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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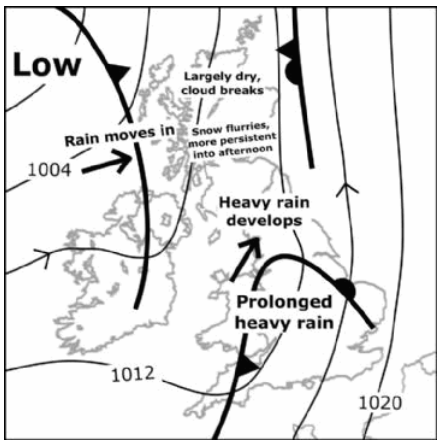
General Summary for Saturday, 28 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 28 November, 2026

Strong to gale force winds, significant chill factor. Snow flurries southern Highlands, persistent afternoon; drier northwards, some cloud breaks, otherwise blanket fog - rime ice on Scottish mountains, plus snow cover fairly widely, most substantial south. Heavy rain sets in widely over England and Wales.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales, strongest west; mostly dry, locally clear; wetter later Skye.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 28 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, speeds varying, 35 to 50mph, strongest speeds most sustained Skye and near west coast, very gusty in places not just on tops, at times 60mph Cuillin; tending to lessen during afternoon, later southwesterly 25mph.
Effect of wind on you?	**Prepare for significant wind chill, in places challenging walking conditions on exposed terrain, often difficult west coast mountains; buffeting gusts even lower down.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Little if any precipitation until late; wetter Skye before dusk** Local brief snow flurries, or light rain occasionally around Skye, but much of the day dry on the mainland. Toward later afternoon on Skye, rain becoming more persistent, more likely into the evening elsewhere, snow above 700m.
Cloud on the hills?	**Covering some slopes, mostly Skye** Varying banks of cloud mostly on south-facing slopes, may often cloak the southern Cuillin. Northern mainland tops more often seeing breaks, locally much clearer in the morning northwest areas.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**30% Skye, up to 70% north mainland.**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A little weak sun mostly northern areas; a veil of high cloud likely. Visibility very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or 1C inland and small variation with height above around 800m; some glens start colder; 3C Skye. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the wind.
Freezing Level	West coastal areas likely above freezing to higher slopes. Inland varied and poorly defined, but much terrain frozen including into glens after overnight hard frost.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 29 November	Monday 30 November
How windy? (On the Munros) **Effect of wind on you?**	Southwesterly, speeds varying during day, often in range 40 to 55mph, but risk 70mph at least in gusts early and late in **Expect challenging conditions all day, potentially any mobility difficult at times; significant wind chill.**	Southwesterly 60 to 80mph; marked rise of wind speed with increasing height, but some powerful gusts reaching low slopes. **Severe conditions all day on high terrain; challenging walking in places on lower hills with significant wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Frequent or persistent rain, snow tops** Often raining on western hills, snow mostly above 800m, may persist for a few hours from dawn widely, then more showery, but falling frequently around Skye; risk of hail, chance of isolated thunder.	**Prolonged heavy rain west** Raining all day Skye and much of Wester Ross to Kintail, incessant heavy falls likely. Further north and east, the rain patchier and may fade at times. Very wet underfoot, streams in spate.
Cloud on the hills? **Chance of cloud free Munros?**	**Extensive higher areas** Varying cloud bases, but often covering many mountains above 800m, some patches to 600m or lower near west coast. Fleeting breaks higher up inland and north. **20%**	**Extensive** Shrouding the mountains widely above 600 to 800m, sometimes lower around Skye and nearby coast. Some higher breaks at times toward Ben Hope and Ben Wyvis. **10%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun. Visibility very poor in rain, appalling in snow, but occasional improvements.	Overcast and dull, locally brighter skies toward far northeast. Hazy at best, visibility mostly poor due to rain.
How Cold? (at 900m) **Freezing Level**	0 to 2C. Feeling like -12 to -15C in the wind. 900-1000m, slightly higher near west coast. Rising above all tops into night and Monday.	Rising from before dawn up to 6C, may lift slightly further by late in the day. Feeling like -10C in the wind. Well above freezing to highest summits; rapid thawing of previously frozen terrain and snow cover on mountains.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 29 November, 2026

Southwesterly upland gales on Sunday, severe for a time on high tops; a showery mix of rain and snow passing eastwards. Then severe gales widely on the mountains by Monday, storm-force higher terrain, accompanied by incessant heavy rain focused on western Scotland and a rapid thaw - the rain sets in for England & Wales too, persistent here into Tuesday - expect flooding and some routes to be impassable. Dropping back sub-zero on Scottish tops by Tuesday & Wednesday, with a showery mix of rain, snow and hail. High pressure then builds later in the week - drier conditions for a time, but a mixed west-southwesterly may persist or soon return for Scotland; temperatures varying.

Forecast issued at 14:30 on Friday, 27 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.