

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

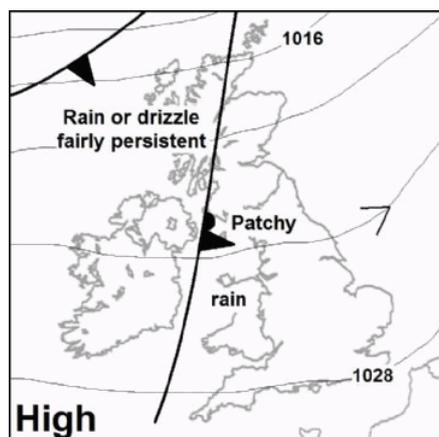
Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Tuesday, 19 March, 2019



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 19 March, 2019

Mild southwesterlies bring low cloud to western hills, with rain or drizzle frequent or persistent for several hours; wettest conditions focused on western Scotland. Patchier rain and higher cloud breaks toward the east. Blustery N England & Scotland, up to gale force far N/NW Highlands.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

A little rain mostly west. Windy, gusty in places.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 19 March, 2019

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 25 to 35, locally 40mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Buffeting across hills, in places through passes and cols. Significant wind chill in exposure.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Occasional rain Patches of rain or drizzle from time to time, most common west of the A9. Amounting to very little toward Deeside. Briefly may be sleet on highest tops.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive higher areas Covering many mountains above 800-1000m much of the day, at times below 700m west of the A9. Higher breaks mostly toward Deeside and the Lecht.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Glimpses of sun mostly eastern Cairngorms NP. Visibility fairly good, but a general slight haze.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 to 4C, may lift a degree or so higher eastern Cairngorms. Directly in the wind on high tops feeling close to -10C.
Freezing Level	May start close to 1000m, but lifting above the summits. Higher terrain essentially frozen, but a thaw developing.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 20 March	Thursday 21 March
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly, 25 to 35mph, may strengthen later in day to 40-45mph.	Southwesterly, 35 to 50mph, risk 65mph for a few hours.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking impeded at times on higher terrain, locally gusty through passes and cols.	Arduous conditions across the hills, with sudden buffeting through passes and in places to lower slopes. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Little or no rain Risk of a little rain or drizzle developing, mostly afternoon and west of the A9, but barely more than spots in the wind many areas.	Rain on and off, mostly west A front trailing across Scotland brings a risk of rain from time to time, focused on hills near/west of the A9, whilst toward Deeside amounting to very little overall.
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly confined to higher tops Cloud occasionally covering hills above 700-900m, most persistent toward Ben Alder, whilst elsewhere often above 1000m with breaks most frequent toward Deeside & the Lecht.	Often covering higher areas Risk of shrouding hills surrounding Drumochter, plus Monadhliath, much of the day above 700-800m, or lower in rain. Elsewhere mostly 800-1000m or above, breaks east.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine for a few hours in morning, but cloud thickening again through day. Visibility often very good, reducing later on western hills.	Glimpses of sun mostly eastern Cairngorms NP. A general slight haze, and visibility poor where rain develops. Often good toward Deeside.
How Cold? (at 900m)	3 to 6C, locally a degree or so higher toward the Lecht.	4 to 6C, may drop to 1C from northwest later in day.
Freezing Level	Above the summits, but may be close to freezing on highest tops post-dawn.	Above the summits, but perhaps dropping to 1000m later.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 20 March, 2019

A west to southwesterly airflow continues through this week and into the weekend. A series of frontal systems will move across Scotland, bringing frequent rain to the W/NW Highlands. Small amounts of rain E/SE Scotland. Winds reaching gale or severe gale force at times across the Highlands. Low cloud often plaguing western hills, even across England & Wales, although here rainfall typically patchy and light. Temperatures above freezing up to higher tops during midweek, with a gradual thaw, then cooler by Friday and the weekend, sub-zero at times on Scottish Munros. Highest tops in England & Wales rarely dropping below freezing. Into next week, most indications favour higher pressure and generally quieter weather.

Forecast issued at 14:38 on Monday, 18 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.