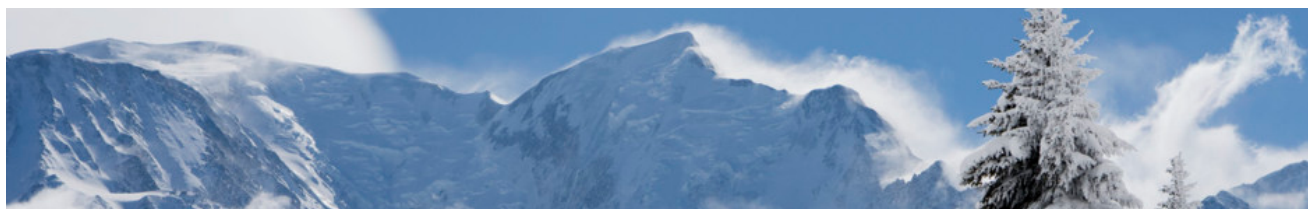




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Snow report - Friday 16 November 2012

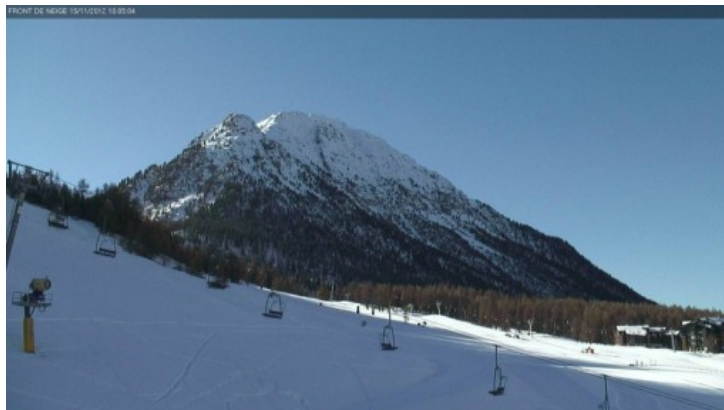
It's been a quiet week in the Alps, with plenty of sunshine and freezing levels above 3000m. As expected this has led to rapid thaw lower down and lots of more snow is needed over the next few weeks for the majority of resorts to open. High up there is still some excellent skiing to be had but, although there are some tentative signs that winter will make a return towards the end of the month, there is no significant snow forecast for at least the next week.

Austria

Austria still has the greatest variety of skiing in Europe right now. Leading the way is **Sölden** (upper base 83cm) where 16 lifts serve 76km of pistes - not all of which are confined to the glacier. Two other decent options are **Stubai** and **Hintertux**, both of which offer about 60km of runs and have over 1 metre of snow on the glacier. You can also ski on the glaciers at **Mölltal**, **Pitztal**, **Kaunertal**, **Kitzsteinhorn** and **Dachstein** as well as on three entirely non-glacial runs in **Schladming**. The best non-glacial skiing however is in **Obergurgl** where 15 lifts are open and there is 70cm up top.

France

Tignes remains the only option in France today - there is 60cm of snow on the glacier and you can ski back to Val Claret on the long Double M run. However, **Montgenèvre** (pictured) will join it tomorrow. More snow has fallen here this autumn than in most French resorts and 5 lifts will run this weekend for a special "pre-opening".



Plenty of snow in Montgenèvre which will open this weekend - www.montgenevre.com

Italy

Cervinia has good cover on its upper slopes (160cm) and is operating 9 lifts. As of today you can ski down to Plan Maison where the snow is 60cm deep, but there is still insufficient cover to get back to resort. Elsewhere, **Madonna di Campiglio** will open a limited number of runs for the first time this season, but the glacier at **Val Senales** (8 lifts - 100cm base) remains the best option in the eastern Italian Alps.

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8h

Italian village breaks world 24hr snowfall record!

[#snow](http://tinyurl.com/o4u6lmb)
pic.twitter.com/JqVV9dRD5C

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10h

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


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Madonna di Campiglio opens this weekend - www.funiviecampiglio.it

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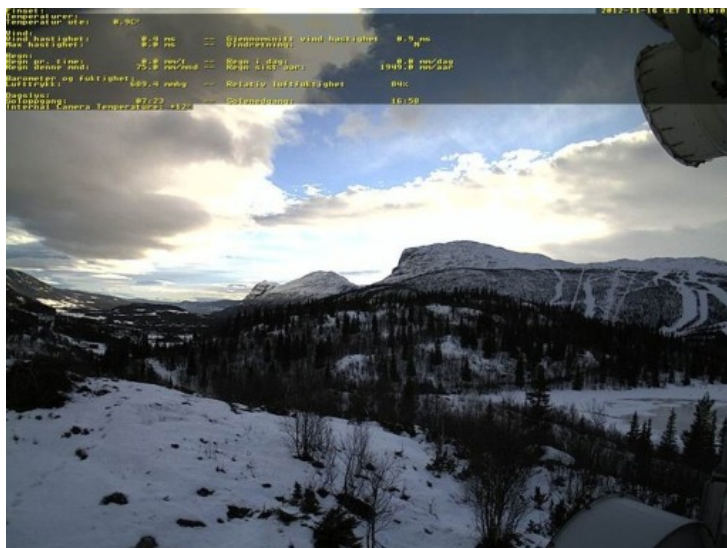
T: +44 (0)20 3151 3154

Switzerland

Zermatt (10 lifts, 150cm upper base) and **Saas-Fee** (6 lifts, 165cm) remain the best options in Switzerland. More limited skiing continues at Glacier 3000 (near **Les Diablerets**), Diavolezza (near **St Moritz**) and at weekends only in **Verbier**, **Laax** and **Zinal**. **Engelberg** will also re-open its glacier tomorrow following some maintenance.

Rest of Europe

A handful of resorts are open for business in Scandinavia where the best skiing is in **Hemsedal**, Norway (10 lifts, 65cm upper base). In Finland, **Ruka** (7 lifts, 27cm base) is one of several resorts also already open.



Hemsedal offers the best skiing in Scandinavia right now - www.hemsedal.com

USA

More and more resorts have been opening up in North American helped by recent storms. In California, **Mammoth** is operating 7 lifts on a 46cm base. **Heavenly** (pictured) is also open albeit in a very limited capacity. Further north, parts of Utah saw over 1 metre of fresh snow last week enabling **Snowbird** to offer some excellent early conditions. Many Colorado resorts are also partially open including **Breckenridge** (3 lifts, 45cm upper base).



Heavenly seems to be living up to its name - www.vailresorts.com

Canada

Early season conditions are shaping up quite nicely in Canada where **Lake Louise/Banff** (12 lifts, 73cm upper base) celebrated one of their best ever (and earliest) openings last week.

Next full snow report on Wednesday 21 November, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates