MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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

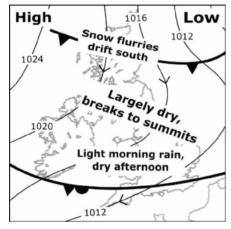


the national agency for sport

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General Summary for Sunday, 16 November, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 16 November, 2025

Snow flurries (rain lower down) arrive in northwest Scotland early and slip into the central highlands. Mixed cloud and sun for southern Scotland and England; only odd light showers on easternmost hills, many hills clear. Drizzly showery rain early in Wales, abating with cloud lifting to high slopes.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Odd snow flurries north, more frequent afternoon

Detailed Forecast for Sunday, 16 November, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	North-northwesterly 20-25mph, or slightly less around dawn. Rising afternoon to 30-35mph upper Cairngorms, these stronger winds becoming more widespread around and after dusk, rising to 40mph over tops.	
Effect of wind on you?	Blustery winds will impede walking on exposed tops all day with significant wind chill. Fairly small effects on lower slopes at first but all areas increasingly affected, becoming widely strenuous into night.	
How wet?	Snow flurries develop from north	
(Precipitation and its impact)	Occasional fleeting snow flurries northernmost areas in morning, then into afternoon a band of snow flurries above 700-800m coming in from north; rain lower elevations. Snow showers onto north slopes follow.	
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly high Cairngorms and north, later more widely	
	Patchy cloud mostly over higher northern slopes of Cairngorms above 900m, only local fragments elsewhere. Cloud fills in above 600-700m from the north in afternoon rain/snow, these banks forming on higher southern slopes.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% north, to 80% south; later 40%.	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below	Morning sunshine on southern slopes, generally cloudier north. Becoming cloudy more widely as rain arrives.	
cloud)	Visibility mostly excellent, but reducing in showers, very poor in afternoon snow.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or -1C. May briefly rise slightly afternoon then dropping into nighttime. Feeling like -7C, to nearer -10C or lower on higher Cairngorms in exposure to wind.	
Freezing Level	Frost in glens, near or just below freezing most elevations early in day; typical freezing level 800-9000m by midday.	

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Monday 17 November	Tuesday 18 November
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwesterly 25-35mph, at times stronger in northern and eastern areas. Tending to ease, 25mph over tops by nightfall. Comfort of walking affected, particularly east where strenuous with buffeting in exposure. Significant wind	Low confidence: generally westerly around 15-30mph, though variable direction and speed; risk much stronger. Effects may be fairly small at times but beware sudden strengthening speeds and direction changes.
How wet?	Chill.	Evaguant or paraistant analy
(Precipitation and its impact)	Snow showers northern slopes and tops Frequent snow showers will drift onto the high Cairngorms and northern slopes, some snow blowing over the tops to southern slopes - snow to middle slopes. Showers will tend to isolate to eastern area later.	Showery snow across most terrain during daylight. Snow may becoming heavy and persistent for several hours over high ground and possibly to lower slopes too.
Cloud on the hills?	Coming and going over tops and northern slopes	Extensive, possibly some variability
	Cloud comes and goes above 800m on and over the northern Cairngorms throughout the day. A few patches will pass further south. Westernmost hills and Monadhliath may become clearer later.	Hills shrouded above 600-700m all day, perhaps much lower where snow falls heavy. A small chance of odd higher breaks.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%	Less than 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sun over high tops and northern slopes, sunnier south but high cloud builds. Variable visibility - often excellent but fast deteriorating in snow showers.	Likely overcast with near-zero visibility if snow sets in extensively and prolonged.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C (to -6C highest tops). Feeling as cold as -13C in strongest wind.	-3C
Freezing Level	600m; frosts likely widespread into the glens at dawn.	Terrain likely widely frozen.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Monday, 17 November, 2025

Cold air spreads widely across the country; staying below freezing over higher mountains most likely throughout the next week with morning frosts to lower elevations. Snow flurries move in onto slopes exposed to coasts; snow most frequent toward north of the Highlands with some locally more substantial accumulations over higher terrain. Sunny and dry for many away from the coasts on the northerly wind. Tuesday and Wednesday are more unsettled: broader areas of snow and rain pass southward with variable wind - navigation could become challenging in the Scottish Highlands on Tuesday with notable snow accumulations. West-northwesterly winds will likely return into next weekend, brining periods of rain and strong winds with intermittent drier, brighter spells.

Forecast issued at 15:49 on Saturday, 15 November, 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.