

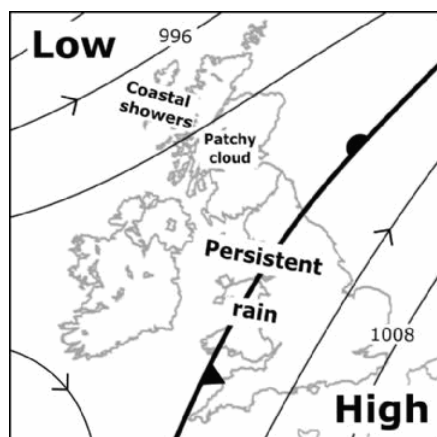
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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 Monday, 15 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 15 December, 2025

A slow-moving area of rain affects England and Wales, heavy falls over south-facing hills, flooding likely. Drier for much of Scotland, though some showers affect the west coast; beware flooding after previous rain. Back just below freezing over higher Munros, some icy surfaces on tops.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Gusty in places, but generally dry, cloud breaks north.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 15 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Some variation of speeds, southwesterly 15 to 25mph, strongest toward west Cairngorms / Monadhliath.
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small, though gusty winds may be suddenly uncomfortable in exposure.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	No rain expected
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly high tops, banks south/west Variable: banks of cloud drifting over high Cairngorms, some lower banks on southern and western slopes as well. Best breaks toward the north.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	50% southwest areas, to 70% north
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sun mostly north of Cairngorms, a veil of high cloud. Very good visibility.
How Cold? (at 900m)	2C, slightly warmer eastern areas. Feeling like -5C in direct wind.
Freezing Level	1100 to 1200m. Beware icy rock surfaces on highest tops.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 16 December	Wednesday 17 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southwesterly 25 to 35mph. Strengthening onward into night to gales. Blustery and starting to affect comfortable walking and balance on exposed higher terrain, considerable wind chill.	South-southwesterly 50 to 60mph, often 70mph higher Cairngorms, powerful gusts in places downslope to north. Challenging conditions over the mountains, walking difficult in exposure, sudden buffeting to some mid-slopes.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Local showers west Risk of occasional showers mostly toward Ben Alder, falling as snow flurries above 800-900m. More likely substantially dry much of Cairngorms NP.	Rain and some hill snow, mostly south Rain and initially snow above 700-900m from before dawn, turning to rain during morning toward higher slopes, heaviest southern Cairngorms NP, some heavy; less toward north. Later becoming showery.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Patches some slopes, clearer north/east Patchy cloud banks likely to drift over some higher slopes, mostly above 800-900m in the southwestern Cairngorms to Ben Alder, but good breaks likely. More often clear to tops further east and north. 60%	Extensive higher areas Shrouding most higher terrain all day, from mid-slopes up southern Cairngorms around to Drumochter. Mostly higher tops northward, but rarely above summits. 30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine most frequent north/east, glimpses elsewhere. Visibility excellent out of cloud.	Overcast and murky south. Better visibility below cloud and if drier locally north.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0 to 1C. Feeling like -10C directly in the wind. 900 to 1000m. Slight frost sheltered glens in morning.	0C rising to 3 or 4C. Feeling like -12 to -15C directly in the wind. Varying, 800-1000m in morning, then rising above highest summits; then into night dropping to 1100-1200m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 16 December, 2025**

Prolonged rain will leave flooding of streams and rivers in many mountain areas early in the new week, with the exception of northeastern Scotland. As a front clears Monday into Tuesday it will drop to freezing above 900m, beware of ice forming on higher Scottish mountains. Drier conditions for many on Tuesday, though showery near west coast of Scotland. By Wednesday, another system sweeps in from the Atlantic bringing further rain and gales. A risk of more heavy rain particularly England and Wales later in the week. A change of weather pattern is likely in the run up to Christmas, as high pressure builds northward, bringing drier weather, possibly chillier with time.

Forecast issued at 16:00 on Sunday, 14 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.