

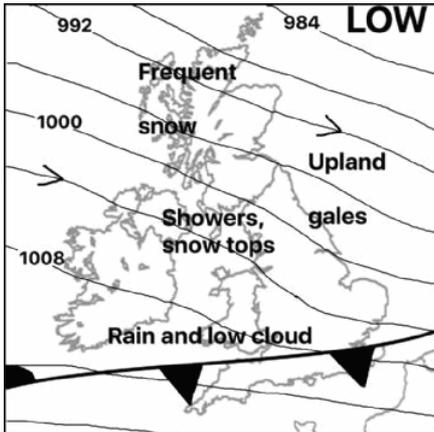
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 15 March, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 March, 2019

Upland gales will bring difficult conditions across the hills with significant/severe wind chill. Frequent snow/hail showers will drive across Scotland through the day, risk thunder in north. Further south, extensive low cloud and rain will edge south to become largely confined to south Wales in afternoon. Showers following to north England, snow on tops.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Upland gales/severe chill. Frequent snow showers. Hill fog.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 15 March, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly in the range 45-65mph, but may be nearer 35mph for a time around dawn.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking widely arduous or difficult across higher areas with widespread buffeting. Strong gusts reaching lower slopes. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow showers Snow and hail showers will drive in from the west throughout the day. At times becoming frequent across hills near and west of the A9 with resultant whiteout. Snow increasingly down to 400m or so.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive higher areas Often covering mountains above 700-900m, or lower during constant precipitation. Breaks to higher levels mostly forming across eastern Cairngorms NP.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun, mostly Deeside. A general haze, and visibility reduced significantly by rain or snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or -1C at dawn, dropping to -3C. Feeling closer to -20C in direct exposure to the wind.
Freezing Level	Initially 800-900m, but soon lowering to 600m.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 16 March	Sunday 17 March
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Low confidence in forecast: Northeast later northwesterly, in range 20-35mph, risk higher for a time. May be marked lull at Will impede walking at times across higher areas with significant wind chill.	Northwest later northerly in the range 30-40mph. Walking arduous at times across higher areas with significant wind chill and buffeting.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Increasing risk of snow Dry start, but increasing risk of persistent snow and whiteout conditions spreading up from the south into the afternoon.	Frequent snow/hail showers Frequent snow and hail showers through the day; may merge to give prolonged spell of snow and whiteout across N Cairngorms. Risk of isolated lightning.
Cloud on the hills?	Becoming extensive in snow May be very little for a few hours in the morning, but as snow sets in cloud will lower onto the hills and become extensive. Increasingly to lowest slopes.	Often shrouding N Cairngorms. Cloud base will vary through day; shafts below 500-600m in snow, but generally 800 to 1050m, lowest N Cairngorms and Lochnagar. Away from these areas, cloud intermittently breaking off higher summits.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun. Visibility good at first, but become widely very poor or appalling in snow with risk of whiteout.	Occasional bursts of sun between the showers, mostly in the south. Visibility at times very good, but often very poor due to snow with risk of whiteout.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	-4C 400-500m; lowering further should snow set in.	-2 to -4C, highest around middle of the day. 400-600m, highest around middle of the day.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 16 March, 2019**

Despite significant uncertainties on track, an area of low pressure will move in on Saturday with bring widespread precipitation, low cloud and upland gales across many hills. Snow is expected to fall across higher parts of the North Pennines/Lakes for a time, but more widely, and to low levels, across the Southern Uplands and later central/southern Highlands. By Sunday, northwest winds will bring snow showers across many hills, increasingly rain to lower slopes through day. Largely fine on Monday, but low cloud and rain will reach western hills late on. This will then herald a change to milder, cloudier and across Scotland damp conditions through the middle of the week with a period of sustained thaw.

Forecast issued at 16:37 on Thursday, 14 March, 2019

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, 2019.