

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 08 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Saturday 09 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Thursday 07 Jan 2021 at 12:13 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for wintry showers soon waning Friday, then for turning milder from Saturday as Atlantic fronts spread from the west. However confidence lowering for the details of timing and extent of worst of conditions into next week.

Headline for Friday 08 Jan 2021: Most staying dry, but some early snow showers in north, also severe wind chill initially.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 08 Jan 2021

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium 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
							
Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals
Precipitation probability							
30%	30%	30%	20%	<05%	<05%	<05%	<05%

Forecast for Friday 08 Jan 2021

Weather: A few isolated and light snow showers at first, these mainly confined to Sutherland ranges. Showers largely died out by mid-morning, with plentiful winter sunshine, then clear spells for the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% at first in the north with bases lowering 450-600m in showers, otherwise 95% plus.

Visibility: Generally very good or excellent, lowering to virtually nil in early snow showers.

Forecast for Friday 08 Jan 2021

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	23/29 N	20/25 N	20/24 N	15/19 N	10/14 NW	9/12 W	8/11 SW	12/16 SW	17/25 SW
900	21/27 N	18/23 N	17/22 N	12/16 N	9/13 NW	8/10 W	8/10 SW	11/16 SW	17/25 SW
600	15/22 N	13/18 N	11/16 N	6/9 N	4/7 NW	5/7 SW	6/9 SW	8/12 S	10/17 SW
300	5/22 N	4/19 N	3/18 N	2/12 N	2/9 N	3/7 NE	2/7 SW	3/10 S	5/16 S
Glen	7/19 N	9/19 N	6/17 NE	5/10 NE	3/6 N	2/5 NE	2/4 E	3/6 E	5/12 SW

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	-8/-17	-8/-17	-8/-17	-8/-15	-6/-12	-7/-13	-8/-14	-8/-14	-7/-15
900	-7/-16	-8/-16	-7/-15	-7/-14	-6/-11	-6/-12	-8/-13	-7/-13	-6/-14
600	-5/-12	-5/-11	-5/-11	-6/-10	-4/-6	-4/-8	-6/-10	-5/-10	-4/-10
300	-3/-6	-3/-6	-4/-6	-5/-7	-3/-5	-3/-5	-5/-8	-5/-7	-3/-7
Glen	0/-3	-0/-5	-1/-4	-1/-4	-1/-3	-1/-3	-3/-5	-4/-6	1/-2
Freezing Level*	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m

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

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Severe wind chill effect at height. Chance of blizzard conditions at first across highest peaks with blowing of lying snow.

Forecast for Saturday 09 Jan 2021

Weather: Cloud thickening from the west soon, bringing an area of patchy snow and rain before mid-morning, with some moderate outbreaks later. Snow level 300m at first, lifting 900m from mid-afternoon, then across the far north lowering 500m during the evening.

Maximum wind: West or southwest 25-30mph with gusts reaching 45mph across most exposed ridges and summits. Winds decreasing gradually from mid-afternoon.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Becoming from mid-morning 10% or less with bases extensive from 450-600m with patches lower down in west.

Visibility: Handful of kilometres in rain, less in snow, particularly in west.

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 06 Celsius increasing plus 03 Celsius during the afternoon
At 800m: Minus 05 Celsius increasing plus 01 Celsius, during the afternoon, then lowering Minus 05 Celsius later in north
Freezing level: Sea level rising 1000m during the afternoon, and lowering 600m later in north