

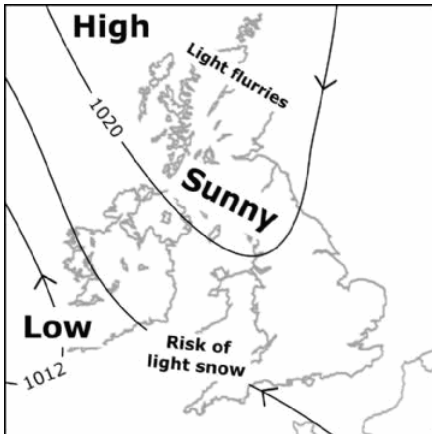
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Friday, 10 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 10 January, 2025

Bitterly cold widely in valleys from dawn, staying sub-zero all day at all elevations except nearest west coast. Sparkling sunshine widely, some patchy cloud around slopes and corries toward the east, plus local freezing fog in valleys. A veil of high cloud over Wales, chance of snow flurries toward southwest.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cold, mostly light wind. Cloud banks north/east, brief flurries.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 10 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Variable north to easterly, 10 to 15mph or less, some locations with little wind, but local gusts on slopes just west of higher tops may be over 20mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small; walking occasionally inconvenienced on some slopes.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Light flurries north Isolated snow flurries occasionally toward northeast of Cairngorm plateau, mainly morning.
Cloud on the hills?	Patches north/east slopes may linger Cloud banks as low as 800m linger on slopes and tops in the north and toward Deeside. Clearer toward Drumochter. Bases rise in the afternoon, some breaks. Mountain tops intermittently capped through dusk.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% north, rising to 70%. Elsewhere, 90%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine north, plentiful southwestwards. Excellent visibility out of cloud, but navigation challenging if in fog over snow cover on Cairngorms tops.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C.
Freezing Level	All terrain frozen

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 11 January	Sunday 12 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southerly 15-25mph, up to 35mph over mountain tops. Shifting southwesterly though the day. Significant wind chill. Walking starting to be impeded. Balance challenged on exposed ridges.	Southwesterly 35mph, rising to near 55mph. Gusty through low valleys and over tops up to 60mph. Walking strenuous, forward progress becoming difficult. Gusts likely will blow you over. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Possible brief light snow Mostly dry; occasional light snow may fall from elevated cloud, but amounting to very little.	A little rain possible Mostly dry. Risk of a spell of rain, details uncertain.
Cloud on the hills?	Foggy patches south, some clearing Some morning mist in the corries south of the Cairngorm plateau, some clearing. Local fog banks may linger toward southern Cairngorms. Clearest toward Glenmore.	Clinging to many hills, lowest south Cloud fairly widespread down to lowest slopes south of Cairngorm plateau, tops likely shrouded as well. North of the Cairngorms, often clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% south, 90% north	20% south, 70% north
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunny in the north, hazy sun through fog elsewhere. Becomes patchy near sunset. Excellent visibility away from patchy fog.	Morning sun in the north soon becoming weak through high cloud. Occasionally shrouded by thicker cloud. Visibility good here, poor south.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-3C, rising near 0C widely through the afternoon. Northern hills up to +1C by dusk. Feeling around -10C with wind chill. All terrain frozen. Freezing level becoming poorly defined; variable rise late in day, gradually above freezing some slopes.	1 to 3C. Some areas north of the Cairngorm plateau rising near 5C. Feeling as cold as -12C with wind chill. Temperature at or above freezing widely. Much terrain remains frozen but beginning to thaw. Sheltered corries stay frozen.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 11 January, 2025**

A gradual change of pattern this weekend as southwesterly winds strengthen - terrain still substantially frozen and snow covered, but by Sunday the air temperature lifting above freezing at all elevations - a thaw commencing, more rapid into Monday with some heavy rain in the west. A much milder week ahead, highest Scottish tops only rarely close to freezing point. Southwesterly winds frequently gale force over the Highlands, bringing low cloud particularly to western mountains and occasional rain. High pressure over England & Wales brings quieter conditions here much of the week, some low-level cloud and fog. Changeable west-southwesterlies likely prevail into second half of January.

Forecast issued at 15:53 on Thursday, 9 January, 2025

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, 2025.