

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 08 Feb 2023 until 23:59 on Thursday 09 Feb 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 07 Feb 2023 at 14:07 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence throughout the forecast period.

Headline for Wednesday 08 Feb 2023: A very windy day, dry to start but rain or snow later.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 08 Feb 2023

Blizzards
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Sleet	Heavy snow	Heavy snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
10%	10%	10%	20%	30%	90%	70%	60%

Forecast for Wednesday 08 Feb 2023

Weather: High cloud across much of the area through the early hours, with low cloud developing during the morning. Further low cloud pushing in from the northwest by around mid-afternoon, with rain following behind. This turning to snow above 400-600m by late afternoon/evening. Very strong winds through the majority of the day. The front clears later in the evening to leave clear spells and scattered blustery showers behind, falling as snow above 200-400m.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80% at first, decreasing to 60% through the morning, 10% by mid-late afternoon. Increasing to 60% in the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Good visibility to start but scattered low cloud with bases around 500-700m developing through the morning. Extensive low cloud across the area, leading to hill fog, arriving from the northwest by late afternoon, with moderate or poor visibility in rain or snow, potential for whiteout conditions in blizzards. Band of low cloud clearing later in the evening with scattered low cloud in association with showers later, visibility generally good but poor in snow showers.

Forecast for Wednesday 08 Feb 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	53/66 SW	52/66 SW	51/65 SW	53/68 SW	54/71 SW	58/76 SW	32/43 W	32/44 W	39/54 SW
900	52/64 SW	50/64 SW	48/62 SW	49/65 SW	51/68 SW	55/74 SW	31/42 W	30/42 W	37/52 SW
600	37/49 SW	36/49 SW	32/46 SW	34/49 SW	37/54 SW	40/58 SW	22/33 W	21/33 W	27/42 SW
300	11/45 SW	9/41 SW	9/44 SW	11/50 SW	13/53 SW	15/59 SW	8/33 W	7/31 W	10/40 W
Glen	10/26 S	10/28 S	19/42 S	23/47 SW	25/50 SW	27/55 SW	16/31 W	14/30 W	18/36 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-2/-12	-2/-13	-2/-12	-1/-11	-0/-10	-0/-11	-3/-12	-5/-14	-4/-14
900	-1/-11	-1/-11	-1/-11	-0/-10	1/-9	0/-9	-2/-11	-4/-13	-4/-13
600	1/-7	1/-7	1/-6	2/-5	3/-4	3/-5	-0/-8	-2/-9	-1/-9
300	4/-0	4/0	4/1	5/2	6/2	5/1	1/-3	0/-3	1/-3
Glen	6/3	6/3	6/2	8/3	8/4	8/3	3/-2	4/-1	4/-2
Freezing Level*	700m	700m	700m	900m	1000m	1000m	400m	300m	400m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Very strong winds, even to lower levels, making walking conditions difficult.

Forecast for Thursday 09 Feb 2023

Weather: Scattered blustery showers overnight and through Thursday morning, falling as snow above 200-400m at first, rising above 600-800m later. Showers easing off during the afternoon and becoming mainly confined to the far north into the evening.

Maximum wind: Westerly 25 mph gusting 40 mph, easing through the afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% at first, rising to 60% into the afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Scattered low cloud in association with showers with poor visibility at times. Good outside of showers.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 to plus 5 Celsius

At 800m: Minus 3 Celsius

Freezing level: 200-400m during the early hours, rising to 600-800m during the afternoon and 1000m later in the evening.