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.



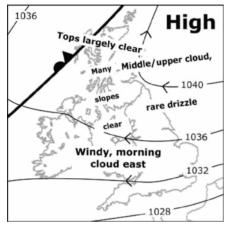
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General Summary for Wednesday, 24 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 24 December, 2025

Patchy cloud on middle and high slopes of central and east Scottish Highlands, clearer west and north; high summits clear too. Most cloud in England stays east of the Pennines, little west including Lakeland where isolated to summits. Gusty wind in Wales, risk gales south; early cloud in the east will break.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Summits and northern slopes likely clear; light wind

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 24 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	South-southeasterly 10-15mph, some variability and gusty.	
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small though nuisance gusts will be common.	
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Most hills dry Some spots of fine drizzle where in cloud, largely dry.	
Cloud on the hills?	Mostly middle and low eastern/southern slopes	
	Cloud banks variably covering many slopes of the southern Cairngorms/Deeside, largely below 900m and may be in several layers, including into the Glens.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	90% (summits above cloud)	
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Most slopes sunny with good visibility, particularly on the high tops. More cloud lower slopes of southern Cairngorms and Deeside, a slight haze here.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	Many south and east slopes -1 or 0C, locally up to 2C northwest of Aviemore. Temperature rises with height above about 1000m, some high sunny tops reaching 3C.	
Freezing Level	Poorly defined, generally between 900-1100m, some frosts in sheltered glens/corries; high summits likely above freezing.	

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 25 December	Friday 26 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	Southeasterly 15-20mph, some gustiness. Fairly small though turbulent gusts likely at all elevations.	East to northeasterly or variable, 10 to 15mph or less, but tending to increase a little during daytime, local 20mph south. Mostly small.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Most hills dry Some fine drizzle where in cloud Deeside/east Cairngorms.	Precipitation not expected
Cloud on the hills?	Middle slopes south and east Banks of cloud between 600-1000m on southern Cairngorms slopes, may be more sheet-like east Cairngorms and Deeside. High tops will be above the cloud layer, little cloud near/northwest of Aviemore.	Many tops clear, risk some cloud east Patchy fog mainly glens or lower slopes. Some cloud banks may exist on some slopes in range 600 to 1000m, mainly east and northeastern areas, highest tops likely above this cloud.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80% (tops above cloud layer)	70%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunny on the summits in very clear air. Least sun lower east slopes though visibility remains good out of cloud.	Sunshine best in west, and perhaps widely over higher tops, locally cloudier east. Visibility excellent, some mist lower down.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 or 0C, rise in temperature with added height, up to 3C on high summits; a few degrees warmer north and west.	0 to 2C, small variation with height, some corries and glens stay colder, whilst highest tops may be slightly warmer.
Freezing Level	Poorly defined: locally in the east above 700m, frost in glens. Summits above freezing as well as north/west slopes.	Frost in most glens, terrain at least partly frozen higher up, but air temperature likely above freezing on high tops.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 25 December, 2025

Christmas Day will be dry: easterly winds are dominant, strongest in England and Wales and most cloud east of the high tops: may be fairly sheet-like sometimes, though variably more extensive or broken, best of sun breaks in western areas. Turning cooler too, the coldest air in England and Wales with freezing levels reaching as low as 300-600m in east Wales, though poorly defined.

High pressure stays put to the north into the weekend, maintaining dry weather, easterly winds, and mixed cloud and sunshine, most of the cloud in eastern areas. Temperatures will be variable, becoming milder for a time in England and Wales, with poorly defined freezing levels.

Forecast issued at 15:44 on Tuesday, 23 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.