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.

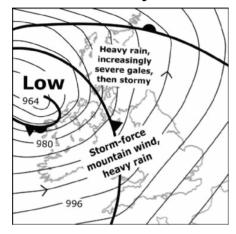


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General Summary for Tuesday, 9 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 9 December, 2025

Severe conditions becoming widespread and lasting onward into the night and Wednesday - stormy conditions, hurricane-force winds on higher mountains. Heavy rain sweeping northwards across Scotland during the day, breaking up into showers for England & Wales; flooding likely.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Heavy rain and increasingly stormy winds.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 9 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly rapidly strengthening from dawn to 50mph, gusts 60-70mph higher Cairngorms developing, turning southerly by midday. Strengthening further during afternoon to reach 80mph, up to SW'ly 100mph by evening into night higher		
Effect of wind on you?	Soon deteriorating from dawn to make mobility difficult, powerful gusts could knock you over on downslopes N/W of major hill groups. By later daytime and after dark, increasingly severe conditions low-levels upward.		
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Persistent rain soon sets in, flood risk Patchy rain arrives from the southwest before dawn, soon spreading widely with heavy bursts well into the day. A breaking trend into showery rain later, though later evening frequent or setting in again; into night turning to snow above 1000-1100m. Beware fast-rising streams and flood risk.		
Cloud on the hills?	Soon extensive		
	Fog over the high Cairngorm plateau and down to middle southern slopes soon fills in widely across middle slopes, down to low slopes in the south. Highest bases northwest Cairngorms and north Monadhliath, 500-600m.		
Chance of cloud free Munros?	Less than 10%		
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Soon widely overcast and dull. Poor visibility.		
How Cold? (at 900m)	3 or 4C, rising to 7 or 8C for several hours, sharply cooling later, to 2C into night. Feeling like -10C in strongest daytime wind; colder into the night.		
Freezing Level	Above the summits until after dark, then onward into night lowering to around 1200m.		

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wodnosday 10 Docombor	Thursday 11 December
	Wednesday 10 December	Thursday 11 December
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southwesterly 55 to 70mph, often 80mph higher tops particularly Cairngorm plateau, gusts here may exceed 100mph.	South-southwesterly 40 to 60mph, some uncertainty of peak speed, possibly 70mph higher Cairngorms.
Effect of wind on you?	Difficult walking conditions from mid elevations upward, severe over the mountains; significant wind chill.	Widely arduous, but risk of more difficult or severe conditions ongoing on higher mountains.
How wet?	Showers mostly west, snow tops	Little or no rain
(Precipitation and its impact)	Showery precipitation most common toward Drumochter and Ben Alder, falling as snow above 1000m, possible hail.	Spots of rain in the wind at times, but amounting to little, some places dry all day.
Cloud on the hills?	Frequently on tops	Mostly southern areas
	Cloud base constantly changing, but often capping higher slopes, particularly toward western Cairngorms and west of A9.	Banks of cloud on some slopes, most common Drumochter around to some areas accessed from Braemar, may cling over tops. Good breaks northward.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	30%	50%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Occasional sun mostly north and east. Slight haze, visibility reduced further around showers.	A little sun mostly toward north. Slight haze possible, but mostly good visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2 or 3C. Wind chill feeling near to -15C.	4C, may start to drop into evening or night. Feeling near -10C in the wind.
Freezing Level	1100 to 1200m	Above the summits

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 10 December, 2025

A very unsettled pattern as southwesterly winds prevail and low pressure systems move in from the Atlantic, sustained gales over the mountains, severe or stormy for periods. Temperatures only close to freezing on higher Scottish tops this week, even here will experience spells above freezing with thawing, leaving snow increasingly patchy, but beware some icy surfaces on the very highest tops where some refreezing occurs. Drier for most places on Thursday this week, otherwise rainfall will be frequent and heavy, sometimes showery with hail. Expect wet ground conditions and further flooding of streams and some rivers.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Monday, 8 December, 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.