MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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

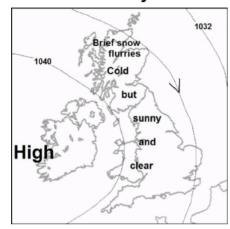


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General Summary for Thursday, 20 January, 2022



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 20 January, 2022

A cold day, much terrain frozen, including frost in sheltered valleys. Brisk N-NW'ly winds, up to gale force on eastern tops in the morning, giving significant chill factor on higher areas. A few snow flurries in northern Scotland, but most places dry with sunshine and most hills free of low cloud.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cold, strongest winds N/E. Mainly dry, cloud breaks and sun.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 20 January, 2022

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northwesterly in the range 20 to 30mph, at times 35mph higher Cairngorm plateau, typically strongest toward northeast, local gusts over 40mph for periods.	
Effect of wind on you?	Will impede walking occasionally on higher slopes where wind chill will be significant at times.	
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Isolated snow flurries Scattered snow flurries coming in from the north, mainly in the morning. Many hills avoiding these and staying dry all day.	
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly very little Occasional patches shrouding tops in N Cairngorms from time to time, mainly in the morning. Otherwise, hills widely clear	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80%	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Periods of sunshine, high cloud tending to build through day. Visibility excellent.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	-5C lifting to -3C by dusk, or slightly higher onward into evening. Wind chill as cold as -20C in the strongest winds on tops in morning.	
Freezing Level	Terrain widely frozen from lower slopes upwards; partial daytime thawing where in sunlight up to about 400-500m.	

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 21 January	Saturday 22 January
11. 1.10(0.4)		Saturday 22 January
How windy? (On the Munros)	West to northwest 25mph, but risk in places 40mph; the strongest winds not necessarily on the highest tops.	Westerly, in range 25 to 45mph, strongest winds not just on higher slopes, sudden powerful gusts in places.
Effect of wind on you?	Varied, in places fairly small, but blustery or suddenly gusty, including through passes and to lower eastern slopes.	Varied, in places expect sudden buffeting on higher and some lower slopes, very gusty into passes and some corries.
How wet?	Precipitation unlikely	Precipitation unlikely
(Precipitation and its impact)	Chance of isolated spots of drizzle or snow grains some slopes.	
Cloud on the hills?	Patches some slopes	Patchy low cloud
	Banks of cloud may drift onto some slopes, mainly west and northern Cairngorms, although higher summits likely to poke out above cloud. Less cloud further east, perhaps widely clear.	Banks of cloud covering hills, varied in extent, but higher tops at times emerging above cloud layers. Breaking up for periods, eastern areas may be often clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%	60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Areas of sunshine and broken cloud. Visibility mostly excellent.	Intermittent sun, most frequent toward east. Visibility very good away from cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	Some slopes only 2C, but rising locally above 5C, particularly eastern areas.	Typically 3 to 5C, but locally some slopes nearer to 0C if in low cloud.
Freezing Level	Frost in most glens from dawn. Mountain terrain also at least partly frozen, but air temperature rising above zero.	Air temperature mostly above freezing point, but some upland terrain frozen or partly frozen. Also frost some glens.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 21 January, 2022

High pressure extends back across Britain later this week to become centred over England and Wales into the weekend and next week, allowing westerly winds to influence Scotland. Temperatures will drift back above freezing point on most hills from Friday, although some western slopes will stay close to zero where in cloud banks. Inversion conditions varied from day to day, with high tops lying above or sometimes between cloud layers. Frost in some valleys, less so in the north & west. Mostly small amounts of precipitation in the week ahead. Where snow exists on high tops, beware of compacted hard snow and ice. Strongest winds toward the northern Highlands, at times gale force and very gusty.

Forecast issued at 15:17 on Wednesday, 19 January, 2022

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, 2022.