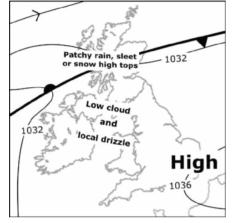
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 26 December, 2024



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 26 December, 2024

A front extending across Scotland brings mostly light rain, or toward the north sleet and wet snow on Munros. The far north likely drier and clearer. Variable southwesterly winds, gusty in places, but locally low speeds through the Highlands. England & Wales mild with low cloud and a little drizzle in the west.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Intermittent rain or drizzle, cloud covering many tops. Light wind.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 26 December, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable 10-15mph or less much of region all day. Mainly southern Cairngorms NP, southwesterly 20mph, risk stronger gusts on some slopes.		
Effect of wind on you?	Most likely very small widely, but locally gustier in south which locally may affect balance on some exposed ridges.		
How wet?	Drizzle, light rain on and off		
(Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain coming and going, more common on higher terrain southern Cairngorms NP and west of A9. Some sleet possible on highest peaks toward north in morning.		
Cloud on the hills?	Most areas covered, higher bases north of Cairngorm ridge.		
	Bases mostly between 700-800m, lowering locally in rain. Extensive coverage of the high peaks, though rising up to 1100m north of Cairngorm ridge.		
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%, 50% north		
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast in most areas, bright spells possible north of the Cairngorms. Visibility mostly poor, good in the far north.		
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 or 3C. Feeling like -5C if exposed to stronger wind.		
Freezing Level	Generally above the summits, but may dip near to freezing in morning on highest tops toward northwestern Cairngorms range.		

MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 27 December	Saturday 28 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25 to 35mph, in places 40mph on higher Cairngorms. Blustery over higher terrain, affecting comfortable walking where exposed; marked wind chill on tops.	West to southwesterly, 30 to 45mph, speeds may vary during day, then likely to strengthen further into night. Frequent buffeting over higher terrain, arduous walking in places where exposed. Considerable wind chill.
How wet?	A little rain mostly west	Occasional showers, snow tops
(Precipitation and its impact)	Occasional light rain or drizzle, mostly areas near and west of the A9. Little reaching Deeside and toward Lecht.	Showery rain on and off west of the A9, snow falling on Munros. More often dry toward Deeside.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive over tops	Mostly high tops, breaks east
	Shrouding higher terrain most or all day, lowest bases in Drumochter area, around 700m. Mostly above 900-1000m further north and east, some brief higher breaks.	Banks of cloud likely to come and go over higher mountains, mostly above 900-1000m Clearing higher up at times east.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Generally cloudy, local glimpses of sun toward east and northeast. Visibility good below cloud, but mistier around light rain.	A little sun breaking through, mainly east. Visibility often very good, but reduced in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3 to 5C. Feeling like -7C where exposed to wind.	2 or 3C. Wind chill feeling like -10C on tops.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	1100 to 1200m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 27 December, 2024

Mild southwesterlies for the rest of this week with little if any remaining lying snow on the mountains. Cooler by the weekend - near to freezing over the Munros on Saturday, then colder in northern Scotland by Sunday. A mix of rain and high-level snowfall (in Scotland), most frequent precipitation in western Scotland, heavy at times. Through the New Year period, generally unsettled with areas of low pressure bringing more widespread precipitation and spells of gales, but likely becoming colder for all with upland snow more widely.

Forecast issued at 14:00 on Wednesday, 25 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.