

The Northwest Highlands

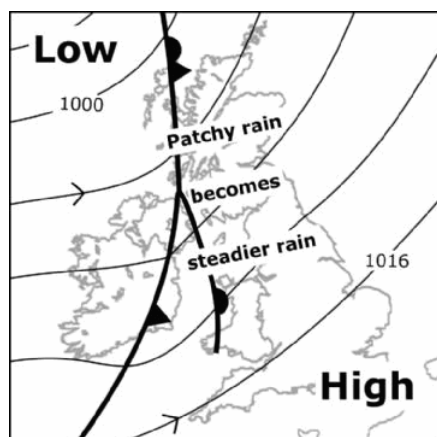
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



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General Summary for Thursday, 10 September, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 10 September, 2026

Windy, gales over Scottish mountains and increasingly on higher tops of England & Wales. Rain starts patchy and light but becomes persistent over western hills, extending eastwards with time. Cloud capping most high tops, lowering in rain particularly in the west.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales on tops. Rain becomes heavy for a time in west.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 10 September, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly, strengthening from dawn to give sustained speeds of 45-50mph during morning into middle of day over tops, stronger gusts for a time. Starting to ease during afternoon to later 30-35mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Arduous walking conditions over the mountains, frequent buffeting knocking you off balance on exposed terrain. Tending to moderate during afternoon, but still very blustery over the tops. Considerable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain sets in for a few hours Skye and west, patchy rain extends north/east A little rain drifts from the southwest from dawn, mostly Skye and nearby hills, only drizzly spots elsewhere. On Skye, steadier then heavier rain develops during morning, with time extending across Wester Ross, patchier north and eastwards, but some bursts of rain into afternoon. Breaking up later into showery rain in the west.
Cloud on the hills?	Increasingly extensive Cloud shrouds the Cuillin from middle slopes up all day, nearby mainland often similarly shrouded to 600-700m. Towards the north and east, more broken, some summit breaks east of Ullapool. Cloud becomes more widely extensive as rain develops. Some rise of base late in day west, occasional breaks form.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40% inland in morning, to 10% Skye, but lowering in rain widely.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, a few glimpses of sun to the north and east. Soon hazy Skye, then poor in rain. Good visibility out of cloud and rain inland, but increasingly widely poor.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6C rising to 9C, then lowering again into night. Feeling like -5C in strongest wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Friday 11 September	Saturday 12 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25-35mph, strongest near and north of Ullapool; slightly lessening but also gusty. Rising onward into night. Ease of walking impacted on high tops, some buffeting gusts. A chilly feeling. Deteriorating into night to gales.	Southwesterly 60 to 70mph from dawn, lessening gradually during day to 30-40mph afternoon. Very difficult conditions with powerful gusts to low levels early in day, moderating, but remaining challenging; notable chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little rain and drizzle, fading Spotty rain drifts from the west from dawn, a little drizzle over high western tops, gradually easing, likely dry by later afternoon. Rain develops well into night, later heavy in west.	Rain tends to clear Heavy rain from dawn, breaking up into rain on and off, still some heavier bursts at times in west. Increasingly patchy and during afternoon may fade out.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Clinging to western summits A layer of cloud fairly widely above 800-900m to start, lower bases west, ragged patches towards lower slopes. A lifting trend, cloud tending to break up, best Easter Ross. Cloud will continue to roll over high tops, breaks unlikely over the Cuillin until late. Gradually rising towards 50%	Extensive, some improvement Blanket cloud across the hills in early rain, some rise of base, but fairly persistent over higher slopes. Best of breaks toward north and east in afternoon, rare to high tops. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sun breaking out. Good visibility but a building haze west.	Occasional sun breaking through. Hazy, but visibility better as rain clears.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5 or 6C, locally rising a degree inland. Feeling like -5C in strongest wind. Above the summits.	7C, may be briefly up to 10C. Feeling like -5 to -8C directly in wind. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 11 September, 2026

Changeable west-southwesterlies prevail through mid September; often windy, gale-force winds for periods over higher terrain. A window of drier weather this Friday, then the next frontal system sweeps in overnight into Saturday with a sustained fall of rain moving southeastward, accompanied by upland gales for most places. Improving for better weather on Sunday, then wind and rain returns into Monday, staying showery into Tuesday. A mixed outlook likely continues later next week with rain most frequent in western Scotland. Temperatures varying, some cooler days especially in Scotland, but often fairly mild further south, at times quite warm and humid.

Forecast issued at 16:10 on Wednesday, 9 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.