

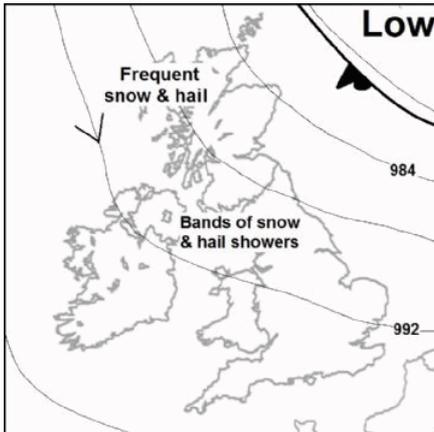
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 22 January, 2021



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 22 January, 2021

Very cold across the mountains - terrain widely frozen, very icy in places, plus lying snow in most areas. Brisk west to northwest winds will maintain a severe chill factor in exposure. Areas of snow or hail showers moving inland from western coasts.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cold, gales or near-gales on tops. Snow and hail showers.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 22 January, 2021

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly 25 to 40mph, risk 50mph early morning.
Effect of wind on you?	Frequent buffeting, risk sudden powerful squalls. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow and hail most frequent north Clusters of heavy snow and hail showers, may merge to give frequent snow and whiteout for periods, focused on Monadhliath and northern Cairngorms NP. Less precipitation toward Braemar, may be often dry.
Cloud on the hills?	Varied, often covering tops Cloud base changing quickly in and out of precipitation. Often extensive above 800m northern Cairngorms, and shafts of cloud sometimes below 500m. Brief breaks to higher tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun and clear air, but near-zero visibility during snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-6C. Where exposed to wind on higher terrain, feeling like -20C or below.
Freezing Level	Terrain frozen to most lower slopes.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 23 January	Sunday 24 January
How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly 20 to 30mph.	Direction likely to vary, perhaps a marked lull, but risk sometimes reaching 30mph.
Effect of wind on you?	Frequent buffeting on higher terrain. Severe wind chill.	May be often small, but beware of changing conditions and significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Occasional snow or hail Often dry, but well scattered snow or hail showers may come in from the west, mostly hills west of the A9.	Risk occasional snow or hail Often dry, but a few snow or hail showers/flurries possible here and there. Chance becoming a zone of more persistent snow for an hour or so, spreading from the north.
Cloud on the hills?	Breaks to higher slopes Most cloud confined above 800 to 1000m, and breaks to higher slopes, best toward east. Patches below 700m around showers, mainly in west.	Forming around precipitation Mostly only fragments of cloud on higher slopes, with good breaks. However, if snow occurs, forming extensively and quickly below 700m, particularly northern Cairngorms.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%	60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patchwork of sun and very clear air. Appalling visibility if in blowing snow.	Frequent sun and very clear air. Visibility briefly appalling if in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-6C	-5C
Freezing Level	Terrain widely frozen from glens upward.	Terrain widely frozen.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 23 January, 2021**

All mountains sub-zero through the weekend and into early next week. Terrain widely frozen with fresh snow cover to many lower slopes. Some freeze-thaw cycles may then occur, although higher Scottish mountains may rarely lift above zero for the next couple of weeks at least. Showers of snow and hail, or further significant snowfalls in some areas. Precipitation frequent into late January. Hard frosts most common in Highland glens. Very icy underfoot in places. Wind speeds varied, occasionally reaching gale force.

Forecast issued at 14:58 on Thursday, 21 January, 2021

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering 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 Mountain Weather Information Service, 2021.