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.

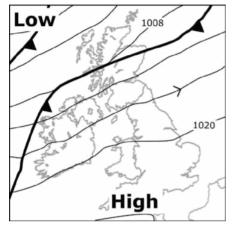


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General Summary for Thursday, 27 March, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 27 March, 2025

Widespread upland severe gales and rain across Scotland - although breaks in the rain some eastern and far northern areas (sometimes snow higher tops far north). South into England and Wales, less windy, particularly morning and away from hills open to the sea to the southwest, very little if any rain.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Upland severe gales. Often raining, especially afternoon.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 27 March, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 45 to 55mph, particularly afternoon when 60mph higher mountains.	
Effect of wind on you?	Strenuous walking, balance often affected on exposed tops and ridges, frequent buffeting. Significant wind chill.	
How wet?	Increasingly wet - total rainfall small toward Deeside	
(Precipitation and its impact)	Monadhliath and southern Cairngorms NP: Some breaks in the rain, particularly at first, but frequently raining.	
	Northern Cairngorms and Deeside: Rain now and again; often just the 'spill-over' from rain to the west, giving 'spots in the wind'; driest Deeside.	
Cloud on the hills?	ligher areas persistently covered; highest cloud base toward Deeside	
	Monadhliath and southern Cairngorms NP: Persistent fog; the cloud base typically 450 to 650m. Northern Cairngorms and Deeside: Cloud base typically 700 to 1000m, but may break above 1050m Deeside.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	10%	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Rare pockets of sun lower slopes near Cairngorms and Deeside. Visibility very good, although hazy.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	3C. Feeling like -12C where exposed to the wind.	
Freezing Level	1200m or above.	

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 28 March	Saturday 29 March
How windy? (On the Munros)	Westerly 45mph, squally near showers.	Increasingly windy after a morning lull - westerly around 25mph. Into afternoon southwest 35 to perhaps 50mph
Effect of wind on you?	Significant wind chill. Frequent buffeting, especially near precipitation where walking often difficult.	Anticipate walking becoming very difficult and wind chill significant, particularly Cairngorm plateau into afternoon.
How wet?	Hail and snow showers, risk lightning	Increasingly threat precipitation
(Precipitation and its impact)	Hail and snow showers, isolated thunder. Most of morning little precipitation east of A9. Precipitation mostly rain below 600m.	Morning: Little or no precipitation. Afternoon: Increasing threat with time of rain on and off, mainly west of A9. Little if any rain reaching Deeside. Expect snow above 750 to later 1050m.
Cloud on the hills?	Widely covering higher tops; highest cloud base toward east.	Extensive on higher areas
	Cloud base changing quickly. West of A9, fragments below 500m near showers, but mostly 700 to 1000m. Progressively higher base east across Cairngorms NP; toward Deeside, cloud rare below 750m and often 1100m or above, particularly afternoon.	Cloud base typically 800 to 1100m, generally highest eastern summits Cairngorms NP. Later deteriorating particularly southern summits Cairngorms NP and then west of A9 to 500 to 750m. Eventually cloud base lowering elsewhere.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	40%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Ranging from bursts of sun west of A9 to patchwork of sun Deeside. Haze, particularly west of A9; temporarily very poor visibility in precipitation.	Occasional sunshine, mainly eastern areas, will gradually give way as cloud thickens. Excellent visibility before becoming poor in precipitation
How Cold? (at 900m)	0C; marginal rise through the day. Will feel as cold as minus 14C directly in the wind.	-1C rising to 1C. Will feel as cold as minus 114C directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	900m; a little higher between showers in afternoon.	800m rising to 1100m.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 28 March, 2025

Frequently windy with intermittent rain (or widely snow and hail showers on Friday) until early next week. Pressure is then likely to build markedly over and east of Britain, bringing the return of dry and sometimes warm and sunny weather for much of next week.

Forecast issued at 14:33 on Wednesday, 26 March, 2025

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, 2025.