

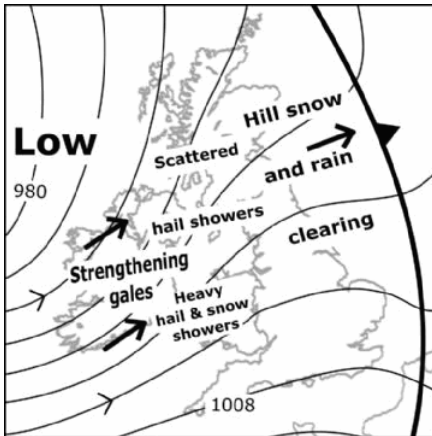
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Saturday, 11 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 11 April, 2026

Windy with significant chill factor. Gales develop and strengthen with time England & Wales. At first, a band of persistent snowfall across the hills, rain lower slopes, soon moving away eastwards, leaving clearer conditions and scattered showers, but becoming locally heavy with hail and chance of thunder.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Gales ease, but increase again later. Snow and hail showers.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 11 April, 2026

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Southerly 50mph at dawn, easing in morning to 30-35mph, briefly less for a time in middle of day. Then strengthening again during afternoon, 40-50mph by later in daytime, 60mph up to dusk.</p> <p>Strenuous walking with significant wind chill on high terrain, briefly improving, later becoming more arduous over the mountains, deteriorating through sunset.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Early snow; then hail and snow showers later</p> <p>Snow at dawn, rain below 500m, tending to soon break up and clear eastwards. A scattering of hail and snow showers then form into afternoon, locally heavy later with chance of isolated thunder.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Early cloud breaks into banks on high tops</p> <p>Fairly extensive over the high Cairngorms at dawn, lowest bases to the south, around 700-800m. Beginning to break from the west into passing banks around showers, base lifting to largely above 1000-1100m, clear periods likely in middle of day.</p> <p>20%, rising to 70%</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>A cloudy dawn, bursts of sun soon breaking from the west, best north. Soon very good visibility early in day, though suddenly poor in showers.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-1C rising to 0 or +1C afternoon. Feeling like -10 to -12C in direct wind, colder by evening.</p> <p>Variable, around 600-700m in morning, tending to rise toward 900-1000m afternoon.</p>

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 12 April	Monday 13 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southerly, 45 to 60mph, stronger gusts high Cairngorms and in showers. Tending to lessen gradually afternoon-evening. Difficult walking conditions, powerful squally gusts could knock you over on exposed terrain. Significant wind chill.	Southerly, later southeasterly, 20 to 25mph, nearer 30mph higher Cairngorms and more eastern tops for a time. Fairly small, but more noticeably blustery on some exposed tops, giving considerable wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Increasingly heavy showers, hail, snow Showers most common toward south and west Cairngorms in morning, but increasingly widespread with time; heavy bursts with hail, snow at times falling toward 600m, risk of isolated thunder.	Hail showers forming widely afternoon Much of the morning dry, then a scattering of brief showers forming, becoming more widespread with time during afternoon, briefly heavy with hail, also snow may fall to 600m. Risk isolated thunder & lightning.
Cloud on the hills?	Varying over higher tops Cloud often above 900m, for periods confined to only patches on highest tops with good breaks. Around showers, lowering over higher slopes more widely, patches toward 700m briefly.	Often above hills, varied in showers Patches of cloud forming around some upper slopes in the morning, lifting above many tops. Then occasional banks forming over hills during and after showers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	70%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Intermittent bright sunshine, sunniest toward north and east in the morning. Visibility changing suddenly from very good to briefly appalling in snow/hail and cloud.	Sunshine most widely in morning, then cloud building, leaving brief bursts of sun. Visibility excellent, but briefly very poor in showers.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0 or -1C rising to +1 or 2C. Wind chill feeling like -15C, risk nearer -20C highest summits early in day. 800-900m from dawn, rising to 1000-1100m, then lowering again from dusk; briefly dropping also in showers.	-1C rising to +2C. Wind chill feeling like -6C to near -10C at first on tops. 800m at first, also frost in sheltered glens; rising to 1100-1200m into middle of day and afternoon.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 12 April, 2026**

Chilly and showery conditions to start the new week, hail and a risk of isolated thunder into Monday afternoon, but less windy than the weekend. Drier for much of Tuesday, but rain and strengthening south-southwesterly winds likely return from the west later. Milder into mid-late next week, but Scottish high tops above 1200m close to freezing at times. Showers or more persistent rain mostly in the west, accompanied by strong winds Wednesday-Thursday. Higher pressure builds toward next weekend, bringing drier conditions overall; some chilly nights but fairly mild spring days.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Friday, 10 April, 2026

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.