

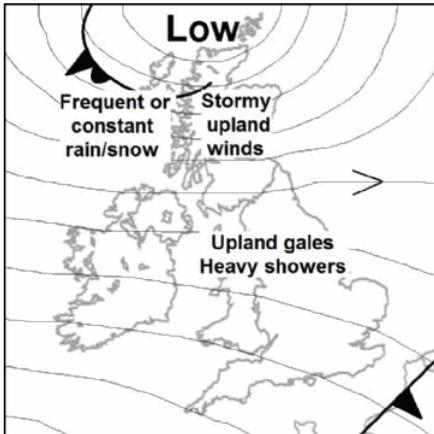
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 7 December, 2018



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 7 December, 2018

A stormy day across the Scottish mountains, and severe upland gales on higher terrain of England & Wales. Sustained periods of heavy snow and whiteout across the W/NW Highlands. Elsewhere sudden heavy showers, of snow, hail or rain lower slopes. Chance of thunder.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Hurricane force winds on mountains. Snow setting in west.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 7 December, 2018

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwest veering westerly, 60 to 80mph most or all of daylight, likely strongest afternoon; gusts over 100mph Cairngorm plateau.
Effect of wind on you?	Any mobility very difficult even on lower slopes. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow and hail showers, may set in later west Overnight snow and rain pushes away eastwards from dawn. Then snow showers spreading from west, most frequent west of A9, where an increasing risk of snow setting in by afternoon. Often dry toward Deeside.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive on higher areas Covering higher mountains extensively; the cloud base typically between 700 and 1000m. Generally highest bases toward Deeside. Fleeting breaks to higher tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun, mainly toward Deeside. Very hazy, visibility very poor or appalling in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1C (a little higher post dawn). Where exposed to the wind, will feel close to -20C.
Freezing Level	Soon 750m.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 8 December	Sunday 9 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	West to northwesterly decreasing during daylight from between 30-40mph to 20-30mph. Widespread buffeting on higher areas after dawn but conditions will improve.	North to northwesterly, 20 to 30mph, perhaps 35mph. Fairly small, but risk of squally gusts around showers. Significant wind chill where exposed on higher areas.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Drizzly rain; snow Munros Drizzly and rain, most frequent morning Cairngorms and Deeside, but only pockets of rain elsewhere, mainly morning. Above 900m snow will lead to periods of appalling visibility (mainly Cairngorms/Lochnagar).	Snow and hail showers Clusters of showers spreading from the north. Around the Lecht and Cairngorm ski centres snow may be frequent over several hours. Risk of hail and temporary whiteout.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Never clearing most summits Broadly, widespread cloud higher slopes from dawn. On the Cairngorms east to the Lochnagar area, fog likely higher areas all day, patches below 600m widely above 850m. Elsewhere, likely to improve; by afternoon there may be little cloud below 1000m. 30%	Often covering higher tops Frequently covering northern Cairngorms above 800m. At times shafts of cloud below 600m around showers. Toward southern Cairngorms NP, more often 1000m, breaks to higher tops. 40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun, mainly S Cairngorms NP. Visibility excellent away from precipitation.	Occasional bursts of sunshine. The air at times very clear, but visibility suddenly reduced where in snow and cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	1C 1050m	-2C falling to -4C. Dropping from 700 toward 500m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 8 December, 2018**

Becoming progressively colder and drier through the weekend as winds turn northwesterly. A few areas of snow and hail showers by Sunday, focused toward the north and west, but many areas will see sunshine.

Next week, staying below freezing on the mountains for a number of days, with hard frost in valleys early in week.

Confidence becomes low by midweek, but there is an increasing risk of unsettled conditions coming back in from the Atlantic, with gales and perhaps widespread snow on the mountains.

Forecast issued at 15:17 on Thursday, 6 December, 2018

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, 2018.