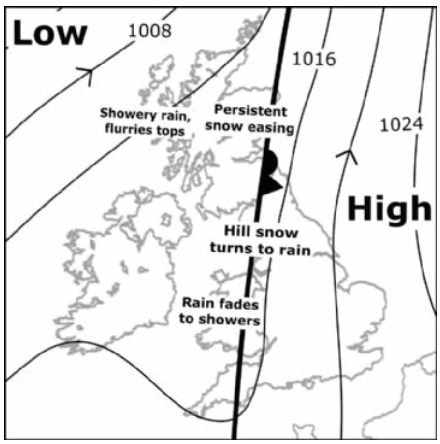
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Friday, 27 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 27 November, 2026

Substantial fresh lying snow over central & southeastern Scottish mountains; early snowfalls fading out, some flurries linger toward east Highlands. Northern England has a slow-moving band of rain, initially snow tops, also low cloud; clearing from Wales. Wind strongest for Pennines, also far NW Scotland.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Gales at dawn ease to moderate breeze; early snow fades.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 27 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly 60-70mph up to dawn, particularly eastern Cairngorms, but soon easing markedly to 20-30mph, or often lower speeds particularly south and eastern areas afternoon.
Effect of wind on you?	**Becoming fairly small, but beware severe conditions from overnight lasting up to dawn; prepare for marked chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Snow mostly morning and in east** Snow from before dawn falling to lower elevations, the most constant heavier falls over southeastern Cairngorms NP, tending to fade from the west in the morning, but flurries linger into middle of day in east, gradually fading out.
Cloud on the hills?	**Extensive, some breaks north** Shrouding high terrain widely, from some lower elevations upward in southern areas in the morning; higher slopes toward north Cairngorms where breaks form, but low cloud banks likely linger southern areas.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**10%, rising to 40% furthest north.**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and dull, later brighter west. Poor visibility widely, or whiteout over hills in snow and cloud, improving from west with time, very good in north afternoon.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 or -2C, rising gradually to just above 0C on some slopes. Feeling like -15C if in wind at first, but soon much improving.
Freezing Level	500-600m, but much lower terrain at least partly frozen in morning; variably lifting just above freezing to some higher slopes in north, but typically to around 900m.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 28 November	Sunday 29 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, speeds varying, 30 to 45mph, very gusty in places not just on tops, more often gusty northern areas.	Southwesterly, speeds likely to vary, often in range 40 to 55mph, but risk 70mph at least in gusts for periods high tops.
Effect of wind on you?	**Expect significant wind chill, in places challenging walking conditions on exposed terrain; buffeting gusts even lower down.**	**Expect challenging conditions all day, potentially any mobility difficult at times; significant wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Mostly small amounts of snow** Snow flurries most common over southern Cairngorms, locally may be frequent for periods, but total amounts small.	**Showery rain, snow tops** A band of rain, snow above 700-800m, likely passes eastward during the day, may break into just showers, these more often toward Drumochter.
Cloud on the hills?	**Most persistent south, breaks north** Fairly extensive banks of cloud, lowest and most persistent Glen Garry to Deeside, more broken north around Strathspey; some high tops may poke out of cloud.	**Often covering higher areas** Varying cloud bases, often covering higher slopes above 800-1000m, sometimes lower toward southwest Cairngorms. Some breaks higher up northeast areas.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**10% south, 30% north**	**30%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, weak sun through high cloud at best northern areas. Hazy, poor visibility if in snow and cloud; locally better northwards.	Glimpses of sun mostly north/east areas. Visibility intermittently very good, but poor in rain, briefly may be appalling in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or 1C, small variation with added height above around 700m, locally warmer north. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the wind.	0 or 1C. Feeling like -12 to -17C in the wind.
Freezing Level	Varied and poorly defined; some higher northern slopes likely above freezing point, but much terrain frozen above 600m.	900-1000m, may rise slightly higher during day. Likely to rise further onward into night and Monday.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 28 November, 2026

Snow cover on many Scottish mountains into the weekend, most notably central, east-southeastern areas. On Saturday, heavy rain for England & Wales as temperatures rise here, and even in Scotland a rise of the freezing level, though likely lowering slightly again on Sunday; a mix of rain and hill snow spreading in from the west. Gale-force south-southwesterly winds will be common over many mountains through the weekend and into early next week, but intermittent lulls will occur. Threat of severe gales widely on Monday accompanied by incessant heavy rain focused on western Scotland and a rapid thaw - the rain shifts south by Tuesday. Early December may then vary markedly, signs of a drier window for a time, whilst colder conditions could also soon return.

Forecast issued at 14:55 on Thursday, 26 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.