falling as snow on higher mountains, at least in Scotland, intermittently elsewhere. Some more persistent precipitation especially northwest Scotland. Also some drier windows - varying locally day-to-day - away from showers cloud will lift above hills and visibility will be very good. Less windy and fewer showers suggested by next weekend into early next week.

Forecast issued at 16:28 on Sunday, 10 May, 2026

The Production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by 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.