MOUNTAIN WEATHER INFORMATION SERVICE

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

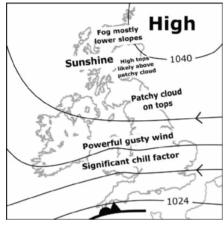
Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Thursday, 25 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 25 December, 2025

Dry with sunshine best in west and northern Scotland, high terrain warmer than many lower slopes, local low-level fog. High summits SE Highlands likely just above patchy cloud. Mostly cloudy Pennines, grazing tops, clearer westward across the Lakes. Gusty easterly winds, strongest further south, gale-force in Wales.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Sunshine, some patchy cloud south/east; gusty wind in places.

Detailed Forecast for Thursday, 25 December, 2025

How windy? (On the	East-southeasterly 15-20mph, strongest toward south, but some gustiness widely.	
Munros)	Last-southeasterly 10-2011ph, strongest toward south, but some gustiness widely.	
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small though turbulent gusts likely at all elevations.	
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Dry all day	
Cloud on the hills?	Patches on middle slopes south and east; clear north/west.	
	Patchy banks of cloud between 600-1000m on southern Cairngorms slopes and Deeside. High tops will be above the cloud layer. Clearer north/westward, little cloud around Strathspey and Glenmore, possibly patchy fog in glens.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80% south/east (tops above cloud layer); above 90% north/west.	
Sunshine?	Sunny on the summits in very clear air.	
Air clarity (below cloud)	Least sun lower east slopes though visibility remains good out of cloud.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 or 0C, but rise in temperature with added height, up to 3C local 5C on high summits; warmest north and west. Feeling nearer -5C if exposed to gusts.	
Freezing Level	Near or just below freezing point between 700-1000m, also frost in some glens. Summits above freezing as well as many sunlit slopes toward Strathspey.	

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Friday 26 December	Saturday 27 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	East to northeasterly or variable, 10 to 15mph or less, but tending to increase a little during daytime, local 20mph south. Mostly small.	East to northeasterly 20 to 25mph, stronger gusts around some slopes risk over 30mph, not just highest tops. Blustery in places, more noticeable locally and giving a distinct chill.
How wet?	Precipitation not expected	Rare light precipitation
(Precipitation and its impact)		Largely dry; a few brief spots of light rain, or snow grains on some slopes, mainly in the morning.
Cloud on the hills?	Many tops clear, risk some cloud east	Covering some slopes, tops likely clear
	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.	Banks of cloud mostly between 700 and 1000m, most persistent northern Cairngorms, may tend to break up; higher tops generally above cloud.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	70%	60%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine best in west, and perhaps widely over higher tops, locally cloudier east. Visibility excellent, some mist lower down.	Mix of cloud and sun, but high tops may be generally sunny. Visibility excellent out of cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to 2C, small variation with height, some corries and glens stay colder, whilst highest tops may be slightly warmer.	-1 to 2C, coolest north; slightly warmer on highest tops above an inversion. Feeling like -7 to -10C in stronger wind.
Freezing Level	Frost in most glens, terrain at least partly frozen higher up, but air temperature likely above freezing on high tops.	Varied partly frozen terrain, including frost into the glens, but above freezing some mid-slopes and on highest tops.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Friday, 26 December, 2025

Dry weather continues into the weekend as a strong area of high pressure resides near or north of Scotland. Inversion conditions Scottish mountains, high tops generally above freezing and above most patchy cloud, some frost and fog in glens. Gusty east-northeasterly wind increasing for Scotland by Saturday, easing again for Sunday. Strong and gusty winds prevail for England and Wales, often cloudy, a little light rain occasionally Pennines; some sun toward west. Next week stays dry for many, local showers northern Scotland, possibly turning chillier with northerly winds.

*** Wishing you a very happy Christmas and New Year from all the team at MWIS ***

Forecast issued at 16:20 on Wednesday, 24 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.