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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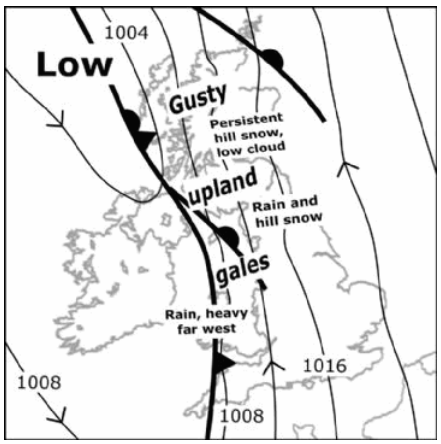
General Summary for Tuesday, 24 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 24 November, 2026

Southeasterly gales over most mountains, powerful gusts toward some lower elevations. Hill snow fairly persistent for the southern Highlands, rain lower slopes; patchier northwards across the Highlands. Some hill snow for northern England, turning more to rain. Heavy rain toward west Wales.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Areas of snow and rain; powerful gales.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 24 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southeasterly, strengthening quickly with height, a very gusty 40-60mph. Ferocious gusts; some reaching valleys.
Effect of wind on you?	**Severe wind chill and very difficult walking where exposed. Gusts may well knock you over - even on some lower slopes.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Periods of rain and snow** Patchy rain and hill snow, may be more persistent for periods, often smaller amounts toward Ullapool area. Near coast rain toward upper slopes. Heaviest and most persistent precipitation Skye, though some breaks.
Cloud on the hills?	**Mostly confined to higher slopes** Varying patches around the hills all day, some breaks at times over more northwestern slopes. In precipitation, cloud base will drop, extensive around 900m, but in places below 600m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**30%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Here and there weak sunshine temporarily as cloud thins. Visibility very poor in precipitation, but often very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Varied: 2 to -2C, generally highest near the coast. Will feel as cold as minus 15C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Very varied: between 600m inland and east, but toward the west coast above freezing to some upper slopes.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 25 November	Thursday 26 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southeasterly 15 to 25mph, but risk very locally 40mph northeastern hill groups early in the day, tending to lessen.	South-southeasterly 35 to 50mph, likely strengthening during daytime, risk 60mph at least in gusts by afternoon high tops.
Effect of wind on you?	**Fairly small most western mountains, but toward Ben Hope and Ben Wyvis more blustery for a time, considerable chill.**	**Challenging walking conditions, becoming difficult on high terrain, powerful downslope gusts. Significant then severe wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Patchy snow flurries** Western mountains may see very little, but here and there some light snow or sleet falling occasionally across the region.	**Dry until evening** Toward or beyond dusk, patchy rain and upland snow flurries moving onto Skye and west coast, making slow progress inland onward into evening, but risk of hill snow setting in widely into night.
Cloud on the hills?	**Some breaks develop northwest** Varying banks of cloud fairly extensive across hills in the morning, likely to persist in more eastern areas, also Skye. Western hills north of Torridon likely see breaks.	**Mostly little** Patchy cloud banks drifting over some high summits, but many west coastal mountains from Torridon northwards often clearing. Banks may be more frequent south Cuillin.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**30%**	**70%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little if any weak sun due to layers of high cloud. Visibility mostly very good.	Weak sun at best through a thickening veil of high cloud from the west. Visibility very good, though some haze develops in west.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1 to 3C, warmest far northwest; small variation with height inland mountains. Feeling like -10C if in stronger wind.	-2C, slightly higher Skye and nearby coast. Feeling like -15C to later nearer -20C directly in the wind on high tops.
Freezing Level	1000m or above. Some lower terrain partly frozen, frost particularly inland glens in the morning.	Much terrain frozen, thawing on sunlit slopes up to 600m, or slightly higher near west coast.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 25 November, 2026

Staying near or below freezing across most mountains all this week with below-average temperatures for late November, much higher terrain persistently frozen and regular frosts into valleys and glens. Strong east or southeasterly winds prevail, gales at times. Largely dry midweek, some snow flurries mostly eastern hills. Further hill snow more widely into Friday may set in heavy as a front moves in from the west, rain lower western areas. In the extended outlook through the weekend and beyond, there is uncertainty about the extent of incoming Atlantic fronts and scope for further snowfalls, or any pushes of milder air trying to arrive.

Forecast issued at 16:15 on Monday, 23 November, 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.