

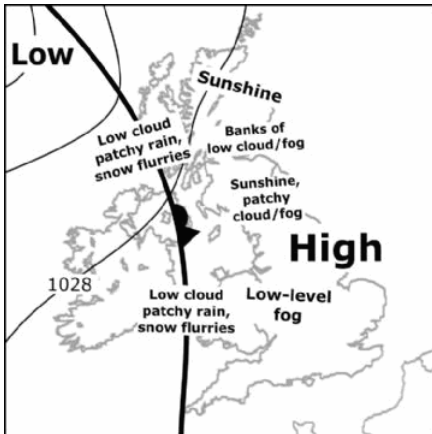
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Saturday, 11 January, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 11 January, 2025

Patchy snow flurries or light rain near western coasts slowly pushing inland, along with low cloud. High cloud thickening ahead of this. Local fog or banks of low cloud inland, some high tops above fog; sunshine best toward northeast Scotland. Increasing southerly wind.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Light wind, locally gusty. Patchy fog, cloud banks mostly south.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 11 January, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 15-20mph, or less in places, but over the higher Cairngorms increasingly up to 30mph for periods with some stronger gusts just north of higher summits.
Effect of wind on you?	Significant wind chill on high tops. Ease of walking starting to be impeded where exposed on highest terrain.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Precipitation unlikely Substantially dry; rare light snowflakes may fall from elevated cloud in afternoon toward southwest, but amounting to very little.
Cloud on the hills?	Fog and low cloud banks mostly south Some morning mist in the corries, or cloud banks possible more widely on slopes south of the Cairngorm plateau, some thinning, but may linger in places. Some high tops above fog banks. Clearest all day toward Glenmore.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% south, 90% north
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunny in the north, hazy sun through fog elsewhere. High cloud tending to obscure sun into afternoon from west. Excellent visibility away from patchy fog; risk navigation locally difficult where in fog over lying snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C, rising slowly, nearer 0C some slopes up to dusk, local +1C toward north; slightly higher after dark. Feeling around -10C with wind chill.
Freezing Level	All terrain frozen. Freezing level becoming poorly defined; variable rise late in day, gradually above freezing some slopes.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 12 January	Monday 13 January
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 35mph, rising to near 60mph higher Cairngorms tops. Turbulent and gusty in places to lower slopes. Walking strenuous, forward progress becoming difficult. Gusts likely will blow you over. Severe wind chill.	Southwesterly 50 to 70mph, at times stronger on higher mountains. Difficult walking conditions across the hills, severe in exposure higher up. Significant wind chill despite milder air.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little rain possible Often dry, some drizzly rain spreading in from the west occasionally, locally refrozen drops on some slopes.	Rain on and off Rain fairly persistent, particularly near and west of the A9. Smaller amounts reaching Lecht to Deeside areas. Wet underfoot where snow melts.
Cloud on the hills?	Clinging to many hills, lowest south Cloud fairly widespread down to some lower slopes southern areas, cloud banks likely also covering the higher plateau. North of the Cairngorms, often clear.	Extensive higher areas Shrouding higher terrain all day, lowest bases near/west of the A9, 600-800m. Mostly above 800m further east.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% south, 70% north	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Morning sun in the north soon becoming weak through high cloud. Occasionally shrouded by thicker cloud. Visibility good here, poor south.	Rare if any glimpses of sun mainly east. Visibility poor in rain, locally better in east.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	1C rising to 3C. Some areas north of the Cairngorm plateau rising near 5C. Feeling as cold as -12C with wind chill. Lifting above freezing to tops. Much terrain remains frozen but beginning to thaw. Sheltered corries stay frozen.	6C, locally warmer some eastern slopes. In the wind, feeling as cold as -10C. Above the summits.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 12 January, 2025

Terrain still widely frozen and snow covered this weekend, 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, with cycles of freeze and thaw and risk of more frequent precipitation.

Forecast issued at 15:45 on Friday, 10 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.