

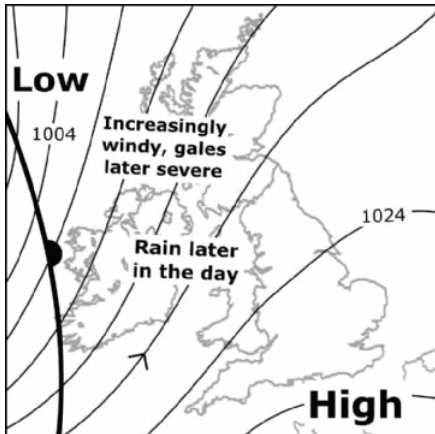
# Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 4 December, 2024



### British Mountain Summary:

#### Based on forecast chart for noon 4 December, 2024

Southerly winds strengthening, rapidly becoming gales, later stormy. Dry for most places during daylight, varied banks of fog on hills, plus some valleys at first. Patchy rain possible near west coasts, but later afternoon rain setting in quickly, widespread into early evening, some snow on higher Scottish tops.

#### Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Increasingly windy, severe gales later. Rain/snow evening.

## Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 4 December, 2024

<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b>	Westerly 15-20mph in morning, but starting to strengthen. Southerly gales arriving quickly in the afternoon, 40mph to later 60mph from dusk, reaching 80mph+ higher mountains during the early evening.
<b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	<b>Negligible early morning. Walking becoming challenging into afternoon, but rapidly difficult later; wind chill significant. Severe conditions soon into evening, powerful gusts to some lower slopes.</b>
<b>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</b>	<b>Dry until dusk, snow then rain into evening.</b> A fresh covering of snow over the mountains to some lower elevations from overnight. A dry day, then further snow turning to rain arrives from southwest into the early evening, heavy rain southern Cairngorms later evening.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Fog patches, patchy cloud</b> Fog patches in the morning on some upper and lower slopes, and in corries, tending to thin and clear. Banks of cloud drifting upslope in places, mainly south-facing hills as wind increases in afternoon.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</b>	Sunshine weakening as high cloud thickens. Visibility excellent.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b>	-1C, locally rising to +2C in north. Southern slopes staying cooler, likely remain at or below freezing until evening. Feeling much colder as wind increases, later wind chill feeling near to -15C.
<b>Freezing Level</b>	Near or just below freezing at most elevations; windward slopes stay near freezing, rising a little downslope to north. Into night, briefly rising above the summits.

## Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 5 December	Friday 6 December
<b>How windy? (On the Munros)</b> <b>Effect of wind on you?</b>	South-southwesterly soon accelerating to 40-50mph. Details uncertain - risk may increase further later. <b>Walking strenuous with balance affected. Risk of more difficult conditions. Significant wind chill.</b>	Westerlies 25-30mph, up to 40mph across mountain tops. May ease in the afternoon. Details uncertain. <b>Starting to affect steady walking, balance affected or difficult on gusty ridges.</b>
<b>How wet?</b> (Precipitation and its impact)	<b>Rain moving in for a few hours</b> A period of rain in the afternoon moving west to east. Clusters of heavy showers continue later in the day, turning back to snow on high tops by dusk.	<b>Largely dry</b> No precipitation expected most areas, chance of a brief shower of snow on mountains west of the A9.
<b>Cloud on the hills?</b>	<b>Fairly extensive higher areas</b>  Covering higher terrain most of the day, lowest cloud bases toward Ben Alder and Drumochter. Some breaks to upper slopes northern Cairngorms and Monadhliath.	<b>Patches on some tops</b>  Fog lying in some glens in the morning, lingering longer in cold areas. Many mountains often clear, particularly toward Deeside, but a few patches of cloud drifting over higher slopes from the west.
<b>Chance of cloud free Munros?</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Sunshine?</b> Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast but with bright patches in the morning deteriorating into thicker clouds. Poor visibility as rain passes, but possibility of brighter and clearer conditions later.	Occasional sunshine and good visibility.
<b>How Cold? (at 900m)</b> <b>Freezing Level</b>	4C in the morning, dropping to 1C later. Wind chill down to -10C.  Above the summits in the morning, gradually lowering to 1000m by late afternoon.	-1 to 0C in most places. Sun spells may cause local warming of a few degrees. Wind chill feeling near -10C in exposure. 800m, but some pockets of frost some lower slopes in the morning.

**Planning Outlook****All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 5 December, 2024**

Rapidly changing weather conditions over the rest of the week as a sequence of fronts and centres of low pressure move in from the Atlantic. Uncertainties of timing and the extent of precipitation. Generally windy, periods of severe gales over the mountains. Brief thawing and rain to higher tops on Wednesday night, otherwise Scottish mountains below freezing. Risk of a storm system late Friday into early Saturday, particularly England & Wales, but upland snow may extend into southern Scotland. Temperature and freezing level dropping further over the weekend as winds switch northerly again, with snow & hail showers. Quieter weather then likely into next week with frost, fog and some tops above an inversion.

**Forecast issued at 16:30 on Tuesday, 3 December, 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.