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### Snow report - Wednesday 21 November 2012

There's plenty of snow at high altitude in the Alps, but lower down the thaw continues and lots more snow is needed over the next few weeks before the majority of resorts can open. This is not at all unusual for this time of year – it's only November – and there is hope that winter may return as early as next week.

#### Austria

Austria still has the greatest variety of skiing in Europe right now. Leading the way is **Sölden** (upper base 82cm) where 18 lifts serve 68km 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**. However, the best non-glacial skiing is in **Obergurgl** where 15 lifts are open and there is 70cm up top. Today will be bright again but expect cloudier skies on Thursday.

#### France

**Tignes** is the only resort offering any skiing in France until the weekend. 7 lifts are in operation and there is 60cm of snow on the glacier. You can still ski down to Val Claret on the long Double M run, but generally speaking cover at resort level is now thin.

This weekend sees **Val Thorens** (60cm up top) open some pistes for the first time. **Montgenèvre** will also offer another pre-season taster before things kick off properly on 1 December. The weather is slowly turning unsettled and there is a chance that winter will return next week.



Montgenèvre has more snow than most French resorts - [www.montgenevre.com](http://www.montgenevre.com)

#### Italy

**Cervinia** is the best option in Italy right now with 8 lifts running and 160cm of snow up top. You can't ski back to resort yet, but the long runs down to Plan Maison (2550m) are open and skiing nicely. Further east, **Cortina** has announced that it will open a few runs tomorrow, but the best option remains the glacier above **Val Senales**, which is also operating 8 lifts and has 100cm of snow. Both resorts will be bright or sunny for most of today, but cloudier on Thursday with the chance of a light flurry. More substantial snow is possible next week.

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8h

Italian village breaks world 24hr snowfall record!

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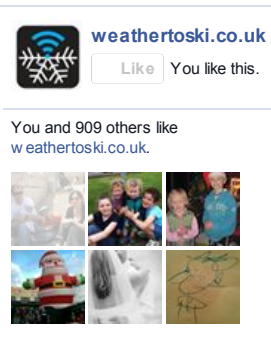
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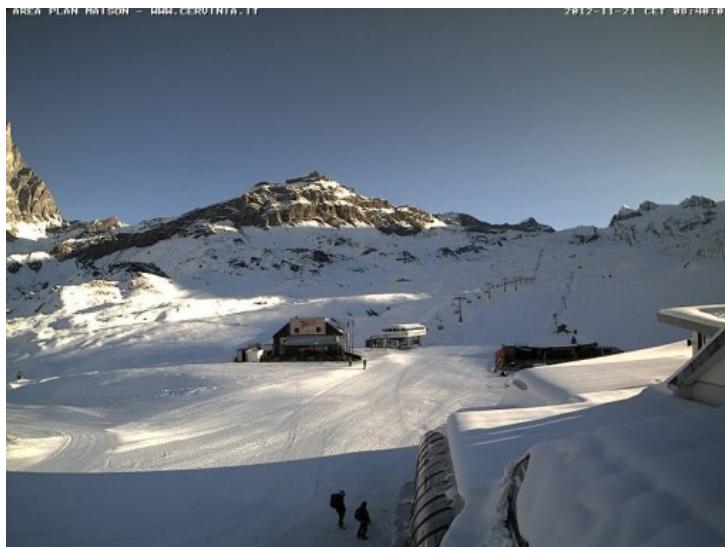
## Contact us...

Got a burning question about  
weather or snow conditions in  
the Alps?

[Contact us](#) and we'll do our  
best to answer it...

E: [info@weathertoski.co.uk](mailto:info@weathertoski.co.uk)

T: +44 (0)20 3151 3154



Cervinia offers the best skiing in Italy right now - [www.cervinia.it](http://www.cervinia.it)

## Switzerland

**Zermatt** (12 lifts, 90cm upper base) and **Saas-Fee** (5 lifts, 145cm) remain the best options in Switzerland. More limited skiing is available in **Engelberg**, **Davos**, at Glacier 3000 (near **Les Diablerets**), Diavolezza (near **St Moritz**) and at weekends only in **Verbier**, **Laax**, **Zinal** and **Andermatt**.



View from top of the Zermatt ski area this morning (Klein Matterhorn) - [www.zermatt.ch](http://www.zermatt.ch)

## Rest of Europe

A handful of resorts are open for business in Scandinavia where the best skiing is in **Hemsedal**, Norway (9 lifts, 60cm upper base). In Finland, **Ruka** (7 lifts, 27cm base) is one of several resorts also already open.

## USA

California has lots of new snow. Leading the way is **Mammoth** where the mid-mountain base is 91cm deep and 73 runs (34 groomed) are now open. More limited terrain is available in a number of Lake Tahoe resorts including **Kirkwood** (pictured) and **Heavenly**, though lack of snow is clearly not an issue! Early season conditions are also excellent in Utah where **Snowbird** and **Alta** are both operational, but many Colorado resorts could do with more snow. Several (including **Breckenridge** and **Vail**) are partially open, but cover is thin and artificial help is the order of the day.



Lots of fresh snow for the Californian resorts - [www.kirkwood.com](http://www.kirkwood.com)

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## Canada

Lots of snow has been falling in western Canada where **Whistler** is now offering 6 runs on a mid-mountain base of 86cm. **Sun Peaks** (3 lifts, 53cm mid-mountain base) also opened last weekend but the best conditions are in **Banff/Lake Louise** (16 lifts, 83cm snow base).



Lots of early snow for Banff/Lake Louise - [www.skilouise.com](http://www.skilouise.com)

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Next full snow report on Friday 23 November, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates