

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

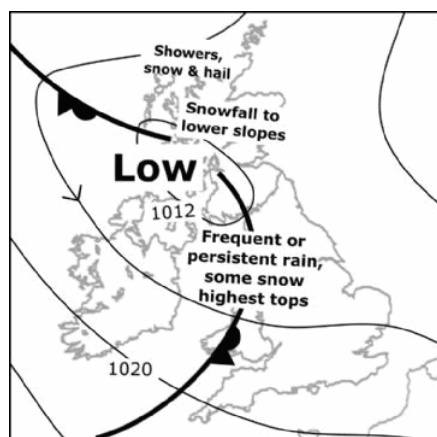
Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Tuesday, 18 November, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 18 November, 2025

Extensive snow Scottish Highlands, falling to lower elevations inland, later showers of snow & hail in north/west. Wind varied in Scotland, then strengthening northerlies. Rain and some snow over higher tops England and Wales plus westerlies up to gale force. Cloud covering most higher terrain.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Wind strengthening afternoon. Areas of snow, develops north later.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 18 November, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	A possible lull from dawn into morning, though locally variable and E-SE'ly gusts may reach 25mph in places. Into afternoon, trending northeast later northerly, generally increasing to 25-30mph, or 40mph dusk into evening and night.
Effect of wind on you?	May be often small in the morning, but some gusty spots possible. Expect a general deterioration later in daytime to frequent buffeting and significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Periods of snow, heavier north by evening. Patchy light snow soon becomes widely more persistent west and southern areas, at times heavier during morning, falling to lowest slopes. Fading to flurries into afternoon. Toward evening, showers develop from north, becoming persistent heavier snow for a time Cairngorms, snow to lower slopes and some hail showers into night.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, lowest in snow Shrouding the mountains widely, though may be more broken and higher bases at first in easternmost areas, soon lowering to blanket hills. Base rising a little afternoon, but tops likely stay covered. Varied bases into evening.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Less than 10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast with near-zero visibility extensive and prolonged as snow sets in. Some improvement afternoon, but very difficult navigation in cloud over snow cover.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3 or -4C, tending to lower during day (to -7C higher Cairngorms). Wind chill in stronger speeds near -15C, or after dark -20C.
Freezing Level	Most terrain frozen, near freezing into glens all day and soon sub-zero with any height.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 19 November	Thursday 20 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	Northerly 35 to 50mph, strongest higher Cairngorms.	Northerly 35 to 50mph from dawn, gradually lessening, into afternoon 25-30mph, or less from dusk.
Effect of wind on you?	Often challenging walking conditions on exposed terrain, severe wind chill.	Continuing challenging conditions with significant wind chill, severe higher mountains; some improvement.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Frequent snow and hail north Succession of snow and hail showers coming in from north, merging to be near constant at times north Cairngorms. Fewer showers southwards toward Glen Garry. Snow lying into glens.	Frequent snow and hail north Ongoing succession of snow and hail showers coming in from north, most frequent north Cairngorms, may tend to ease later. Fewer showers southwards toward Glen Garry. Snow lying into glens.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive higher areas Shrouding the higher Cairngorms above 900-1000m most or all day, at times banks of cloud to 700m or lower in showers. Patches will come and go over higher Monadhliath. Further south, higher bases, breaks at times to tops.	Fairly extensive higher areas Persisting on higher Cairngorms above 900-1000m, at times banks of cloud to 700m or lower in showers, mostly morning. Patches will come and go over higher Monadhliath. Further south, higher bases, breaks at times to tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief bursts of sun, mostly southern areas. Visibility at times appalling when in cloud and snow, but intermittently very good.	Brief bursts of sun, mostly southern areas. Visibility at times appalling when in cloud and snow, but intermittently very good, more often excellent later in day.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-4 or -5C. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -20C.	-4 or -5C (to -7C highest summits). Wind chill feeling like -15 to -20C, coldest in stronger speeds in morning.
Freezing Level	Terrain widely frozen from glens upward, only slight rise above freezing point on some lower slopes.	Terrain widely frozen from glens upward, only partial thawing lowest sunlit slopes.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 19 November, 2025

Snow lying most widely in Scottish Highlands, to lower slopes inland, some high tops elsewhere into midweek. Strong to gale force northerlies Wednesday-Thursday, bringing snow and hail showers focused on northern Scotland and onto north-facing coastal districts elsewhere. Sunnier from central Scotland southward through northern England. By Friday into next weekend, winds shift back westerly and freezing levels rise to upper slopes - some rain likely, snow on high tops at times.

Forecast issued at 7:10 on Tuesday, 18 November, 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.