

The Northwest Highlands

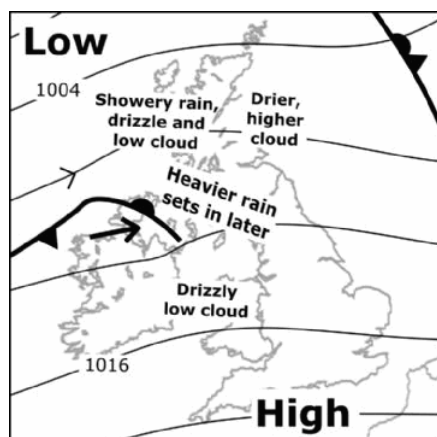
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Thursday, 3 September, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 3 September, 2026

Strong to gale-force winds over high terrain. A lot of cloud, shrouding all western hills, plus patchy rain and drizzle, becoming heavier persistent falls in the west later; a swathe of more intense rain develops for southwest Scotland into northwest England by evening, later into north Wales.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales on tops; damp and cloudy, some heavier rain later.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 3 September, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly between 35 to 50mph, will vary somewhat, generally rising in the afternoon, top speeds approach 55mph, more sustained later in day with powerful gusts developing. Arduous walking in exposure most of the day, becoming more challenging later with significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patchy rain, showers, wetter later Patchy rain drifts from the west much of the day, some showery falls, but generally light and eastern hills often dry. Rain will become more frequent with heavier falls for a few hours in west during afternoon and onward to evening.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Most persistent west coast; higher towards inland summits, breaks east Fairly extensive along west coast to start, varied banks inland, mostly high terrain; bases rising, increasingly above 800m, high tops from Ben Wyvis northward see some breaks to tops. Skye stays in cloud above 700-800m, and more widely lowering for a few hours. 20% west coast near Skye, to 60% east
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine, sometimes more cloud around. Good visibility under cloud, but hazy particularly along the coast.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	8 or 9C. Feeling below freezing in strongest wind. Above the summits.

	Friday 4 September	Saturday 5 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly, turning westerly, 40 to 55mph, powerful gusts over 60mph in showers. Arduous walking conditions, frequent buffeting knocking you off balance on exposed terrain. Significant wind chill.	Westerly 35-45mph at dawn, strongest north, easing during morning to 20-25mph. Turning S'ly, rising into night to 50-70mph. Blustery and chilly start, more challenging just at first, but lessening to be fairly small. Deteriorating significantly into night.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Often raining west Rain on and off throughout the day, most frequent in the west where some steady rain for periods mixed with heavier showery bursts, may break up a little into afternoon. Patchier rain furthest east.	A few showers Showers mostly western mountains early in the day tending drift inland but becoming well scattered and light, fading with time. Into night, risk of sustained heavy rain developing from south.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive higher areas, lower west Fairly persistent over all western mountains above 500-700m, lowest near the coast and during rain. Well inland the cloud base higher, some breaks above 800-900m, tending to rise a little into afternoon.	Lifting to higher tops Cloud banks drift over western hills above 700-800m in the morning, higher and well broken eastwards. Base rising mostly above 900m by middle of day, but patches may come and go into afternoon in west.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10% west, 30% east.	50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Largely cloudy, brief glimpses of sun eastern areas. Visibility often reduced by rain, locally good below cloud especially east; a general haze near the west coast.	Occasional sun mostly eastern areas, high cloud tending to develop late in day. Visibility very good inland, slight coastal haze in west.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	6 or 7C, little change all day. Directly in the wind, feeling like -5C. Above the summits.	5C rising to 7C afternoon, little change or rising a degree or so higher into night. Feeling like -5C in the wind early in day. Above the summits.

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 4 September, 2026

A series of weather systems moves in from the Atlantic over the next 10 days to bring spells of rain and showers, accompanied by frequently strong to gale force mountain winds. A window of better weather is likely on Saturday for Scotland and northern England, but further rain is expected to move in from the southwest by Saturday night and Sunday, heaviest western Scotland; a risk of more powerful upland gales developing over Scotland into Sunday. Temperatures will vary, mildest toward the south, but some cooler air moves in from the north at times bringing higher Scottish tops close to freezing point.

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.