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Snow forecast - Thursday 27 December 2012

Austria

It's still bright in the eastern Austrian Alps this morning (**Thursday**) but cloud is thicker further west (e.g. **Lech/St Anton**) where showers (snow above 1300m) are expected later. A few showers may also break out elsewhere in Austria today, but many regions will stay dry until nightfall. **Friday** will be cloudy everywhere with showers or longer spells of snow (700m) perhaps easing off in the west later.

Saturday will be drier, brighter and much milder everywhere. **Sunday** should also be mostly dry and bright but it may turn cloudier for a time later.

A major Atlantic storm has reached the Alps today with significant snow at altitude across the northern and western Alps but also some rain lower down. With some exceptions, most southern and eastern areas are less affected.

Detailed forecast:



Bright start in Wildschönau, but cloud is thickening from the west - www.viewbto.com

France

The northern French Alps (as far south as about **Serre Chevalier**) will be cloudy today (**Thursday**) with rain or snow, heavy at times particularly later this afternoon. The rain/snow limit, which started at 800-1000m this morning, will rise to 1300-1500m this afternoon before lowering back to 800m this evening and overnight. Above 1500m some 30-50cm of new snow is likely in the Savoies, less further south. The far south (e.g. **Isola 2000**) should stay completely dry with bright spells.

Any residual snow showers should clear early on **Friday** to leave a generally dry and bright day with sunny spells and freezing levels around 1500m.

Saturday will also be dry and bright but also much milder. The weather will deteriorate again on **Sunday**, especially in the northern Alps where a few snow showers (1200m) are possible later.

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Italian village breaks world 24hr snowfall record!

tinyurl.com/o4u6lmb #snow

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

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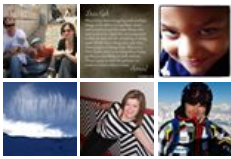


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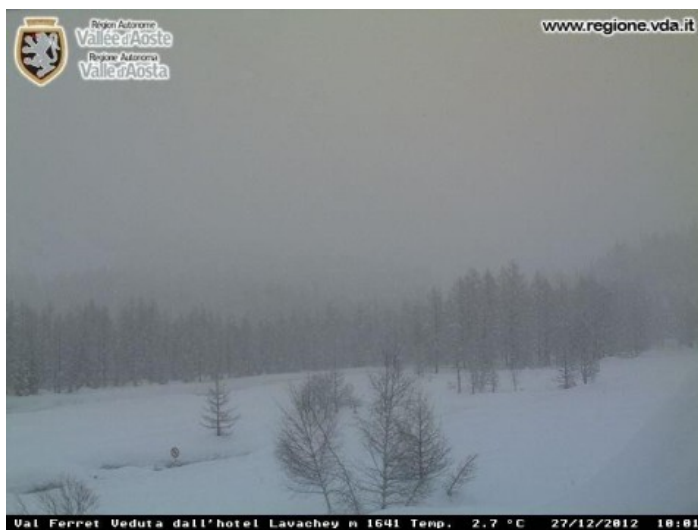


Heavy snow in Val d'Isère today - www.valdisere.com

Italy

It's snowing heavily today (**Thursday**) across the western Aosta valley (e.g. **Courmayeur, La Thuile**), but less so in other western resorts (e.g. **Champoluc, Sauze d'Oulx/Sestriere**) despite a lot of cloud. Further east (e.g. **Livigno, Selva**) it is brighter with sunny spells but cloud will thicken later in the day. Any snow will quickly die out from the west on **Friday** then many places will be dry with sunny spells, but a few snow showers (1000m) are possible in the Dolomites close to the Austrian border.

Saturday will be dry with plenty of sunshine and much milder. **Sunday** should also stay dry but it will turn cloudier in the north-western Italian Alps later.



Courmayeur is one of the few Italian resorts to get a share of heavy snow today. - www.regione.vda.it

Switzerland

Today (**Thursday**) will be mostly cloudy with rain/snow heaviest in the western Swiss Alps. Some eastern alpine regions may stay dry for a while but showers are likely here later. The rain/snow limit started quite low this morning but will rise to about 1300m in places before falling again to 800m this evening. Above 1500m, 30-40cm of snow is possible in parts of the western Alps (e.g. **Verbier**) by tomorrow morning, a bit less further east (e.g. **Laax**).

On **Friday** there will be snow showers in the northern and eastern Alps early on (e.g. **Engelberg, Davos**) but these should die away later, then most places should be dry with increasing amounts of sunshine and freezing levels close to 1500m.

Saturday will be dry and mostly sunny but much milder. **Sunday** will be cooler and cloudier again, especially in the northern and western Swiss Alps where a few snow showers are likely above 1200m.



Snowing in the Portes du Soleil today (including Les Crosets, pictured) though some rain is also likely below 1400m for a time - www.idelec.ch

Outlook:

It should be dry bright and mild on **Monday** before cooler more showery conditions spread from the north-west on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**, with a little snow in places.

Next detailed forecast on New Year's Eve (Monday 31 December), but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates