

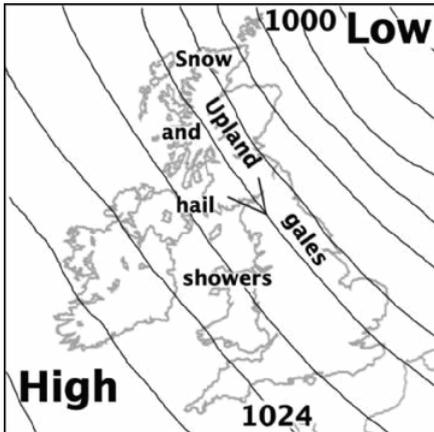
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Friday, 8 December, 2017



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 8 December, 2017

Widespread upland northwesterly gales will bring bitterly cold air to all mountain areas. Snow will be frequent many western mountains and in northern Scotland. Elsewhere, only a few flurries.

Nearly all terrain will be frozen, although not lower slopes in Wales.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Upland severe gales. Frequent snow and hail. Terrain frozen.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 8 December, 2017

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 50-60mph, sudden gusts to 70mph near precipitation.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking widely difficult across the hills. Sudden gusts on lower slopes near precipitation. Severe wind chill.
How wet?	Frequent snow and hail; risk lightning Cairngorms and Deeside: Frequent or very frequent often heavy and squally snow and hail showers. Continual accumulation of snow (both by day and night), concentrated N Cairngorms/N of Deeside. Whiteout frequent. Thunder in places.
Cloud on the hills?	Varying rapidly, to lower slopes in snow Cairngorms and Deeside: Rapid changes in cloud base; from fleeting glimpses toward higher tops between showers to frequently cloud to a few hundred metres in snow. Elsewhere: cloud rarely below 700m near showers (nearer 550m Monadhliath) but cloud often above the summits.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20% but less than 10% N Cairngorms
Sunshine and air clarity?	Glimpses of sun between snow showers. Visibility often appalling due to snow and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-7C
Freezing Level	Almost all terrain frozen from valleys or just above valleys up.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 9 December	Sunday 10 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Northwesterly 35 to 45mph, generally strongest N/E Cairngorms NP. Marginal decrease in speed during daylight. Considerable buffeting on higher areas, particularly near showers. Significant wind chill.	Northerly 15mph or less. Negligible
How wet?	Frequent snow showers Snow and hail showers will continue throughout the day - resulting in periods of whiteout. Fewest showers southern summits Cairngorms NP.	Risk snow showers Snow showers over the sea may drift onto N Cairngorms and possibly summits in Deeside. Otherwise, isolated if any flurries.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Intermittently shrouding higher areas Continually changing cloud base: near showers, shafts of cloud from a few hundred metres up, but between showers breaks to higher summits - perhaps extensive southern summits in Cairngorms NP. 30%	Many summits free of cloud Patches, mainly N Cairngorms and N Deeside, near showers above 650m, but most cloud here above 900 to 1100m. Elsewhere, apart from fragments persisting here and there, mainly corries, many summits will be free of cloud. 50%
Sunshine and air clarity?	Bursts of bright sunshine. The air very clear - but sudden appalling visibility in snow and cloud.	Areas of bright sunshine; most cloud likely N Cairngorms and Deeside. Excellent or superb visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-6C Almost all terrain frozen.	-6C Terrain frozen from valleys up.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 9 December, 2017**

Cold throughout the next 10 days, although across mainly Wales, incursions of warmer air will bring freeze thaw cycles to higher areas. Elsewhere, upland areas substantially frozen. Centres of low pressure will track across Britain bringing bouts of sustained upland snowfall (although not all areas will get these). Between, often fine with clear air and light winds.

Forecast issued at 12:14 on Thursday, 7 December, 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.