

The Northwest Highlands

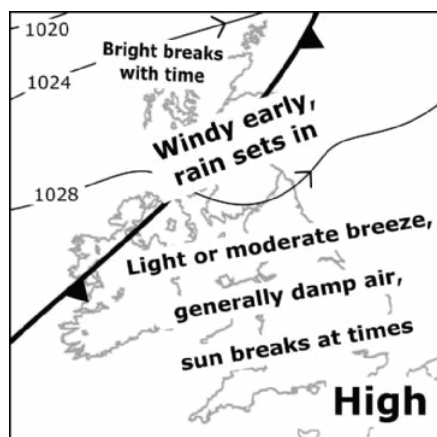
Areas north from Knoydart in the west, and the Great Glen towards the east (NB. Does not include Mull and areas west of Loch Linnhe, these are found in the West Highlands forecast.)



Skye Basecamp - a brand new climber's hostel run by Skye Guides mountain guiding

Visit www.skyebasecamp.co.uk to book your stay

General Summary for Tuesday, 22 September, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 22 September, 2026

Scotland starts windy with rain in the northwest highlands, this spreading fairly widely over the highlands into afternoon and evening. Wind eases, some bright breaks in the far northwest. Feeling damp, warm, and often cloudy England and Wales, drizzle on west hills, odd patchy rain, but sun glimpses too.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Wind and rain early, both easing, becoming cool, bright north

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 22 September, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 40mph, gusting 50mph around dawn, beginning to gradually lessen, finishing near 20-25mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging conditions start the day, strong gusts requiring bracing to maintain balance, conditions gradually ease, to fairly small late in the day.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Most rain in morning Steady rain with heavier moments for a few hours in the morning. Smaller patchier amounts northeast, and becoming drier into afternoon, though rain at times returning from Skye towards Ben Wyvis. An odd drizzly shower possible northwest as well.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Extensive, then rising, best breaks north Shrouding hills from lower elevations upward around Skye and nearby hills, fairly extensive most western hills above 600m. Higher bases northeast, but lowering extensively in rain. Cloud starts to break up from midday, first northwest, gradually further south, Kintail slowest to break, and caps continue to graze tops. 20% rising to 50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloudy, murky, poor visibility in rain, then improving to patchy sun and good visibility, a coastal haze building later; staying more often cloudy in the far south.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	9C and quite humid early morning, soon lowering, to 6C much of afternoon. Feeling near/below 0C in wind. Above the summits.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 23 September	Thursday 24 September
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwesterly 15-20mph. Locally blustery over the tops but otherwise fairly small.	Southwesterly 25-35mph, strengthening, sustained 50-60mph later, strongest west with powerful downslope gusts. Walking soon challenging, notably west, gusts knocking you off your feet; feeling chilly despite mild temperature.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers, tending to scatter Showers drift onto the hills from the west in the morning. May be frequent with some heavy bursts for a time, but tending to scatter, only isolated showers later.	A little rain, later more widely A little drizzle and patchy rain on Skye, sometimes spreading more widely, but most Munros largely dry into the afternoon. Rain increasingly sets in Skye, then spreads widely; timing of arrival currently uncertain.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Coming and going over tops Cloud variably passes above 800-900m during showers, mostly western slopes, a few lower ragged patches during rain but the cloud breaking off the summits after showers pass. May more often cover west tops for a time but a lifting tendency. 60%	Mostly clear morning, gradually increasing A few patches graze the Cuillin through morning, but most hills stay clear. Through afternoon, banks more often covering the Cuillin, spreading more widely and filling in over high terrain with time, lowering towards 600-700m Cuillin later. 80%, lowering to 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A patchwork of cloud and sun, most often sunny on lower slopes. Very good visibility, a little haze.	Glimpses of sun, weakened by high cloud, trending cloudier. Very good visibility, a little coastal haze building.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C. Feeling below 0C in direct wind. Above the summits.	6C rising to 9C, staying elevated into night. Feeling as cold as -5C in strongest wind later. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 23 September, 2026

A heavier swathe of rain moves east Wednesday morning, soon clearing Scotland but leaving a few showers behind, later clearing England and Wales. Southwesterly winds increase again on Thursday and rain later moves into western Scotland, but elsewhere is likely dry, bright in Wales and much of England. A variable outlook continues next weekend and beyond with high pressure building from the south at times with fairly warm and dry conditions, but Atlantic systems still pass to the north bringing occasional rain and showers toward western Scotland at least, strong wind here with sustained gales in the north. Next week remains on the unsettled side: west-southwesterly wind with bands of rain passing over most mountains, but a trend towards higher pressure brings longer settled windows into October.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Monday, 21 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.