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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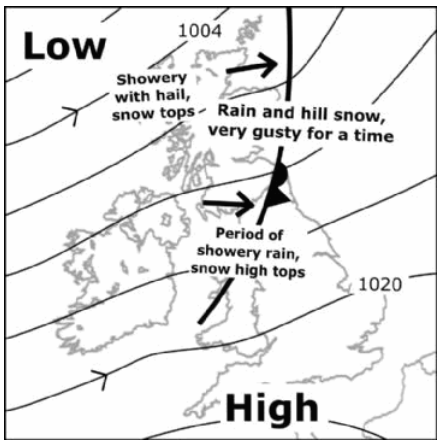
General Summary for Sunday, 29 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 29 November, 2026

Southwesterly winds often gale-force on higher mountains with significant chill factor; more severe gusts for a time. A band of showery rain passes eastwards in the morning, snow on higher tops; showers follow into western areas, some hail mixed in. Snow cover on many Scottish mountains.

Headline for The Northwest Highlands

Gales, severe early & late; showery with hail, snow tops.

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 29 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly, speeds varying during day, in range 35 to 50mph, but squally gusts 70mph early morning and speeds tending to rise tending to rise again around dusk and significantly after dark.
Effect of wind on you?	**Frequent buffeting over high terrain, more challenging at first and again late afternoon onward, but moderating for a time. Significant wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Frequent or persistent rain, snow tops, hail** Often raining on western hills, snow mostly above 800m, persistent for a few hours from dawn widely, then more showery, but falling frequently around Skye; some hail, chance of isolated thunder, mainly near west/north coasts. Wet underfoot lower areas.
Cloud on the hills?	**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.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**20%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun. Visibility very poor in rain, appalling in snow, but occasional improvements.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or 1C. Feeling like -12C in the wind.
Freezing Level	900-1000m, slightly higher near west coast. Rising above all tops into night and Monday.

The Northwest Highlands - Looking Ahead

	Monday 30 November	Tuesday 1 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 55 to 70mph; marked rise of wind speed with increasing height, but some powerful gusts reaching low slopes.	Southwesterly 60-70mph with stronger gusts from dawn, tending to lessen but possibly only slowly to 40mph or less.
Effect of wind on you?	**Severe conditions all day on high terrain; challenging walking in places on lower hills with significant wind chill.**	**Continuing severe conditions on high terrain early in the day at least, improving, but risk still challenging all day.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**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.	**Rain likely clearing** Frequent or persistent rain from overnight into the morning, but may tend to break up and clear, leaving a few showers toward the west coast, later of snow above 800m. Streams in spate, expect flooding.
Cloud on the hills?	**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.	**Mostly western tops, breaks likely** Banks of cloud covering higher slopes frequently around Skye and Wester Ross, most extensive in the morning, but tending to thin, clearer breaks at times north/east.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**10%**	**40%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and dull, locally brighter skies toward far northeast. Hazy at best, visibility mostly poor due to rain.	A little sun breaking through, mostly north and eastern areas. Visibility poor if in rain west, improving to be very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Rising from before dawn up to 6C, may lift slightly further by late in the day. Feeling like -10C in the wind.	7C from dawn into the morning, then falling quickly toward 0C. Wind chill risk feeling like -7 to -12C.
Freezing Level	Well above freezing to highest summits; rapid thawing of previously frozen terrain and snow cover on mountains.	Starting well above the summits, but during the day a rapid drop to 900-1000m, possibly in the morning - timing uncertain.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 30 November, 2026

A near-total thaw of snow cover early in the new week as southwesterly winds bring much milder air, well above freezing to tops Monday-Tuesday; severe gales widely on the mountains, storm-force higher terrain, accompanied by incessant heavy rain reaching all western mountains of Britain - expect flooding and some routes to be impassable.
Dropping back sub-zero on Scottish tops by Tuesday into 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 15:05 on Saturday, 28 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.