

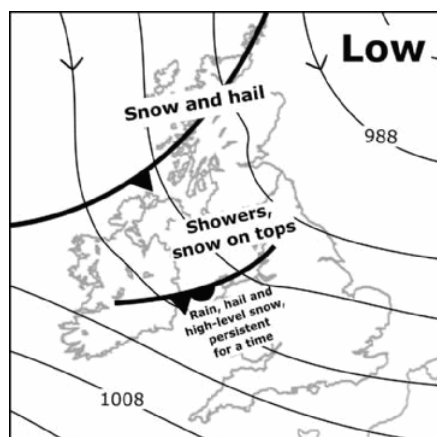
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Monday, 16 February, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 16 February, 2026

Snow over northwestern mountains in Scotland will tend to extend further into Lochaber and Cairngorms by afternoon as NW'ly winds strengthen, some hail mixed in. Strong westerlies for England, gale-force on Welsh mountains, heavy showers merging into longer periods rain, snow confined to higher tops.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Increasingly windy and snow develops from northwest afternoon.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 16 February, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 20mph in morning, or less for a time. Increasing during afternoon to 30-35mph, or 40mph up to dusk higher areas. Then after dark during evening, rapid increase to 60mph, gusts 70mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small early in day, becoming increasingly blustery, affecting comfortable walking more with time during afternoon. Wind chill becoming significant. Deteriorating after dark to more severe conditions later evening.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Patchy snow, then snow more widely north/west afternoon. Scattered showers of snow and hail in the morning, mostly west of the A9. Into afternoon, more frequent snow develops from northwest, more persistent for a time Monadhliath to Ben Alder, later further into north/western Cairngorms, increasingly falling to lower slopes.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive; highest cloud base toward southeast Cloud base varying, mostly above 800 to 1000m in the morning, some local lower patches for a time, best breaks higher up toward east and south. Lowering in precipitation, to 600-800m, particularly Monadhliath afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sunshine mainly east of Drumochter to Deeside in morning. Very varied visibility; excellent south and east for several hours, but becoming appalling in snow later north/west areas.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C, dropping toward -4C by late afternoon. Directly in the wind feeling like -15C into afternoon, colder after dark.
Freezing Level	700m, but also frost in some glens in morning, most widely eastern areas. Dropping during afternoon toward 400-500m up to dusk.

All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 17 February, 2026

Much terrain frozen into midweek, frost into valleys and glens. Uncertain extent of strengthening winds by Wednesday, and possible snow moving into Wales. Late in the week and through next weekend, a switch to southwesterly winds is expected, bringing a change to milder conditions - lifting above freezing to tops in England and Wales, and generally higher freezing levels in Scotland; periods of thawing likely over the mountains, though some further snowfall at times on higher Munros. Rain most frequent over western hills. Generally windy with upland gales.

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. 2026.