

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

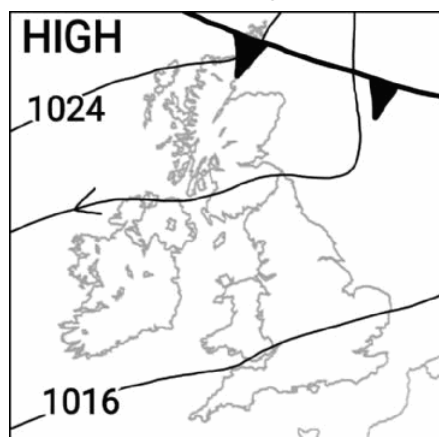
Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Tuesday, 19 August, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 19 August, 2025

A cooler feeling day with a rather gusty east to north-east airflow. An extensive cloud sheet, with local drizzle, covering many hills from dawn, but some westernmost hills still clear. Low cloud will burn back to eastern and northern hills, with sun most widely in the west, but low cloud persisting for parts of coastal western Scotland.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Feeling cooler with persistent cloud banks in north and east, with local drizzle.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 19 August, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	East to northeasterly 10 to 20mph, local gusts 25mph particularly around higher Cairngorms.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small, but feeling breezier on some exposed terrain and noticeably chilly on high tops.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Pockets of drizzle from low cloud Pockets of drizzle around cloud banks, mainly in the north and east.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Persistent north slopes, some breaks Low cloud may persist much of the day across many hills, base around 700-800m, possibly lower northeastern areas; top of cloud layer around 1200-1300m, high tops at times poking out. Cloud may break a little with time, best breaks near Drumochter/Ben Alder from mid afternoon. 30%, but perhaps up to 60% towards Ben Alder afternoon.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun breaking through, may stay dull toward north/east. Visibility good below cloud, though may stay dull.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	8 to 10C, may rise slightly out of cloud, but tending to lower gradually later in the day, to 5C into night. Above the summits

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 20 August	Thursday 21 August
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northerly 10-20mph; some lower speeds and variable near Drumochter. Fairly small; light buffeting gusts will be common over eastern tops and elevated passes; feeling cool.	Northeast 10 to 20mph at dawn. Tending to drop further through the day, as high pressure builds overhead. Marked chill at first in the wind, but tending to become small.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	No rain expected	Dry, bar local spots of drizzle in cloud. Scope for some spots of drizzle from the areas of low cloud as they drift south, mainly in the morning across northern and eastern areas.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Increasingly broken; most persistent north From dawn, cloud fairly extensive over the north Cairngorm plateau, bases of 600m. Southern hills and areas near Drumochter substantially clear. Bases rising towards 1000m or higher and breaking, clearing tops at times. 40%, rising to 70%	May persist tops north, lifting elsewhere. Cloud drifting south in morning, covering tops above 700-900m. Bases will lift and break up, with hills likely to clear, but may be slow to clear northern tops. 40% north, but lifting to 70% in south
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sunshine onto northern slopes, more extensive southern areas/Drumochter. Excellent visibility.	Often cloudy morning, before sun breaks through, but may be limited in north/east. Visibility mostly very good or excellent.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	5C, rising to 10C around Drumochter. Less rise over the Cairngorms, easternmost hills only rising slightly if at all. Above the summits	4 or 5C at dawn, will lift to 7 to 10C into the afternoon, coolest northern hills where cloud perhaps lingers tops. Above the summits, but chilly start, with heavy dew in the glens at dawn.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 20 August, 2025

High pressure centred toward the northwest this week, before building overhead again toward weekend. East to northeasterly winds prevailing, gusty for periods, easing out later in week. Extensively dry with sunshine best in west, low cloud for periods northern and eastern mountains with occasional drizzle. Still very dry underfoot with significant fire risk. Turning cooler through midweek, mountain temperatures falling, chilly into the valleys and glens pre-dawn, risk slight frost in Highland glens. Fine weather likely next weekend too; will likely begin to break down from the west into the following week, but uncertainty on timings of such a transition.

Forecast issued at 16:31 on Monday, 18 August, 2025

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