

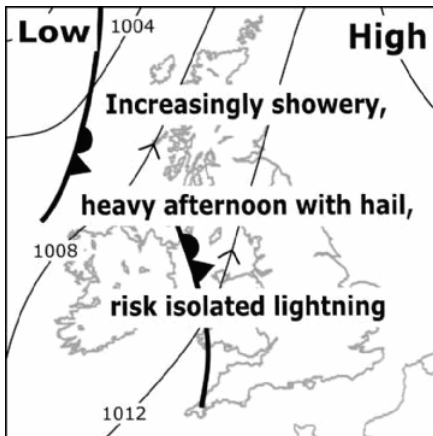
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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, 13 April, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 13 April, 2026

Heavy showers with hail from dawn in northwest Scotland, snow falling as low as middle-slopes. Hail showers become widespread afternoon, a risk of isolating lightning. Cloud above most hills between showers. Chilly temperatures, slightly rising in sun, but suddenly chilly again around showers and also gusty.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Morning sun, afternoon hail showers, risk isolated lightning

Detailed Forecast for Monday, 13 April, 2026

<p>How windy? (On the Munros)</p> <p>Effect of wind on you?</p>	<p>Southerly, 20 to 25mph; in the morning, southwesterly and risk 30mph higher Cairngorms and more eastern tops. gusty later around showers, and may rise again to 30mph late in the day.</p> <p>Fairly small, but more noticeably blustery on some exposed tops in the morning, giving considerable wind chill, perhaps late in the day too. Sudden gusts may briefly affect stability.</p>
<p>How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)</p>	<p>Hail showers forming widely afternoon, persistent for a few later hours</p> <p>Much of the morning dry, an odd early shower around Drumochter. A scattering of brief showers forming from midday, becoming more widespread with time, suddenly persistent and heavy later afternoon with hail, and snow falling as low as 700m; risk isolated thunder & lightning. Becoming scattered again into night.</p>
<p>Cloud on the hills?</p> <p>Chance of cloud free Munros?</p>	<p>Often above hills, varied in showers, most later afternoon</p> <p>Patches of cloud forming around some upper slopes in the morning, mostly southern areas, lifting above many tops through morning, only odd caps around midday on western summits. Then occasional banks forming over hills during and after showers, risk becoming more extensive over high terrain later afternoon, lower bases south.</p> <p>80%, lowering to 60% later afternoon</p>
<p>Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)</p>	<p>Sunshine best in north & east in morning, perhaps more widely for a few hours, but then cloud building afternoon, leaving brief bursts of sun. Visibility excellent, but briefly very poor in showers.</p>
<p>How Cold? (at 900m)</p> <p>Freezing Level</p>	<p>-1C rising to +2C, or a degree warmer on northern slopes, but dropping a few degrees in showers. Wind chill feeling like -6C to near -10C early in day on tops.</p> <p>700-800m at first, also frost in sheltered glens; rising to 1100m into middle of the day and afternoon, locally 1200m north slopes east of Ben Macdui.</p>

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Tuesday 14 April	Wednesday 15 April
How windy? (On the Munros) Effect of wind on you?	South to southeasterly, 15 to 20mph in morning, strengthening afternoon toward 30mph later. Into night likely over 45mph. Fairly small for half the day or more, but likely becoming more blustery over higher terrain with time.	Southerly 40-55mph, very gusty, not just at high elevations, locally variable direction, risk stronger for a time. Challenging conditions with significant wind chill in exposure likely all day; chaotic gusts constantly affecting balance.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Rain not expected until night Likely dry during daylight. Into dusk, patchy rain develops from southwest, increasingly frequent overnight.	Frequently raining Rain fairly widespread in the morning, local heavy falls, trending showery but remaining drizzly on high terrain even between spells of rain. Later, becoming more frequent and heavy again.
Cloud on the hills? Chance of cloud free Munros?	Little if any Fragments of cloud around some slopes early morning, also mist in some glens at first. Dispersing to leave hills generally clear. A few odd cloud caps may reform on high tops late in the day, deteriorating overnight. 90%	Fairly extensive, local high breaks north Extensive to at least the middle slopes early, likely lower slopes in the south and west, to glen level around Drumochter. A lifting trend, towards 700-900m, higher breaks later but high summits will struggle to clear. Bases always higher on northern slopes. 20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly sunny morning, then patchwork of cloud and sun, high cloud gradually builds later. Visibility excellent.	A few glimpses of weak afternoon sun, but otherwise mostly cloudy. Mixed visibility, often poor in cloud/drizzle but very good where out of cloud.
How Cold? (at 900m) Freezing Level	0C rising to 4C; to 5C northwest areas. Feeling colder later in day as wind increases. 900-1000m early in day, plus frost in glens around dawn. Rising to 1200-1300m, then above all tops later.	6 or 7C, perhaps a degree milder on northern Cairngorm slopes. Feeling like -8C in strongest wind. Above the summits. Overnight, lowering to touch the high summits.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Tuesday, 14 April, 2026**

Tuesday starts largely dry and temperatures trend milder than prior days, but rain and strengthening south-southwesterly winds return from the west later. Milder into mid-late week, but Scottish high tops above 1200m close to freezing at times. Wednesday through Friday sees unsettled conditions with showers, occasionally more persistent rain, accompanied by strong gusty winds, gales over mountains for periods, but also brighter spells between rain. With strengthening sunshine, temperatures will tend to rise several degrees during daylight, often becoming warm in the valleys; slopes north of major hill groups often milder. Higher pressure gradually builds through next weekend, bringing fewer showers and lighter winds; chilly overnight, but fairly mild spring days.

Forecast issued at 16:20 on Sunday, 12 April, 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.