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.



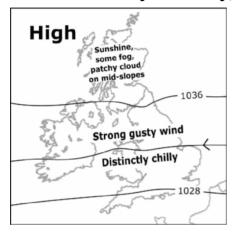
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General Summary for Friday, 26 December, 2025



British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 26 December, 2025

Generally dry, apart from chance of odd light showers eastern Scotland. Sunshine over most Scotlish mountains - the tops warmer than glens above an inversion; patchy low-level fog or cloud banks some slopes. Easterly winds remain strong and gusty England and Wales, feeling bitterly cold in exposure despite plenty of sun.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Sunshine, patchy cloud toward southeast, mostly light wind.

Detailed Forecast for Friday, 26 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	East to northeasterly or variable, 10mph or less most areas, local gusts 15-20mph southern Cairngorms NP. Increasing northeasterly 20-25mph into night.		
Effect of wind on you?	Mostly small.		
How wet?	Precipitation rare if any		
(Precipitation and its impact)	Locally chance of brief snow grains on easternmost hills around Deeside, occasional drizzly spots lower slopes.		
Cloud on the hills?	Many tops clear, some cloud banks south/east hills		
	Patchy fog mainly glens or lower slopes. Some cloud banks mostly around Deeside perhaps areas near Glen Garry on some slopes in range 600 to 1000m; higher tops likely above this cloud. Largely clear hills around Strathspey.		
Chance of cloud free Munros?	80% (higher tops above cloud locally)		
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Sunshine best around Strathspey to Glenmore, and widely over higher tops, locally cloudier southeast. Visibility excellent, some mist lower down.		
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 to 2C, small variation with height, some corries and glens stay colder, whilst highest tops up to 4 or 5C.		
Freezing Level	Frost in many inland glens, all day out of sunlight; terrain at least partly frozen higher up, but air temperature above freezing on higher tops.		

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Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Saturday 27 December	Sunday 28 December
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	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.	North to northeasterly or variable, 10mph or less. Small
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rare light precipitation Largely dry; a few brief spots of light rain, or snow grains on some slopes.	Dry all day
Cloud on the hills?	Covering some slopes, tops likely clear Banks of cloud mostly between 700 and 1000m, most persistent northern Cairngorms, may tend to break up; higher tops generally above cloud.	None expected Fog patches some glens, perhaps an odd pocket of mist in some corries. Otherwise the mountains clear.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60%	Above 90%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mix of cloud and sun, but high tops may be generally sunny. Visibility excellent out of cloud.	Widely sunny. Visibility excellent.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 to 2C, coolest north; slightly warmer on highest tops above an inversion. Feeling like -7 to -10C in stronger wind.	3C, inversion conditions - hills warmer than lower slopes all day - up to 5C highest summits.
Freezing Level	Varied partly frozen terrain, including frost into the glens, but above freezing some mid-slopes and on highest tops.	Frost in glens and lower slopes, also in some upland hollows and corries, all day out of sunlight; above freezing on tops.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Saturday, 27 December, 2025

Dry weather continues into the weekend as a strong area of high pressure resides near or north of Scotland. Inversion conditions Scotlish 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.

Forecast issued at 16:20 on Thursday, 25 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.