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.



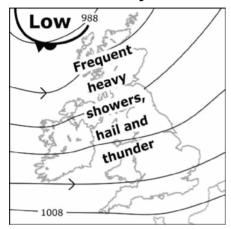
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General Summary for Thursday, 11 September, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 11 September, 2025

Gale force winds over many Scottish high tops in the morning, but persistent all day toward the northwest; powerful squally gusts around showers. Up to gale-force also on Welsh high tops. Heavy downpours already affect most of western Britain from dawn, increasingly widespread with hail, thunder & lightning.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Windy, gale-force at times. Increasingly showery, hail & thunder.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 11 September, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 40 to 50mph early morning, tending to ease a little, but often 30mph with sudden squalls 40mph in showers.		
Effect of wind on you?	Walking strenuous, more arduous for a time with balance challenges where exposed to strongest wind, most sustained in the morning. Significant wind chill.		
How wet? (Precipitation and its	Scattered showers, brief heavy bursts		
impact)	Overnight rain clears northeast by dawn, then dry for a few hours in eastern areas. Scattered showers drift in from the west, tending to increase in frequency afternoon, locally heavy, chance isolated hail and thunder.		
Cloud on the hills?	Well broken east, filling in during rain		
	Cloud over high terrain around Drumochter and southern Monadhliath in the morning; some patches extending north and east on higher terrain; often clear Deeside/east Cairngorms. Tending to fill in for periods above 800m as showers come and go.		
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50%, lowering to 30%		
Sunshine?	Some patchy sunshine mainly morning in north/east - largely cloudy for several hours		
Air clarity (below cloud)	at a time. Excellent visibility, reducing in showers.		
How Cold? (at 900m)	5 or 6C, slightly rising east Cairngorms/Deeside.		
	Feeling like -5C to -8C in exposure on higher terrain.		
Freezing Level	Above the summits		

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

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,	Southwesterly 20 to 30mph, at times reaching 35mph over higher Cairngorms plateau.	Southerly risk 30-40mph at dawn, soon easing to 20-25mph, perhaps less for a time, turning southwest 25-35mph later.
you?	Starting to affect ease of walking in strongest winds, starting to impact stability where very exposed. Feeling cool.	Expect blustery conditions on higher terrain affecting ease of walking, but may improve for a time. Considerable wind chill.
How wet?	Afternoon showers, heavy at times	Showers, mostly afternoon
impact)	Mostly dry morning. Risk of heavy showers through afternoon, possibility of local hail and thunder. May briefly merge into broader areas of rain, mainly toward Drumochter and Ben Alder.	Clusters of showery rain, likely most widespread by late afternoon, when risk of hail, isolated thunder. A few hours in morning may be dry.
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly higher tops toward southwest	Mostly high tops, some breaks
	Banks of cloud on high terrain in the morning, most extensive near Drumochter/southern Monadhliath. Cloud will lift and break, largely clearing summits, best eastwards, though returning to tops at times in showers.	Likely to come and go on upper slopes, most frequent toward Ben Alder where frequently covering tops above 900m. Bases varying in and out of showers.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%	40%
Air clarity (below cloud)	Frequent or extensive sunshine, best in the east/north in morning; increasingly patchy afternoon. Excellent visibility.	Occasional sun, mostly morning and in north/east. Visibility very good when dry, reduced to poor in showers.
900m)	5C, rising slightly, up to 7C eastern Cairngorms. Feeling like -3C in direct wind.	5 or 6C. Feeling like -5C, to -8C on highest tops directly in the wind.
Freezing Level	Above the summits	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 12 September, 2025

Unsettled southwesterlies dominate through the weekend into early next week - often windy with frequent rain, cloud capping the tops. Showery bursts at times with a risk of hail and thunder. Driest and highest cloud bases toward eastern Scotland. Temperatures on the cool side, often feeling below freezing in exposure to wind on higher terrain. During Sunday and into Monday, a deeper Atlantic low is expected to move in, bringing more extensive heavy rain and gales - the strongest wind probably focused on England & Wales. Some improvement expected for a time into middle of next week, but the longer range outlook into late September remains unsettled.

Forecast issued at 16:15 on Wednesday, 10 September, 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.