

The Northwest Highlands

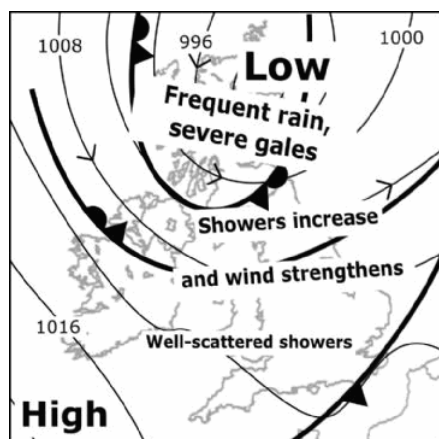
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Tuesday, 8 September, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 8 September, 2026

Frequent rain and severe gales over Scottish Highlands, easing from west later; feeling cold. Strong wind with showers and sun breaks in south Scotland and England, showers increasingly frequent from north, extended falls forming. Showers scattered in Wales, least rain south with lighter wind.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Frequent rain and severe gales; beginning to ease later

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 8 September, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West-southwesterly 55-65mph, gusts to 70mph highest tops; trending northwesterly, though quite variable around Caithness where may lessen suddenly. Elsewhere, only gradually lessening, finishing near 40mph, further easing into night. Difficult conditions well into the day: you will struggle to stay on your feet with buffeting gusts knocking you around even while crouching; significant wind chill. Effects will ease, but strenuous conditions until at least nighttime.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Persistent rain well into the day A near constant stream of showers spills onto the Munros from the north and west, some bursts of hail and merging into persistent, extended spells of rain, particularly midday into afternoon. Will break up into showers later, scattering into evening with a little summit drizzle.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Extensive Blanket cloud across the west coast hills rarely breaking above 500-600m, and often lower during heavier rain. May occasionally rise higher from Ben Wyvis to Easter Ross, but also returning widely. Beginning to break up a bit later in the day, but any summits unlikely to clear during daylight. 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare bright glimpses. Largely poor visibility, hazy towards west coast, but tending to improve on low slopes late in the day.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5 or 6C, cooling a degree later in the day. Feeling like -7 to -10C in direct wind. Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 9 September	Thursday 10 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwesterly 25-30mph, easing and shifting westerly, to 15mph; later southwesterly, restrengthening. A blustery start and feeling chilly, easing to small effects.	Southwesterly 30-35mph, gradually strengthening, later 50mph towards the west coast with powerful gusts. Walking increasingly strenuous, later challenging conditions along the west coast with buffeting and notable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Soon dry Spotty showers drift onto the Munros from the north and west in the morning, all quite light, and fading for a mostly dry day.	Patchy rain, mostly south, increasing A little patchy rain drifts from the southwest, mostly Skye and nearby hills, only drizzly spots elsewhere for a time. Patches will increase, spreading widely, and later setting in persistently, heavy falls west.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Lifting to summits with breaks for a time May start fairly extensive near and north of Ullapool from middle slopes upward, patchier south and around Skye. Tending to lift to passing banks over high summits, well-broken for a time. More frequently grazing western summits into evening. Rising to 60%	Increasingly extensive Cloud shrouds the Cuillin from middle slopes up all day, nearby hills soon similarly shrouded. Towards the north and east, more broken, some summits east of Ullapool may clear for periods. With time, cloud becoming more widely extensive, always lowest south/west. 40% inland for a time, lowering to 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine breaking out, extended sunny windows forming. Very good visibility.	A few glimpses of sun to the north and east, mostly cloudy. Good visibility out of cloud and rain, increasingly widely poor.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	4C rising to 6C. Feeling like -5C in direct wind early, wind chill effect easing. Above the summits.	6C rising to 9C, only slight drop into night. Feeling like -1 to -3C in strongest wind. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 9 September, 2026

Generally unsettled through the week with spells of rain and showers moving in from the Atlantic, accompanied by strong to gale force mountain winds. Temperatures will vary, mildest toward the south, but cooler air moves in from the north at times bringing higher Scottish tops occasionally close to freezing point, feeling cold in the wind chill. A few high pressure ridges bring settled windows, notably afternoons of Wednesday and Friday; northwestern areas, particularly in Scotland, will tend to hold onto some hill cloud despite high pressure.

Weather remains varied from the weekend into next week, Scotland most often unsettled, best windows of improvement to the south. A more settled period is indicated in the later month with warm temperatures.

Forecast issued at 16:19 on Monday, 7 September, 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.