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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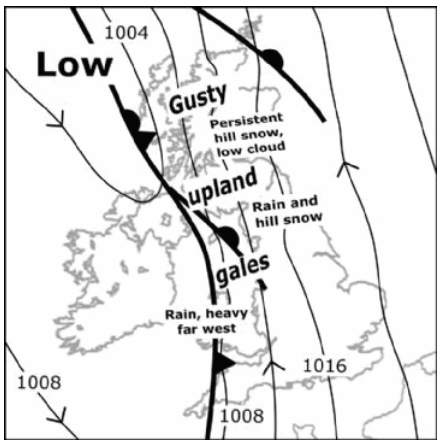
General Summary for Tuesday, 24 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 24 November, 2026

Southeasterly gales over most mountains, powerful gusts toward some lower elevations. Hill snow fairly persistent for the southern Highlands, rain lower slopes; patchier northwards across the Highlands. Some hill snow for northern England, turning more to rain. Heavy rain toward west Wales.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Frequent or persistent hill snow; powerful gales.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 24 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	South to southeasterly, strengthening quickly with height, a very gusty 40-60mph. Ferocious gusts; some reaching valleys.
Effect of wind on you?	**Severe wind chill and very difficult walking where exposed. Gusts may well knock you over - even on some lower slopes.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Snow most persistent south** Periods of snow from early morning, varying in extent and intensity, may fade for a time, then set in again from the southwest. Smaller amounts at times Deeside. Mostly rain in glens north of Dalwhinnie.
Cloud on the hills?	**Lowest south, covering most tops** Fairly extensive above around 1000m, but from Ben Alder east to Drumochter and summits accessible north of Glen Garry, cloud base more persistent to 500m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**10%, to 30% Monadhliath.**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Here and there glens northern Cairngorms NP may see brief glimpses of sun and very good visibility temporarily as cloud thins. Visibility very poor in precipitation.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-2C. Will feel as cold as minus 15C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Varying between 450 to 700m, locally higher on some northwestern slopes.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 25 November	Thursday 26 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly 20 to 35mph, strongest in the morning and toward north/east Cairngorms, where gusts over 40mph.	Southeasterly 35 to 50mph, likely strengthening during daytime, risk 60mph at least in gusts by afternoon high tops.
Effect of wind on you?	**Blustery over high terrain with significant chill factor, in places strong gusts not just on the tops affecting balance.**	**Challenging walking conditions, becoming difficult on high terrain, powerful downslope gusts. Significant then severe wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Patchy snow flurries** Occasional light snow, tending to fade to just patchier areas and becoming less with time during the day.	**Largely dry day** Brief snow flurries possible toward the southeast Cairngorms during the day. Into night, risk of snow developing from the west.
Cloud on the hills?	**Covering many hills** Fairly extensive cloud across the hills with banks from lower elevations upward toward the south and eastern Cairngorms. Some breaks forming toward Strathspey.	**Most persistent south, breaks north** Cloud banks likely to roll across most high terrain, lowest bases in south Cairngorms to 800m; further north the cloud may substantially break, best Monadhliath.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**30%**	**40%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little if any weak sun due to layers of high cloud. Visibility often very good.	Sun likely to weaken as a veil of high cloud thickens from the west. Visibility very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Around 0C, locally varied just above or below freezing; small variation with height. Feeling like -12C if in stronger wind.	-2C. Feeling like -15C to later nearer -20C directly in the wind on high tops.
Freezing Level	Poorly defined with much upland terrain partly frozen above 600m, but also frost in many glens in the morning.	Much terrain frozen, thawing only on sunlit lower slopes up to 500m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 25 November, 2026

Staying near or below freezing across most mountains all this week with below-average temperatures for late November, much higher terrain persistently frozen and regular frosts into valleys and glens. Strong east or southeasterly winds prevail, gales at times. Largely dry midweek, some snow flurries mostly eastern hills. Further hill snow more widely into Friday may set in heavy as a front moves in from the west, rain lower western areas. In the extended outlook through the weekend and beyond, there is uncertainty about the extent of incoming Atlantic fronts and scope for further snowfalls , or any pushes of milder air trying to arrive.

Forecast issued at 16:15 on Monday, 23 November, 2026

The Production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by 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.