

Northwest Highlands

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

Forecast Issued on Saturday 07 Jan 2023 at 15:53 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for Sunday. High for cold and unsettled weather well into next week with snow at times

Headline for Sunday 08 Jan 2023: Cold and stormy with sleet and snow, heavy and prolonged on western summits

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 08 Jan 2023

Blizzards

Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

Medium Likelihood

Storm force winds

High Likelihood

Gales

High Likelihood

Severe chill effect

High Likelihood

Poor visibility

Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms

Low 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
							
Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Cloudy	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
50%	50%	50%	40%	60%	70%	30%	30%

Forecast for Sunday 08 Jan 2023

Weather: A cold and stormy day with sleet, snow or hail showers merging into prolonged periods of precipitation at times. Worst of the conditions will be across Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross with some heavy and prolonged spells of snow on the higher tops and blizzard like conditions. Fewer showers are expected well inland in the east across Caithness, Easter Ross and towards the Great Glen. Drier and less windy weather will develop after dark.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40%, best chance well inland across the east until early afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Poor in low cloud down to 500 metres which will become extensive across the west of the region through the morning, and in the east down to 700 metres through the afternoon. Whiteout conditions expected in snow.

Forecast for Sunday 08 Jan 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	42/56 S	49/66 S	49/65 S	49/67 S	44/61 S	35/49 SW	28/40 SW	23/33 SW	22/31 SW
900	39/53 S	47/63 S	47/63 S	47/65 S	41/58 S	33/48 SW	27/39 SW	22/32 SW	21/29 SW
600	28/41 S	33/50 S	34/50 S	34/52 S	30/46 S	24/38 SW	19/31 SW	16/26 SW	13/22 SW
300	9/40 S	13/49 S	14/50 S	14/51 S	13/45 S	11/37 SW	8/30 SW	6/24 SW	5/20 SW
Glen	19/40 S	23/48 S	24/50 S	24/49 S	23/46 S	15/33 SW	11/26 SW	9/22 SW	7/17 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	-2/-11	-1/-11	-2/-12	-2/-13	-2/-12	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-9	-2/-9
900	-1/-10	-1/-10	-1/-11	-2/-12	-1/-11	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-8
600	2/-6	2/-6	1/-7	0/-8	1/-7	2/-5	1/-5	1/-4	1/-4
300	4/0	4/-1	2/-2	2/-2	2/-3	3/-0	3/-0	3/0	2/0
Glen	6/2	6/1	6/0	5/-0	5/-1	6/2	6/3	6/3	5/3
Freezing Level*	800m	800m	700m	600m	600m	900m	800m	800m	700m

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

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Severe gale or storm force winds expected across all ranges leading to severe wind chill and a risk of being blown over. Whiteout conditions with drifting snow expected at times, especially in the west.

Forecast for Monday 09 Jan 2023

Weather: Sunny intervals and occasional snow showers at first. Strengthening westerly winds will bring more frequent and occasionally heavy sleet, snow and hail showers by late morning, these lasting into the afternoon. Showers easing after dark.

Maximum wind: Westerly 25 mph gusts 45 mph

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70%,

Low cloud and visibility: Very good visibility with great air clarity, becoming poor for a time as showers pass by with cloud lowering to 750 metres.

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 2 rising to 4 Celsius
At 800m: 0 Celsius
Freezing level: 800 to 1000 metres