

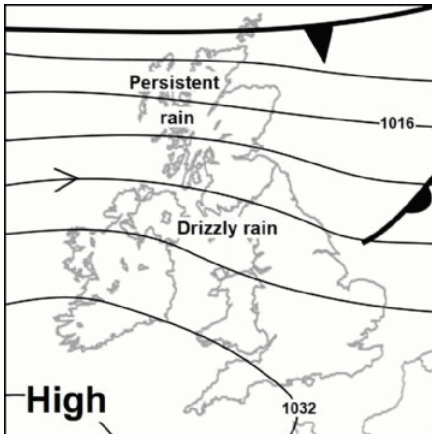
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Wednesday, 22 November, 2023



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 22 November, 2023

Widespread upland gales, increasingly severe Scottish mountains. Least windy south Wales. Rain and drizzle most of the day western Scotland, heaviest northwest. Patchy rain or drizzle elsewhere, driest in easternmost areas. Extensive low cloud, lowest west. Above freezing to all tops.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Storm-force winds on tops. Rain in the wind, drier east.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 22 November, 2023

How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly 50 to 70mph; considerable increase of speed with height; generally increasing, reaching 80mph Cairngorm plateau afternoon onward.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging conditions and significant wind chill at mid elevations; gusts may blow you over. Increasingly severe conditions higher up, any mobility very difficult.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain mostly western Cairngorms Rain and drizzle fairly persistent near and west of the A9, at times heavy Drumochter area. Progressively smaller amounts further eastwards, mostly spots in the wind, locally more often dry toward Deeside.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive higher areas Shrouding higher terrain most or all day, lowest bases near the A9, at times below 800m. Further east, some breaks possible toward higher slopes.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, glimpses of sun toward east. Slight haze, visibility reduced in rain, locally poor in west.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6C. Wind chill feels near -10C on tops.
Freezing Level	Above the summits.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 23 November	Friday 24 November
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West later northwesterly, 70 to 90mph from overnight into the daytime, only gradually easing toward 50mph. Ongoing very difficult conditions and significant wind chill from mid-heights upward much of day. Severe on tops.	Northwesterly 50 to 60mph in morning, gradually easing toward 35mph. Challenging conditions on the hills, difficult walking on exposed higher areas in morning. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain then snow showers Rain most persistent on western side of Cairngorms and over Monadhliath from dawn. On and off elsewhere, least in east. Turning to snow on the Munros as it eases. Becoming showers, snow later falling to lower slopes.	Snow or hail showers Snow showers coming in from the north, frequent for periods over northern Cairngorms and Monadhliath. Fewer showers or flurries further south. Possible hail or soft hail. Sleet only lowest slopes.
Cloud on the hills?	Lifting, some breaks to tops Shrouding higher terrain in morning, lowest bases near/west of the A9 in rain. As rain clears, bases starting to rise, some breaks forming to upper slopes.	Often covering higher tops Cloud bases varied, but often shrouding higher Cairngorms, especially around northern corries above 900 to 1100m, lower patches in showers. Cloud higher and more broken further south.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy start, occasional sun breaking through, best in east. Slight haze, visibility improving to be very good.	Brief bursts of sunshine and very clear air. Visibility very poor in falling or blowing snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	As high as 5C overnight, lowering to 0 to 2C morning, -2C afternoon, -4C after dark. Wind chill feeling like -15C. Soon lowering in morning to 800-1000m, nearer 600-700m by dusk, 500m widely after dark.	-4C. Wind chill feeling like -20C. 500 to 700m. Also frost some sheltered glens at first.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 23 November, 2023

Much colder air moves in from the northwest Thursday into Friday - a significant rapid drop of freezing level to leave all mountains sub-zero. Showers with hail and snow falling to lower elevations in Scotland. Staying chilly into the weekend, but a good deal of dry and sunny weather with high pressure extending over Britain. Hard frost overnight into valleys and glens. Wind speeds tending to ease into Saturday. Lower confidence by Sunday as weak fronts may push in from the west bringing snow flurries or drizzly rain near to west coasts. Precipitation amounts likely to be fairly small into next week, staying on the cooler side, some variation of temperature, but mostly near or below freezing on high tops.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 21 November, 2023

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering Scotland with the support of 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, 2023.