MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

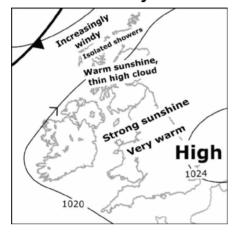
Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Wednesday, 30 April, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 30 April, 2025

Fine and warm, or very warm Wales and Pennines. Strong sunshine, some thin high cloud; beware sunburn and dehydration.

Toward northwest Scotland, strengthening southwesterly winds, more cloud at times, one or two brief showers.

Into night, some rain moves into Scotland from the west.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Mostly sunny, warm. Becoming breezier.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 30 April, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 15 to 25mph, tending to strengthen, reaching 30mph over higher Cairngorms afternoon.		
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small, but on highest exposed terrain may start to feel noticeable and affect balance on some ridges.		
How wet?	Rain unlikely most or all day Small risk of an isolated shower later afternoon, mainly toward northeast. Then into night, patchy rain associated with a front moves in from west, risk local heavier bursts for a time through night.		
(Precipitation and its impact)			
Cloud on the hills?	Ils? Little or none		
Chance of cloud	Any early brief patches soon dispersing or lifting above the summits. Above 90%		
free Munros?			
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine weakening at times due to varied high cloud; some fair-weather cloud builds. Visibility excellent.		
How Cold? (at 900m)	9C rising to 14C. As wind increases, feeling nearer 5C in exposure on tops.		
Freezing Level	Above the summits		

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 1 May	Friday 2 May
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Westerly 20-25mph, at times 30-35mph higher Cairngorms. Starting to impede walking, risk of stability challenges if highest winds occur; feeling increasingly chilly.	West to northwesterly 20 to 30mph, risk 35-40mph early in day on higher Cairngorms. Blustery, starting to affect balance on exposed higher ridges. Risk more arduous on high tops for a time. Marked wind chill.
How wet?	Often dry, odd bursts of rain	Light showers
(Precipitation and its impact)	Bursts of showery rain come and go, most likely north and west Cairngorms.	One or two brief showers coming from the west, a snow flurry on higher Munros if these occur in the morning.
Cloud on the hills?	Intermittent cloud caps on high tops	Lifting above most tops
	Fragments of low cloud drift onto northern slopes of Cairngorms in the morning. Bases will rise, becoming intermittent caps over high tops.	Patchy cloud soon mostly above 1000m, rising to upper slopes then often above the hills by middle of day; patches occasionally above 1100-1200m western Cairngorms.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%	60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sunshine, weakened through high cloud. Excellent visibility.	Broken cloud and sun, likely sunnier in east in morning. Visibility excellent.
How Cold? (at 900m)	5 to 7C, a cooling trend later afternoon into evening.	2C rising to 5 or 6C. Wind chill feeling like -5 to -8C.
Freezing Level	Above the summits, but later in day dropping onto higher Cairngorms above about 1200m.	Near highest summits around 1100-1200m from dawn, lifting above all tops into middle of day onward.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 1 May, 2025

Dropping colder across the Highlands by Thursday, near to freezing on higher summits; strong westerly winds in the north giving considerable chill factor and bringing a few showers. Warmer further south - risk of local thundery rain for Wales later Thursday. High pressure centred toward the northwest maintains plenty of dry weather over the Bank Holiday weekend with broken cloud and sun; brief local showers possible. Cool and breezy toward north and eastern mountains, lighter winds and warmer toward southwest Highlands, Cumbria and west Wales. Further into next week, risk spells of chilly and strong west-northwesterly winds particularly for the Highlands, some showery days.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Tuesday, 29 April, 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.