

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 04 Mar 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 05 Mar 2022

Forecast Issued on Thursday 03 Mar 2022 at 14:25 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Low confidence for timing and eastern extent of drier conditions on Friday. Generally high confidence for the weekend and Monday, with main uncertainties cloud amounts. Lower confidence for Tuesday.

Headline for Friday 04 Mar 2022: Persistent snow gradually clearing to brighter conditions and snow showers from the west.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 04 Mar 2022

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Gales

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Low Likelihood

Poor visibility

High Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Heavy snow	Light snow	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)				
Precipitation probability							
70%	70%	70%	60%	60%	40%	20%	10%

Forecast for Friday 04 Mar 2022

Weather: Mainly light snow, with rain below around 500m, through the early hours and the morning. This persistent across the Cairngorms, but patchy further west with Creag Meagaidh and Ben Alder ranges likely to be largely dry by midday. Persistent snow should clear east in the afternoon, with brighter conditions developing in the west but scattered snow showers early to mid-afternoon. All ranges likely to be dry with some clear spells by late evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10-20% in the morning, 60% in the afternoon, best chance in the west.

Low cloud and visibility: Very poor in low cloud and snow with whiteout conditions, these likely to persist much of the day over the Cairngorms. Cloud extensive above 700-800m, but breaking up and lifting to around 1100m in the west, then perhaps also the Cairngorms through the afternoon. Visibility generally good below the cloud base, but 5-10 km in rain at low levels.

Forecast for Friday 04 Mar 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	12/15 N	14/18 N	14/19 N	15/21 N	16/22 N	17/24 N	19/25 N	20/27 N	21/29 N
900	7/10 N	8/12 N	9/13 N	11/16 N	12/18 N	13/19 N	14/19 N	15/22 N	16/23 N
600	4/7 N	5/8 NE	5/9 NE	5/9 N	8/13 N	9/15 N	8/13 N	9/15 N	8/15 N
300	3/8 NW	3/8 NW	4/8 N	3/8 N	6/13 N	7/15 N	5/11 N	5/11 N	5/11 N
Glen	4/10 NW	4/9 NW	3/9 NW	3/9 NW	5/13 N	6/15 N	4/12 NW	4/13 NW	4/12 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-4/-10	-4/-11	-5/-11	-5/-12	-4/-12	-4/-11	-5/-13	-5/-13	-6/-14
900	-1/-5	-1/-6	-2/-6	-2/-7	-1/-7	-1/-6	-2/-8	-2/-8	-3/-10
600	1/-1	1/-2	0/-2	1/-2	1/-2	2/-2	1/-3	-0/-4	-1/-5
300	3/2	3/1	2/0	3/1	4/2	4/2	2/0	2/-1	1/-2
Glen	4/2	3/2	2/1	3/2	6/3	5/2	3/1	2/-0	1/-2
Freezing Level*	700m	700m	700m	600m	700m	600m	600m	600m	500m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Persistent whiteout conditions for much of the day across the Cairngorms, but uncertainty in how far west these extend and how quickly they clear. Beware of icy conditions on paths where snowmelt from Thursday is likely to refreeze.

Forecast for Saturday 05 Mar 2022

Weather: Lengthy clear spells through the early hours to give a cold frosty start. Then a cold day with good sunny spells, best towards Ben Alder. Cloudier across the Monadhliath and Cairngorms, but still dry and bright. Northerly winds will give a chilly feel in the morning, but these should ease in the afternoon. A dry evening with clear spells.

Maximum wind: North 20 gusting 25 mph, becoming northeast 10-15 mph through the afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80%

Low cloud and visibility: Very good or excellent. Western hills likely to be cloud free, but occasional cloud will drift across the higher tops of the Cairngorms at times.

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 3 Celsius rising to plus 5 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 4 Celsius rising to minus 1 or zero Celsius.
Freezing level: Down to the glens, rising to 600m by day.