

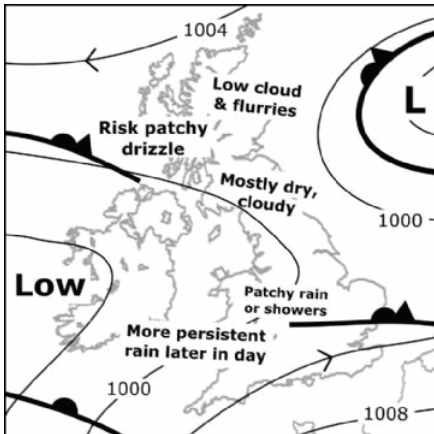
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Thursday, 4 April, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 4 April, 2024

Chilly northeasterlies across the Highlands, but wind speeds tending to ease. Sub-zero temperatures across the mountains all day. A lot of low cloud, patchy snow flurries, locally drizzly. Mostly dry for northern England, some cloud breaks. Patchy rain for Wales, later turning wetter as SW'ly winds freshen; gales by dusk.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cold, brisk winds easing. Snow flurries, low cloud.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 4 April, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	East to northeasterly 20 to 30mph, strongest in the morning, tending to ease into afternoon, but may stay gusty in east. Starting to strengthen again up to dusk, reaching 50mph+ overnight.
Effect of wind on you?	Blustery over higher terrain, significant wind chill where exposed on Cairngorm plateau, especially in the morning, improving into afternoon, but deteriorating into night.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow mostly north, scattered showers Fairly persistent light snow north & eastern Cairngorms early morning, snow falling into the glens. Small amounts toward Ben Alder. Scattered soft hail flurries into the afternoon. Snow then developing widely overnight.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, lowest north and east Cloud likely to often shroud higher Cairngorms all day, lowest in north and east, to some mid-slopes in morning. May improve a little during afternoon. Breaks forming to some upper slopes, best toward Drumochter.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10% north and east, 30% southwest.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, dull toward north and east, locally brighter toward southwest. Misty with poor visibility over many higher slopes, locally better visibility south and west of Cairngorms.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C rising to -1C north & east, just above 0C southwest. Wind chill feeling as cold as -15C on high tops early morning, easing to -7C.
Freezing Level	Close to freezing from low elevations upward in the morning. Rising to 800m afternoon, locally 1000m toward Glen Garry.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 5 April	Saturday 6 April
<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>East turning southerly, 35 to 50mph, gusts 60mph+ at first. A possible lull, but risk increasing again, further gales later.</p> <p>Beware of changing conditions, at times very difficult with powerful gusts to lower slopes. May improve for a time.</p>	<p>Southeast turning southerly, 50 to 70mph, reaching 80mph, stronger gusts higher Cairngorms; continuing into night.</p> <p>Severe conditions over the mountains. Buffeting from low levels up. Gusts may blow you over even at mid-heights.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Snow gradually turning to rain</p> <p>Extensive snowfall from before dawn, for a few hours toward lower slopes. Heaviest south and eastern Cairngorms. Turning to sleet or rain toward higher levels. Risk fairly persistent all day; may fade in north.</p>	<p>Rain on and off, heavy for periods</p> <p>Extensive heavy rain from dawn, moving north, breaking up for a time, but further pulses of rain follow, on and off during the day, most frequent southern areas. Into night, hail, or snow on higher Munros.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p>	<p>Extensive, lowest south and east</p> <p>Covering the hills widely, from mid-slopes upward Glen Garry to Braemar areas. Higher cloud bases northern Cairngorms, some breaks toward Monadhliath.</p>	<p>Changing quickly, occasional breaks</p> <p>Cloud bases will vary, covering the mountains widely in rain. Possibly breaking up substantially for periods especially toward north, but lowering again abruptly.</p>
<p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>20%</p>	<p>30%</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Overcast and dull. Murky especially south/east, local better visibility if dry around Strathspey.</p>	<p>Mostly cloudy, brief bursts of sun. General slight haze, visibility poor in rain; occasional improvements.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-1 to -3C, coldest in north in morning. Rising to gradually, later afternoon +2C. Wind chill often feeling like -10C or below.</p> <p>Near/below freezing glens upward at first, rising variably, lifting gradually above freezing toward all tops into afternoon.</p>	<p>4C to briefly 6C or above in east; tending to fall in afternoon, to around 1C by dusk. Wind chill feeling like -10C, later -15C.</p> <p>Above the summits most or all day, but into evening and night dropping back close to freezing above 1000m.</p>

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 5 April, 2024

Very unsettled into the weekend and likely next week, influenced by deep areas of low pressure centred west or northwest of Britain. Southerly gales, sustained storm-force speeds across higher mountains throughout Saturday and Sunday. Temperature rising above freezing to highest tops into Saturday, plus heavy rain sweeping north - a period of thaw across the Highlands. Cooler by Sunday, the freezing level back to 1000-1200m, then varying temperatures for the week ahead. Frequent precipitation continuing, focused on western mountains, at times persistent rainfall, intermittently snow on higher Scottish tops, plus showers with hail. Periods of strong winds continue, risk further upland gales.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Wednesday, 3 April, 2024

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, 2024.