

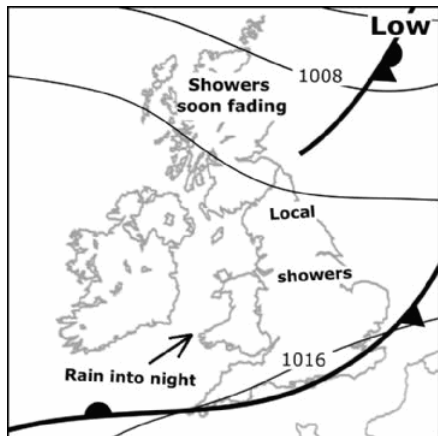
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 19 March, 2024



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 19 March, 2024
Upland gales for the Highlands in the morning will ease. Early heavy bursts of rain clearing eastwards to leave often drier conditions. Variable cloud amounts, most persistent over western mountains, but lifting with some breaks forming.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath
Gales easing. Early showers fade.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 19 March, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southerly, soon veering westerly, 35 to 50mph, strongest in the morning, later dropping to 20mph or less.
Effect of wind on you?	Be prepared for arduous, or for a time difficult conditions, with significant wind chill. Improving during the day.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Showers, then mostly dry. A band of showery at times heavy and squally rain will move through in the morning. Then mostly dry.
Cloud on the hills?	Covering upper slopes in rain. Cloud bases varying, but in morning rain they will often cover upper slopes in fog. As trough clears, most of the cloud will lift off the hills in the afternoon.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% morning, 80% afternoon.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Cloudy morning, sunny periods in the afternoon. Visibility poor in morning rain, but becoming very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3C, dropping to 1C into afternoon. Wind chill feeling as cold as -10C where directly in strongest winds in morning.
Freezing Level	Above the summits morning, then lowering to 1000m in the afternoon.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 20 March	Thursday 21 March
How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly or variable 5-10mph or less. May well pick up from west later in the day.	West to southwesterly 50 to 70mph, stronger gusts likely over exposed higher terrain.
Effect of wind on you?	Small	Difficult conditions over the mountains, gusts could knock you over. Significant wind chill from mid-heights upward.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Early snow flurries fading. A few snow flurries here and there, but these tending to fade away as a ridge moves in from the west.	Rain most persistent west Rain sweeping in, heaviest and most continuous toward western Cairngorms. An abrupt transition to snow on high tops as this finishes by evening. Then into night, showers with snow & hail falling below 600m.
Cloud on the hills?	Early cloud banks, lifting and clearing. Patches or banks of cloud from dawn, perhaps at varying heights, will lift and tend to disperse towards the afternoon to leave most hills clear.	Extensive higher areas Shrouding high tops much of the day, lowest cloud bases toward the west in rain.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Lifting to 70%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast at first, but patches of sun will increasingly come through. Visibility mostly very good, but reductions at first in and around snow flurries.	Overcast, hazy. Visibility reduced further in rain.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C lifting to -1C	3 to 5C. Wind chill feeling like -5 to -10C on tops.
Freezing Level	600m lifting to 800m	Soon well above the summits. Then into night, likely to fall rapidly, below 800m by early Friday.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 20 March, 2024

Mixed westerly patterns prevail this week, but turning northwesterly toward the weekend allowing much colder air to move in - dropping extensively below freezing point over all British mountains for several days. Fresh upland snowfalls, concentrated toward the west and north of the Highlands, including heavy showers with hail.

A period of sustained gales over the tops late this week and likely into the weekend - severe gales over Scottish tops on Thursday at least; significant or at times severe wind chill factor.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Monday, 18 March, 2024

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, 2024.