

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

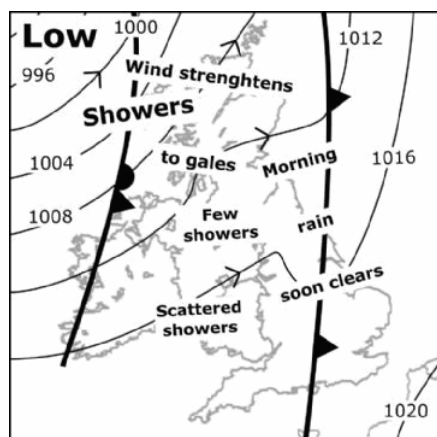
Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Erich and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Friday, 12 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 12 December, 2025

Increasingly blustery north England and Scotland, gales over Scottish Highlands; lighter wind Pennines and Wales. Early patchy rain over east Scotland and the Pennines soon clears, slowest south Pennines; many hills then cloud-free. Scattered showers onto west coasts, most frequent and heavy west-central Scotland.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Wind strenghtens, gales later; dry, clear northern slopes

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 12 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 20-25mph from dawn, strengthening during day, reaching 40-45mph over tops, some stronger gusts in exposure in western areas.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking increasingly strenuous, later arduous in exposure, particularly west where strongest gusts will challenge stability. Wind chill becoming considerable.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Overnight rain soon clears for a dry day Rain before dawn with snow on the high tops passes to the east, clearing most areas soon after sunrise for a dry day.
Cloud on the hills?	Isolating largely to the high Cairngorms most of the day High Cairngorms in cloud from dawn with some ragged patches lower down, these soon dissipating. Much of the cloud will clear though caps will drift over high Cairngorms at times, a few lower banks come and go on southern slopes.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Often sunny on northern and lower southern slopes. Excellent visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 or 3C, lowering to 1C; staying slightly warmer for a time east hills. Feeling like -13C in strongest wind.
Freezing Level	Just the high summits at dawn, lowering to 1000-1100m, lowest in the west.

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 13 December, 2025

Staying unsettled through the weekend and next week as southwesterly winds prevail and low pressure systems pass to the northwest of Scotland; sustained gales over the mountains, severe or stormy for periods. Rainfall will be frequent and heavy for periods, sometimes showery with hail in the west. Expect very wet ground conditions and further flooding of streams and some rivers. Best chance for dry and bright periods central and south Pennines, though these fleeting. Mild for the time of year, temperatures only just below freezing intermittently on higher Scottish tops, even here will experience spells above freezing with thawing, any lying snow patchy, but beware some icy surfaces on the very highest tops where some refreezing occurs.

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.