

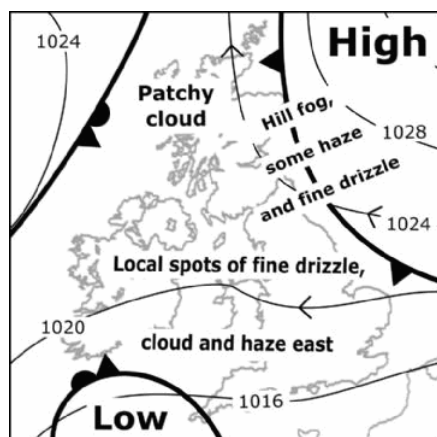
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 23 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 23 December, 2025

A fairly extensive sheet of cloud cloaks eastern Scotland southward down the Pennines and east Wales; some mist and haze, fine drizzle on eastern slopes. Cloud more broken on slopes and summits near west coasts, substantially dry here. An easterly wind south Pennines and Wales, strengthening into night.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cloud shrouds summits and south slopes; misty/drizzly east

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 23 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	A gusty south to southeasterly, 15 to 25mph, perhaps stronger far east. Local lulls possible west of Strathspey.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small, though some uncomfortable gusty areas around tops and some corries.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patchy light rain Patches of light rain here and there, risk more frequent in the far east. Some mountains may stay substantially dry.
Cloud on the hills?	Shrouding most high tops, lowest bases south Shrouding the high Cairngorms most of the day, cloud most extensive to mid slopes Drumochter to Deeside; some fog into glens. Some higher breaks toward north of Cairngorm plateau and over Monadhliath.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Some glimpses of weak sun north of the Cairngorm plateau. Good visibility around Strathspey but elsewhere limited by haze and mist on southern hills.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 or 3C, little change with added height; slightly lowering into nighttime, mainly east and southern slopes.
Freezing Level	Near or just above freezing point on some slopes above 1000m, mainly eastern areas, lowering into nighttime here.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 24 December	Thursday 25 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	Generally easterly with some variability, 10-15mph, some gustiness.	Southeasterly 15-20mph, some gustiness.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small.	Fairly small though turbulent gusts likely at all elevations.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Substantially dry Some odd spots of light rain may drift around early in the day, soon dry.	Most hills dry Some fine drizzle where in cloud Deeside/east Cairngorms.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive east, best breaks west Cloud banks variably covering many slopes from 700m up, perhaps multiple layers; some fog in sheltered glens too. The cloud more extensive in the east.	Middle slopes south and east Banks of cloud between 600-1000m on southern Cairngorms slopes, may be more sheet-like east Cairngorms and Deeside. High tops will be above the cloud layer, little cloud near/northwest of Aviemore.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%	80% (tops above cloud layer)
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchy sun increasingly prevalent west, little in the east. Good visibility though a haze.	Sunny on the summits in very clear air. Least sun lower east slopes though visibility remains good out of cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or +1C on most slopes; locally cooler southern/eastern areas.	-1C, slight rise in temperature with added height; a few degrees warmer north and west, up to +1C north Monadhliath.
Freezing Level	900-1100m, some frosts in sheltered glens/corries.	600-700m, though poorly defined north and west of Cairngorm plateau due to milder downslope winds.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 24 December, 2025

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be dry: easterly winds are dominant with the strongest winds in England and Wales. Cloud may be fairly sheet-like in the east sometimes, though variably more extensive or broken, best of breaks in western areas. Turning colder too, the coldest air in England and Wales with freezing levels reaching as low as 400-600m in east Wales. Staying slightly warmer in northern Scotland with some inversion conditions likely over higher terrain; frost into glens and poorly defined freezing levels.

High pressure stays put to the north into the weekend, maintaining dry weather, easterly winds, and most cloud in eastern areas. Temperatures will stay chilly.

Forecast issued at 16:08 on Monday, 22 December, 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.