

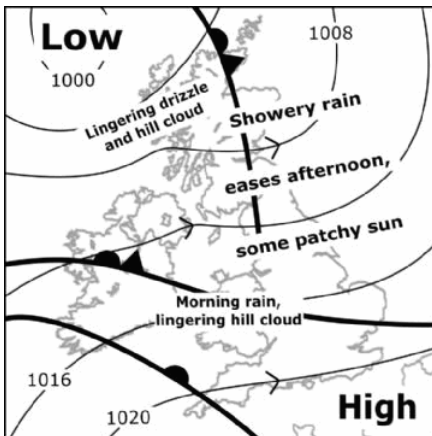
The Northwest Highlands

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 Wednesday, 20 May, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 20 May, 2026

Windy with strong gusts, briefly lighter early in Scottish Highlands. Morning showery rain and low cloud; improving afternoon as patchy sun breaks out, cloud lifting to high terrain with summit breaks, and most areas substantially dry by later afternoon. Low cloud lingers in Wales and NW Scotland.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Increasingly windy, late gales; showery rain

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 20 May, 2026

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Southwesterly 15-20mph morning, soon rising towards 25mph Skye, widely strengthening to 30-35mph afternoon, and late in the day a few hours of 40-45mph on west coast tops, lingering longest north.</p> <p>Walking increasingly impeded in exposure, becoming strenuous through afternoon, stability challenged near the west coast and marked wind chill by evening.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Showery rain</p> <p>Patchy showery rain drifts from the south in the morning, trending westerly in direction, a few dry windows. A broader area of rain sweeps through afternoon, falling heavily and may linger on central and northern areas for several hours. Some fine drizzle lingers on west coast tops, a few odd spots of rain here later too.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Variable, fairly extensive high terrain</p> <p>Fairly extensive early from at least middle slopes up, low slopes in the south/Skye. A lifting trend in the bases inland and north, occasional breaks in these areas too, but banks filling in where rain falls heavier, to 600-800m. Summit breaks possible but likely brief, and perhaps more widely extensive again late in the day.</p> <p>30%</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Some glimpses of sun, best in central/south areas afternoon. Variable visibility, poor in rain but good during dry periods.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>6C, rising up to 8C Ben Wyvis towards Easter Ross for a few afternoon hours. Only slight rise if any to the west, and then cooling afternoon back to 5 or 6C. Feeling as cold as -5C in direct wind later.</p> <p>Above the summits.</p>

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 21 May	Friday 22 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 30-40mph, lightest early. Gusts to 45mph over tops and passes, also downslope north. Strenuous to arduous walking by afternoon, feeling chilly with buffeting gusts affecting stability most of the day.	Southwesterly 25-35mph at dawn, strong gusts including downslope. Easing to 20-25mph, staying gusty over tops. Strenuous walking early with considerable buffeting, including downslope; feeling chilly. Easing, but walking stays impeded.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain through morning, drizzly afternoon Patchy rain arrives from the south soon after dawn, heaviest near Skye/Torrison and along west coast. Rain fades into high-terrain drizzle through afternoon, gradually isolating to southern hills. Around dusk, more rain arrives south.	Patchy rain Patchy rain drifts from the southwest. The rain may be more widespread for a few early hours, and persistent Skye and Kintail. Best chance of dry windows in the afternoon.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Fairly extensive West coast slopes shrouded to 400-600m much of the day, to coastal cliffs in the morning Skye/Torrison. Similar cloud heights inland early as well, though broken to the north early. Rising towards 700-800m, small chance an odd break towards summits. 20%	Fairly extensive; lifting, best north Cloud shrouds most hills above at least 600m, lowest southern and west coast Munros, towards 300m Skye and nearby. May linger here for a few hours, then lifting as rain eases, towards 700-900m, or higher to the north, some breaks possible. Always lowest Skye to Torrison and Kintail. 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy and often dull, particularly near the coast where visibility will be poor. Locally better visibility with time inland.	Mostly cloudy, a few glimpses of weak sun to the far north afternoon. Excellent visibility out of cloud to the north.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	7 to 9C, locally reaching 10C by afternoon. Little change with added height. Feeling below freezing in strongest wind. Above the summits.	8C rising to 11C; perhaps a degree milder east and north. Feeling near freezing in early wind. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 21 May, 2026**

Pressure rises as the weekend approaches, facilitating south-southwesterly wind; much milder temperatures arriving, likely warm in England and Wales by the weekend. Blustery wind for a few days, quite gusty too, including to lower slopes early; still feeling chilly on high Scottish tops, and strongest gusts will challenge stability. Patchy rain and hill cloud will continue to affect Scotland as well, most often in the west. Increasingly dry and sunny England and Wales, but always with a risk of cloud and some rain, including early valley mist in sheltered areas.

Higher pressure is indicated into next week as well. Precise detail of the high pressure core remains uncertain - the risk of strong wind and spells of rain possible for most areas, but also extended bright and warm periods too.

Forecast issued at 16:10 on Tuesday, 19 May, 2026

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