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## WE KNOW SNOW



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### Snow forecast - Thursday 20 December 2012

It's a complicated situation right now with very unsettled weather over the next few days, but also wildly fluctuating temperatures. There will be more snow for some, particularly at altitude in the north and west. Lower down, however, these same areas will also see rain, heaviest on Saturday afternoon/evening/night. Sunday and Monday (Christmas Eve) will then be exceptionally warm for the time of year (freezing levels 3000m+ in the west) before colder, snowier conditions return on Christmas Day/Boxing Day.

#### Detailed forecast:

##### Austria

Today (**Thursday**) will be bright or sunny across most of **Austria**, but cloud will thicken up in the far west (e.g. **Lech, St Anton**) with the chance of a snow flurry (800m) later in the day. **Friday** will be generally cloudy with showers or longer outbreaks of snow for most regions (800-1000m) again heaviest in the west.

On **Saturday**, a few snow showers (800-1000m) will linger in the eastern Austrian Alps. Otherwise most places will be dry and bright for a time before cloud thickens up in the west later. On **Sunday** it will be cloudy again, but milder with rain at times low down and some snow above 1000-1400m (perhaps higher close to the north-western fringes of the Alps).

**Monday** (Christmas Eve) will be exceptionally mild but mostly dry with some sunshine and just the odd snow flurry at high altitude.



Sunny this morning in northern Austria, including Wildschönau (pictured) - [www.viewbitto.com](http://www.viewbitto.com)

##### France

Today (**Thursday**) will be cloudy with scattered snow showers becoming more widespread later, especially in the northern Alps. It will turn milder, however, with the rain/snow limit rising to 1500m or so by the evening. **Friday** will again be mostly cloudy with the chance of a few showers (snow above 1200m) but also some sunny spells, especially in the southern Alps.

**Saturday** may start dry but rain will spread in from the west, heavy at times later with snow above 1000m then 2000m in the evening and overnight. **Sunday** will be very mild but mostly dry with sunny spells and just a few snow showers at high altitude.

**Monday** (Christmas Eve) will be exceptionally mild (freezing levels above 3000m) with sunny spells but thickening cloud in the south-west later in the

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6h

Italian village breaks world 24hr snowfall record!

[#snow](http://tinyurl.com/o4u6lmb)

[pic.twitter.com/JqVV9dRD5C](https://pic.twitter.com/JqVV9dRD5C)

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9h


Colder with some snow in the far eastern Alps. Mostly fine elsewhere.

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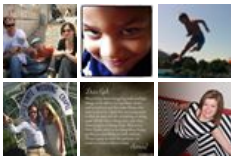
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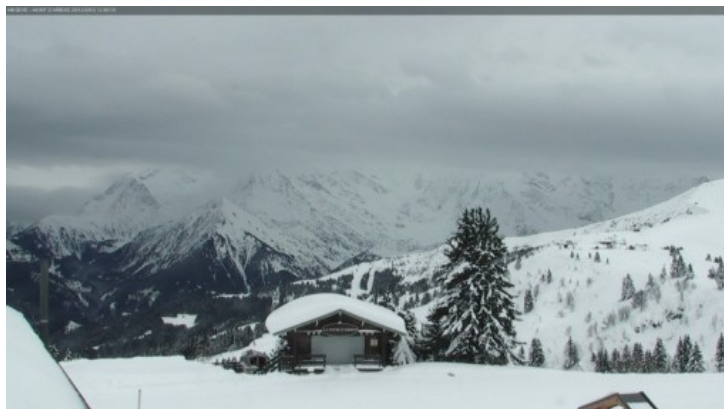
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day.



Cloudy again in the French Alps today with rain/snow showers expected in Megève - [www.megeve.com](http://www.megeve.com)

## Italy

Western Italian resorts (e.g. **Courmayeur, La Thuile**) will be mostly cloudy today (**Thursday**) with a few snow showers later (800-1000m). Further east (e.g. the **Dolomites**) there will also be some cloud at times, but here it should stay bright. **Friday** will be mostly dry and quite mild with sunny spells for most.

**Saturday** will also stay mostly dry with sunny spells in eastern resorts, but cloud will thicken up in the far north-west with some snow above 2000m close to the French border later. **Sunday** will be very mild with sunny spells, and just the chance of a few snow flurries at high altitude close to the border areas. It will remain exceptionally mild on **Monday** (Christmas Eve) with thickening cloud in the west later.



A bit cloudy today in Livigno, but it should stay dry - [www.valtline.it](http://www.valtline.it)

## Switzerland

Today (**Thursday**) will be mostly cloudy with showers in the west extending gradually further east later in the day. The rain/snow limit will stay low in the more sheltered valleys of the central Swiss Alps but rise to 1200m or higher in more exposed northern and western regions. **Friday** will see further showers (snow above 1000m) in the eastern Swiss Alps but brighter conditions with just isolated showers further west.

**Saturday** will start dry but rain will spread across the western Swiss Alps as the day goes on with snow only above 800 then 2000m or higher overnight. Eastern regions may hang on to some brightness until late in the day.

**Sunday** will be very mild but showers (snow 2000m+) should quickly die out, with brighter spells expected later.

**Monday** (Christmas Eve) will also be exceptionally mild but mostly dry with sunny spells.



Bright first thing in Zermatt this morning, but it won't last - [www.zermatt.ch](http://www.zermatt.ch)

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#### Outlook:

There is still a lot of uncertainty with the outlook, but it does look like turning colder on Christmas Day (**Tuesday**) with snow moving east across the Alps. Remaining unsettled with fluctuating temperatures thereafter.

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**Next detailed forecast on Christmas Eve (Monday 24 December), but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates**