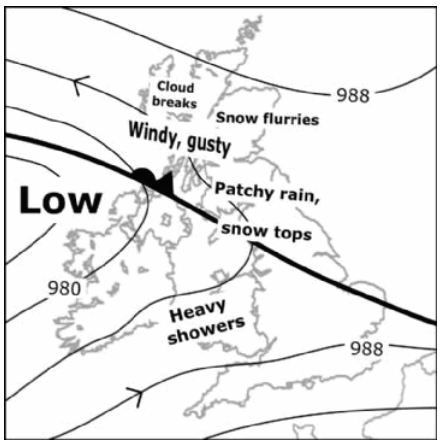
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

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

Tiso is Aviemore's specialist for Outdoor clothing, footwear, camping, cycling, skiing & equipment.
Cafe, expert boot fitting, bike & ski servicing & equipment hire available - Visit www.tiso.com

General Summary for Wednesday, 18 November, 2026



British Mountain Summary:
Based on forecast chart for noon 18 November, 2026

Strong easterly winds bring significant chill factor to Scottish mountains; some snow flurries mostly eastern areas. A slow-moving area of patchy rain and some hill snow for southern Scotland and northern England. Southwesterly winds for Wales, showery bursts with hail in the west and south.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Brisk winds, snow most frequent eastern hills, cloud on tops.

Detailed Forecast for Wednesday, 18 November, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	Easterly 25 to 30mph, in places gusty 35-40mph around higher Cairngorms and locally gusty down some western slopes.
Effect of wind on you?	**Strenuous walking with buffeting gusts in places affecting balance in exposure. Significant wind chill.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Snow flurries** Light snow may fall frequently in places, particularly more eastern hills; sleet or rain lower slopes below 600m. More often dry toward Ben Alder and Monadhliath.
Cloud on the hills?	**Fairly extensive higher areas** Shrouding most high terrain all day, some banks to lower levels in east. Local breaks may emerge toward Strathspey and westwards, rarely above tops.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**20%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Little or no sun, a veil of high cloud at best. Visibility good where dry, but often reduced, very poor at times if in snow.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 or -2C. Feeling like -10 to -15C in the wind.
Freezing Level	700-800m, lowest northeast.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Thursday 19 November	Friday 20 November
How windy? (On the Munros)	East-northeasterly 20 to 30mph.	Northeasterly then variable, 10-15mph or less, possibly 20mph higher eastern Cairngorms occasionally.
Effect of wind on you?	**Starting to affect ease of walking on some high terrain. Considerable wind chill.**	**Mostly small.**
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	**Local snow showers** Occasional snow showers or flurries, mostly north and eastern Cairngorms NP, possible brief hail mixed in.	**Local snow showers north** Occasional brief snow showers or flurries for the northern Cairngorms, perhaps Monadhliath; possible brief hail. Most southern areas largely dry.
Cloud on the hills?	**Capping tops most often in north** Banks of cloud drifting onto higher Cairngorms, mostly above 900m, most frequent in north and eastern areas, but often clearing above tops south and west.	**Varying, mostly northern areas** Cloud banks likely drift over higher and northern Cairngorms much of the morning, in places may persist above 800-1000m for a few hours. Tending to break further southwards and may widely disperse.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	**60%**	**50%**
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Intermittent sun, more often sunnier toward Drumochter. Visibility very good.	Occasional sun, mostly southern areas. Visibility excellent, locally reduced in any showers.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-1 or -2C. Feeling like -10C directly in the wind.	-1 or -2C.
Freezing Level	700m, rising marginally in middle of day. Frost widely in glens in morning.	700-800m. Frost in many glens in the morning.

Planning Outlook

All mountain areas of Britain from Thursday, 19 November, 2026

Staying below freezing over Scottish mountains late this week, varying around freezing for northern England, more often milder for Wales. Frost common into valleys and glens. Snow flurries mainly eastern and far northern Highlands, otherwise many places dry to end the week, winds dropping light Friday-Saturday. Southeasterly winds likely increase during the weekend, a risk of rain moving into Wales by Sunday, but elsewhere may well remain dry.
Into next week, uncertainty about the progress of Atlantic weather systems, which may pivot toward the south again, maintaining chilly easterly winds for Scotland at least, with further rain and hill snow possible, but there may be little precipitation west and particularly northwestern Highlands.

Forecast issued at 15:35 on Tuesday, 17 November, 2026

The Production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by 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.