

The Northwest Highlands

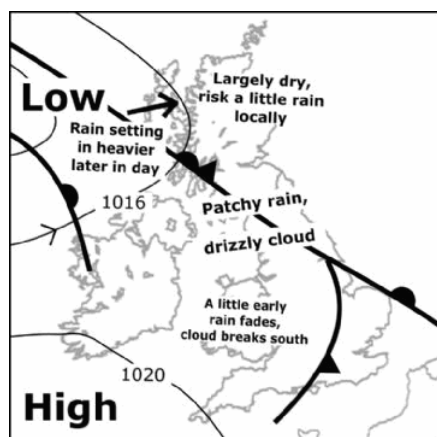
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Monday, 17 August, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 17 August, 2026

Much of the Highlands largely dry well into the afternoon with light winds, but some local patchy light rain and varied cloud. Rain develops from the west later, setting in heavy into evening. England and Wales sees patchy rain, drizzle and low cloud, though mid & south Wales tends to improve.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Mostly dry with cloud breaks, then heavy rain and breezy later.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 17 August, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable direction 10mph or less in morning, becoming southerly and tending to increase in western areas, 20-25mph by late afternoon, more widely into evening, reaching 30-35mph around Skye by dusk.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small, but becoming more blustery in west and later in day starting to affect comfortable walking in exposure.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Largely dry until late, heavy rain by evening Skye and west Odd patches of light rain, very locally an isolated showery burst may form inland in afternoon, but substantially dry most places until late in day. Rain develops around Skye late afternoon, setting in heavy by evening, extending inland. Rain affects north/east areas into night, breaks up into showers in west.
Cloud on the hills?	Breaks to many tops, then later very low cloud west Varied banks of cloud at different heights early in day, some hills clearer. Tending to thin and break, possibly leaving many hills clear, or just patches around high tops. Later as rain arrives, cloud lowering extensively from west.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60%, then late in day 10% west
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Fairly cloudy, a little sun mostly weak through high cloud, thickening in west later. Visibility very good, reducing to poor later in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	8C rising to 10C. Feeling colder late in day as wind increases, close to freezing on high tops.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 18 August	Wednesday 19 August
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25 to 35mph. Affecting ease of walking, higher up more frequent buffeting making movement challenging. Considerable wind chill.	Speed and direction likely to vary, may be often 10mph or less, but risk sudden gusts in rain. May increase NE'ly 30mph later. Mostly small, but prepare for notable wind chill if exposed to gusts, or stronger speeds later.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain on and off Showery rain most frequent over western hills. Some drier windows toward east. A band of rain may linger toward the north for a few hours.	Heavy showers forming, risk lightning Patchy rain mostly around coastal fringes early in the day, but increasingly showery rain forming widely, heavy bursts mainly inland into the afternoon, moving around slowly to give rain locally for an hour or more. Risk of thunder.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Fairly extensive, lowest west Often covering western hills above 600 to 800m, inland more often the cloud above 800m, whilst further east higher breaks. 20%	Varying, most extensive around rain Patchy cloud around some slopes in the morning, tending to lift toward high tops, mostly confined above 900m with higher breaks. During and after rain, cloud lowering, ragged patches to lower slopes. 50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Fairly cloudy with brief sun. Visibility good, but reduced in showers and slight coastal haze.	Brief sun inland in the morning, clouding over; some sun later near coasts. Visibility very good when dry, but poor in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	7C, trending cooler later in day. Feeling near or below freezing in the wind. Above the summits.	7 or 8C, little change all day. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 18 August, 2026**

Rain spreads to most places on Monday night as a frontal system moves eastward. Low pressure to the north will gradually drift south to envelop most of Britain into midweek, bringing showery conditions widely, some more organised bands of rain at times. Some heavy and thundery downpours forming, mostly into the afternoons in the second half of this week, becoming focused further south with time. Fresh westerly winds turning northerly and temperature lowering later in the week, dropping close to freezing on high Scottish tops by Friday and frost may occur in Highland glens over a couple of nights. Drier weather is likely by the weekend as higher pressure builds.

Forecast issued at 15:56 on Sunday, 16 August, 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.