

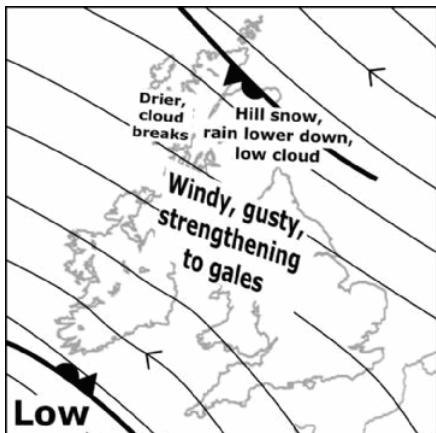
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 2 February, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 2 February, 2026

Strong and gusty east-southeasterlies, gale-force in places, speeds generally increasing over England & Wales with time. Snow frequent or persistent for eastern Scottish hills, rain lower ground; whiteout over higher areas with blanket cloud. Largely dry west coasts with higher and more broken cloud.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Windy, gusts to gale-force. Snow and whiteout on hills.

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 2 February, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly 30-40mph, lowest speeds early morning toward south and west of Cairngorms. Generally rising speeds and gusts afternoon, later reaching 50mph around higher tops.
Effect of wind on you?	Walking impeded over exposed terrain most of day, in places more arduous with buffeting gusts and significant wind chill; tending to deteriorate later.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow south and east Cairngorms Showery snow affecting the south and east Cairngorm plateau much of the day, merging into more constant falls; rain below 600m, though later snow starting to fall lower. Patchy snow/rain will reach Drumochter at times, more frequent snow here afternoon. Least precipitation Monadhliath, but some flurries reach here also at times.
Cloud on the hills?	Fairly extensive south and east Fog over the Cairngorm plateau most high terrain south and east of high summits, lowering to middle slopes during snow. Bases reaching towards 700m around Drumochter sometimes too. Highest breaks north Monadhliath.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Brief glimpses of sun in the Monadhliath where visibility good when dry. Otherwise cloudy, whiteout conditions at times in fog over snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1C, dropping to -3C by dusk. Feeling like -12 to -15C in the wind.
Freezing Level	800m tending to drop during afternoon to 500-600m.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 3 February	Wednesday 4 February
How windy? (On the Munros)	Easterly 40 to 55mph, very gusty in places over high Cairngorms and on downslopes west of high terrain.	Easterly 30 to 50mph, very gusty. May start to ease and turn southeasterly.
Effect of wind on you?	Challenging walking conditions, more difficult in places, frequent buffeting affecting balance; significant wind chill.	Challenging conditions with frequent buffeting gusts, significant wind chill; possibly improving from south.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow most continuous east Frequent to persistent snow over the Cairngorms and areas to the south and east, falling to most lower slopes, sleet only lower Deeside. Patchier flurries westward, least toward Monadhliath.	Snow continuing east Snow most persistent over the eastern Cairngorms NP, some constant heavier falls possible, sleet only lower slopes toward Deeside. Patchier westwards, very little much of Monadhliath.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive Shrouding higher terrain fairly widely, from 600 to 800m in eastern areas, 800 to 1000m west from Cairngorm plateau.	Fairly extensive, lowest east Cloud shrouding the mountains widely, from mid slopes upward in east and southeast Cairngorms NP. Some higher bases toward Strathspey, local break.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	10%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast, dull in east. Hazy lower down, whiteout higher areas in snow and cloud.	Overcast and dull or misty. Whiteout over tops in fog and snow, locally better visibility western areas.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-4C. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -20C.	-3C, rising slightly during day. Wind chill feeling like -12 to -17C.
Freezing Level	Most terrain frozen from lower slopes upward, around 300-400m.	400 to 600m, tending to rise from south. Onward into evening likely to rise variably higher up.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 3 February, 2026**

Easterly winds prevail this week, strong to gale force over many hills for sustained periods. Freezing levels will vary, but in the Highlands rarely above 800m away from the west coast, at times sub-zero from 400-500m upward. In England and Wales only occasionally dropping below 600m, and at times just above freezing to high tops. Further snow focused on eastern Scottish mountains, with additional accumulations and drifting; very little further west. Some periods of hill snow for England and Wales during midweek. Cold easterly patterns are expected to continue onward into mid February, though higher pressure to the north may see reduced precipitation amounts, always driest with highest cloud in west.

Forecast issued at 16:26 on Sunday, 1 February, 2026

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, 2026.