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.

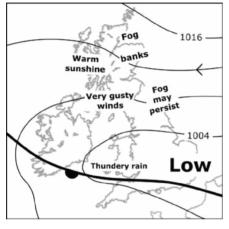


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General Summary for Thursday, 2 May, 2024



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 2 May, 2024

Gusty easterly winds, turbulent near and west of major summits. Very warm for western Scotland with strong sunshine. Fog banks for eastern and central Highlands tending to break up, but may linger for Borders. Mostly dry northern England and Eryri, but thundery rain for south and possibly mid-Wales.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Gusty wind. Varied cloud banks retreating toward east, sunshine.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 2 May, 2024

How windy? (On the Munros)	Easterly 25mph to suddenly gusty 40mph around some mountains, powerful gusts in passes and downslope to west.	
Effect of wind on you?	Locally very varied, but expect sudden buffeting making walking arduous in places not just on higher terrain.	
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Most places dry Fine drizzle if in cloud on eastern hills.	
Cloud on the hills?	Low cloud thinning, mostly east Banks of cloud rolling over some slopes for a few hours in the morning, mainly across eastern areas, may locally persist into afternoon Deeside, but tending to largely disperse. Some tops may be above fog banks for a time.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% east rising to 90% near/west of A9.	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Early varied low cloud breaking to leave sun and thin high cloud. Very good visibility, but hazier toward east.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	7C in east, to locally 10C near A9. Feeling close to freezing directly in wind.	
Freezing Level	Above the summits	

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 3 May	Saturday 4 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Easterly 15 to 30mph, strongest northern areas in the morning. Be prepared for very blustery conditions at times with marked wind chill and buffeting.	Easterly, variable speeds 10 to 25mph, locally stronger gusts possible around some higher slopes. Fairly small, but in places suddenly blustery which may start to affect comfortable walking.
How wet?	Chance scattered heavy showers	Local drizzle, risk bursts of rain.
(Precipitation and its impact)	Dry most of the day or in some areas all day. Risk of a few heavy showers breaking out, mainly toward south in afternoon.	Drizzly if in hill fog, especially toward east. Risk localised bursts of rain forming almost anywhere, greatest risk later in day around the A9 corridor and westwards.
Cloud on the hills?	Banks of cloud, best breaks in the west.	Extensive low cloud
	Banks of cloud will be focused across eastern areas, where they will tend to lift and break as day wears on. Best clearances will be hills west of the A9.	Blanket fog from mid or some lower slopes upward, particularly eastern Cairngorms NP. Covering most higher areas all day, highest cloud bases toward A9, breaks mainly for Monadhliath.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30% in the east, 60% in the west.	10%, rising to 30% west of A9.
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast at times, but cloud thinning to reveal some patches of sunshine. Visibility good or very good.	Little if any weak sun. General haze, murkier south and eastern hills.
How Cold? (at 900m)	6 to 8C, highest in the west.	6 to 8C, coolest in east.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 3 May, 2024

Slow-moving weather patterns continue into the Bank Holiday weekend as a weak zone of low pressure drifts over the British Isles. There will remain uncertainty of local day-to-day detail, but most likely the wind often light and temperatures generally mild, but less warm than midweek in western Scotland. Low cloud, drizzle and scattered bursts of rain moving from northern England on Friday into the Highlands by Saturday. Then Sunday into Monday, varied zones of heavy showers forming, locally thundery, but some places escaping often dry with broken cloud and sun. High pressure then tends to build from the west into midweek to bring a fair amount of dry weather.

Forecast issued at 16:30 on Wednesday, 1 May, 2024

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, 2024.