#### 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.

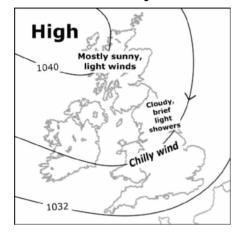


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## General Summary for Tuesday, 30 December, 2025



# British Mountain Summary: Based on forecast chart for noon 30 December, 2025

Quiet but chilly conditions, light winds and plenty of sunshine for much of the Highlands, much terrain frozen, sub-zero all day over hills and in some glens. A cold east-northeasterly breeze England and Wales, strongest toward south; fairly cloudy, locally an odd snow flurry over the Pennines.

#### **Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath**

Cold, but wind fairly light. Patchy cloud and sunshine.

# Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 30 December, 2025

How windy? (On the Munros)	Northerly gradually turning toward northwesterly later, 10 to 20mph, strongest eastern areas.	
Effect of wind on you?	Fairly small, but marked chill where exposed to the breeze.	
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Precipitation not expected	
Cloud on the hills?	Occasional patches over tops	
	Patchy cloud on upper slopes from 800m mostly across the northern Cairngorms.  Clearer in the south.	
	Most hills clearing for periods.	
Chance of cloud free Munros?	60% north, 80% south.	
Sunshine?	Broken cloud and sunshine.	
Air clarity (below cloud)	Visibility very good.	
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C. Wind chill feeling like -7 to -10C.	
Freezing Level	Terrain frozen from lower slopes upwards, with frost into the glens in morning.	

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#### Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 31 December	Thursday 1 January
How windy? (On the Munros)  Effect of wind on you?	Westerly 20 to 30mph, increasing through day to 30 to 40mph, risk 45mph north Cairngorms later.  Be prepared for increasingly fairly arduous conditions through the day with significant buffeting and wind chill.	Northwesterly 40 to 60mph, strongest higher Cairngorms, squally gusts in showers.  Arduous walking conditions in exposure, difficult with constant buffeting high tops. Significant wind chill, severe higher up.
How wet?	Mostly dry	Snow and hail, most often north
(Precipitation and its impact)	Mostly dry, but a few patches of light rain and snow may move in from the west later. Snow falling above 500 to 800m.	Showers or sometimes more persistent falls of snow moving across the northern Cairngorms and Monadhliath, also hail, falling to lower slopes. Less precipitation toward Glen Garry.
Cloud on the hills?	Lowering onto hills from west.	Often covering tops
	May well start mostly clear the mountains, but increasingly low cloud will move in from the west to cover upper slopes or tops.  Eastern mountains may stay clear.	Cloud base varying, but often capping higher slopes above 700-900m, most persistent northern areas. Some breaks above 900-1000m Drumochter to Deeside.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	40% in west, 70% in east.	30%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Patches of sun, increasingly confined to east and cloud builds in. Visibility mostly very good, but poorer in any precipiatation.	Largely cloudy north, glimpses of sun more often south. Visibility very poor for periods in snow and cloud, but intermittently very good.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0 or -1C. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the strongest winds.	-3C (-5C high tops), falling to -5 to -7C into night. Wind chill feeling like -15C, to -20C higher Cairngorms.
Freezing Level	Freezing at all levels at first, before freezing level rises through day to 700-900m.	Near or below freezing from the glens upward; most terrain frozen.

## **Planning Outlook**

#### All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 31 December, 2025

Significantly cold wintry conditions into the start of January. Air temperature well below freezing on high terrain, plus low minima into many glens and valleys with sustained hard frost. Strong northerly winds later this week giving severe wind chill. Frequent and heavy snow showers moving into northern areas and running down coastal extremities with significant accumulations. Elsewhere, lots of dry and sunny weather, although occasional organised bands of snow will feed south at times in the Arctic airflow. Staying cold into next week with scope for snowfalls more widely.

#### Forecast issued at 16:20 on Monday, 29 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.