

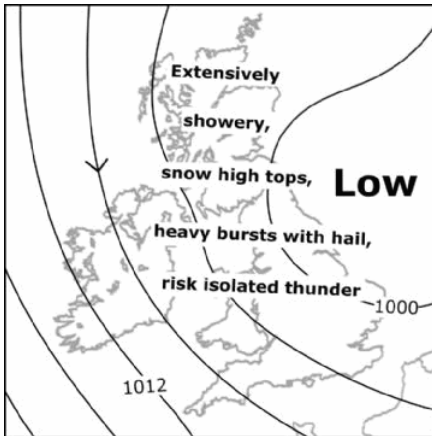
The Northwest Highlands

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 to book your stay

General Summary for Wednesday, 13 May, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 13 May, 2026

Cold for the time of year, with a cyclonic and unstable north-westerly bringing an increasingly widespread showery day across the hills. Showers heavy, with hail and risk of isolated thunder. Snow falling above around 700m. Gusty north-westerly winds, particularly strong and turbulent in and around the showers.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Cold, windy and showery with hail and above 600-700m snow. Risk thunder.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 13 May, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 25 to 30mph, strongest toward Skye, risk increasing all western hills later toward 40mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Significant wind chill, very blustery, may become more challenging in exposure over west coastal mountains.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	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?	Varying quickly over high terrain Cloud frequently changing over 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?	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief bursts of bright sun and intermittently excellent visibility, but suddenly appalling where in cloud, snow or hail.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0C rising to 2C. Wind chill feeling like -10C, nearer -15C as speeds increase.
Freezing Level	900m early morning, rising toward or just above highest summits into afternoon, but lowering again in showers.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 14 May	Friday 15 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	North-northwesterly 20 to 30mph, strongest west coastal areas, squally gusts 40mph. Significant wind chill for mid-May. Ease of walking impeded, at times making balance challenging on exposed ridges.	Northwesterly 25 to 35mph at dawn, perhaps 40mph easternmost hills, but easing to 15 to 25mph through day. Arduous start with significant wind chill and buffeting, but hour by hour easing down, to become mostly small.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers, increasingly widespread. Scattered showers from dawn, clustering around coastal areas. Will develop more widely through day, containing hail with snow above 700-900m.	Scattered snow and hail showers A scattering of snow and hail showers through the day. Fewest across western coastal hills and Skye. Snow falling 500 to 800m, lowest in the morning.
Cloud on the hills?	Bases varied, often banked across tops. Cloud bases varying through day, but frequently banks will cover the tops above 800-1000m; lowest bases in morning from Ben Hope to Skye, when perhaps 600m.	Varying, concentrated over northern hills. Bases varying through the day, with patches of banks of cloud over the tops, concentrated across hills from Skye up to Assynt and Ben Hope where may persist.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Skies often filled in with cloud limiting the sun to glimpses. Visibility very good, but lowering to become poor or very poor in showers.	Patchy sun, best early morning and west coast afternoon. Visibility very good, but lowering in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	Around freezing, lowering to -1C Skye to Ben Hope later in the afternoon. Feeling like -10 to -15C directly in wind. 900-1000m, highest in the south. Lowering to 800m, Skye to Ben Hope toward evening.	-2C at dawn, lifting to -1 to +1C; lowest up toward Ben Hope. Feeling like -10 to -15C in early wind. 700m at dawn, lifting to 800-1000m, staying lowest around Ben Hope.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 14 May, 2026**

Staying notably chilly for mid-May through this week as air from the north-northwest prevails, with showers heavy at times and containing hail with snow over the tops, but over the weekend a front will edge in and bring a change to westerly winds.

Next week may see ridging across England and Wales giving drier conditions, but occasional rain and blustery south-westerly winds for Scotland.

Forecast issued at 1:25 on Wednesday, 13 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.