

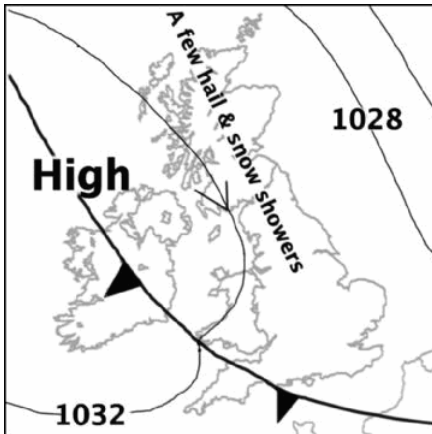
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 22 April, 2017



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 22 April, 2017

Fairly light wind and just a few showers as a ridge of high pressure moves in from the west. Higher summits in Scotland will remain below freezing point and here showers of hail and snow. Across Britain the air will be very clear and most cloud will be above higher summits.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Fairly light wind. A few hail/snow showers. Very clear air.

Detailed Forecast for Saturday, 22 April, 2017

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwest backing westerly between 15 and 20mph, although post dawn 25mph Cairngorms and Deeside.
Effect of wind on you?	Small
How wet?	Hail and snow showers Occasional snow and hail showers. Mostly rain below 500m.
Cloud on the hills?	Often clearing most summits Cloud will lower to about 700m briefly near showers. Otherwise, cloud base 1000 to 1300m, generally highest Ben Alder to southern Cairngorms NP. Nevertheless by afternoon, most summits will intermittently clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% Cairngorm plateau to 90% elsewhere
Sunshine and air clarity?	Bursts of bright sunshine. Superb visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	1 to -1C.
Freezing Level	850m, rising to 1000m southern Cairngorms NP nod Ben Alder. Frost some valleys at dawn.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Sunday 23 April	Monday 24 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly, progressively strengthening from 20-25mph to by late afternoon 40 to 50mph. Considerable buffeting and wind chill will develop where exposed across the hills. On higher areas general mobility later difficult.	Wind may vary considerably and abruptly: northwesterly, up to 60mph for periods, but there may be a lull toward 20mph. Anticipate very difficult walking and severe wind chill. On higher areas, general mobility may suddenly become difficult.
How wet?	Rain rarely Dry nearly all day although in afternoon or evening a few patches of light rain may reach at least hills west of the A9.	Frequent hail & snow. Risk lightning. Ranging from sudden heavy but fairly brief hail and snow showers with risk thunder to an hour or two of almost constant sometimes heavy snow, giving whiteout.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Mostly confined to higher tops Cloud likely to be confined above 1100 to 1300m much of the day. A deterioration from the west now likely only slowly through the afternoon and evening when patches will form at about 650m west of A9 and mostly above 750m elsewhere. 60%	Occasionally extensive Sometimes the summits nearly all cloud free. But expect sudden changes; near showers cloud temporarily below 600m, and sometimes constant cloud above about 500m for an hour or two (least likely southern Cairngorms NP). 40%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Sunshine intermittently although turning cloudy from west afternoon. Fog across the mountains most or all day. Frequently hazy or misty below cloud.	Patches of sunshine and sometimes excellent visibility. But periods of dense fog on the hills, giving near zero visibility in snow/blowing snow.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-1 rising to 3C. 800m to 1300m, lowest post dawn and may well drop abruptly again later in day.	Varying between -2 and -5C. Varying between temporarily 300m to most often 500 to 650m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Sunday, 23 April, 2017**

An abrupt change on Monday as very cold air spreads southwards. Until Thursday, winds persistently northerly, intermittently near gale force, will bring very low freezing levels. Snow and hail showers (sometimes very frequent or almost constant snow for a few hours particularly N Scotland) - even on some lower slopes as summit temperatures drop as low as, if not lower than at any time this winter.

Forecast issued at 15:14 on Friday, 21 April, 2017

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through the Mountaineering Council of 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 Geoff Monk & Associates, 2017.