

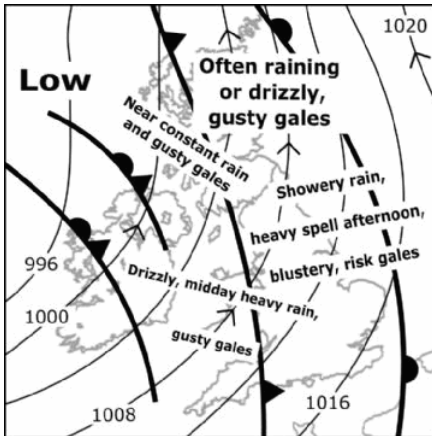
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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



**Tiso is Aviemore's specialist for Outdoor clothing, footwear, camping, cycling, skiing & equipment.
Cafe, expert boot fitting, bike & ski servicing & equipment hire available - Visit www.tiso.com**

General Summary for Wednesday, 15 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 15 April, 2026

Widespread gales, powerful gusts over tops and down northern slopes, severe at times in Scotland, particularly west. Persistent rain for many, brief dry windows east (notably Pennines), then heavy rain sweeps east afternoon, followed by showers, only easing late in the day. Mild air, but feeling cold in wind.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Rain on-and-off, driest north; mild but feeling cold in gusty gales

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 15 April, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southeasterly 40-50mph, very gusty, not just at high elevations, locally variable direction. Likely strengthening for periods, most powerful gusts approaching 60mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging conditions with significant wind chill in exposure likely all day; chaotic gusts constantly requiring effort to maintain balance. Forward progress becomes tortuous during periods of strongest wind.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent rain and drizzle, a few drier moments Rain fairly widespread in the morning, local heavy falls, trending patchy with drier moments (best on northern slopes), but remaining drizzly on high terrain even between spells of rain. Drizzle eases with time, rain trending showery later, and perhaps more frequent again.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive, some improvement, local high breaks north Extensive to at least the middle slopes early, likely lower slopes in the south and west, to glen level around Drumochter. A lifting trend, towards 700-900m, higher breaks to the north towards upper terrain, but high summits unlikely to clear. Likely deteriorating for a few hours later as rain returns.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A few glimpses of weak afternoon sun on northern slopes, but otherwise mostly cloudy. Mixed visibility, often poor and dull in cloud/drizzle but very good where out of cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6 or 7C, though nearer 8C northwest Cairngorm slopes and northern Monadhliath; little change with height from dawn. Feeling as cold as -8 to -10C in strongest wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits. Overnight, lowering to 1100-1200m.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 16 April	Friday 17 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 35-45mph much of the day, some lighter speeds early, and may ease again later in the day. Walking arduous in exposure most of the day with notable wind chill; always blustery and gusty even during lighter speeds.	Southerly 30-45mph, some variability, and a risk of higher speeds over Cairngorm plateau. Walking strenuous-to-arduous in exposure likely all day, considerable wind chill and stability at times challenged.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent showers, later easing High terrain drizzle early, a stream of showers soon arrives from the southwest, spreading widely and frequent for a time, persistent moments with heavy falls near Drumochter. Easing later to scattered showers.	Patchy rain, setting in for several hours Patchy rain from dawn, mostly southern slopes and towards Drumochter; extended dry moments northern slopes. With time, setting in more persistently with heavy falls for several hours, breaking into showers later.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Fairly extensive early, improving, summit breaks Much terrain above 800-900m in fog from dawn, lower towards Drumochter and south Monadhliath. Bases lift with cloud trending patchy, mostly above 1200m later with summit breaks, but variably returning to summits. Northern slopes east of Ben Macdui always clearest. 20% rising to 50% east	Shrouding high terrain and south slopes Terrain above 900m likely in cloud most or all day, often lower on southern slopes, filling into middle slopes as least as rain sets in. More variable to the north, some high breaks in the morning, but this chance reducing in rain. Some chance of breaking later. 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	A few morning glimpses of sun, increasingly breaking out afternoon. Visibility becoming excellent where out of showers.	Overcast and often dull with poor visibility on southern slopes. At times better visibility north, and later, a chance of sun glimpses.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	2C rising to 5 or 6C, mildest northeast Cairngorms. Feeling like -5 to -8C in direct wind. About 1200m at dawn, gradually lifting to clear all summits.	4 to 6C, mildest northern Cairngorm slopes. Feeling as cold as -8C in strongest wind. May just touch the summit of Ben Macdui at dawn from overnight, soon lifting off the summit.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 16 April, 2026

Unsettled conditions as the weekend approaches: showery on Thursday (local hail and lightning in Scotland), more rain and often heavy on Friday, accompanied by gusty winds, gales over mountains for periods; some bright spells on Thursday and later Friday too. Temperatures will tend to rise several degrees during daylight, even when cloudy, and often becoming warm in the valleys; slopes north of major hill groups often milder too. Saturday sees continued showers, mostly north and west where staying blustery, but a trend towards higher pressure building through late weekend into early next week. Confidence in detail for oncoming high pressure remains very low: a risk of chilly easterly wind for a time with showers, mostly east and southern areas.

Forecast issued at 16:25 on Tuesday, 14 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.