

WE KNOW SNOW



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Snow report - Boxing Day, Wednesday 26 December 2012

It has been much milder of late, but snow cover is still exceptional across the north-western Alps, particularly at altitude. Further south and east snow depths are (on the whole) more "normal" for the time of year. It has cooled down again in the last 24hrs with a little new snow in places, and heavier snowfalls are forecast tomorrow.

Austria

It has been exceptionally mild in Austria but things have cooled down overnight with a little fresh snow at altitude. It is raining this morning in Kitzbühel (50-105cm), but snowing above 1000m and cover is still good for the time of year. Higher up, **Obergurgl** (100-215cm) has 5-10cm of fresh snow at all levels, as does Ischgl (50/110cm) which, with 208km of pistes, continues to offer the greatest extent of skiing in Austria.



Snowing above Kitzbühel this morning. Raining at village level - www.kitz.net

France

Fresh snow has fallen in most French resorts overnight (away from the far south) with 15cm at altitude in Val Thorens (125/215cm) and Flaine (65/240cm). Lower down, however, there has also been some rain which means softer pistes for the likes of Les Gets (50/140cm) and Megève (80/150cm).



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Contact us...

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

<u>Contact us</u> and we'll do our best to answer it...

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Brightening up over Courchevel - www.chaletdespierres.com

Italy

A little snow has fallen at altitude across some resorts but generally speaking Italy has not had any significant snowfall for some time now. That said, snow depths are still impressive in **Courmayeur** (95/175cm) in the west of the country. Less so further east in **Cortina** (25/110cm) - though this is one of the resorts where it has been snowing this morning.



Snowing this morning in Arabba – but it won't amount to all that much - www.belledolomiti.it

Switzerland

Snow cover is still exceptional across most of Switzerland with a little fresh snow overnight, especially at altitude. Conditions are great in **Zermatt** where the deep snow pack has allowed more of the area's rocky terrain to open than is normal for this time of year. Further north in **Wengen** (40/100cm) there is also some excellent skiing at altitude though here the snow is softer lower down.



It's unusual to see this many runs open in the Sunnegga and Gornergrat sectors by Christmas due to the rocky terrain - www.zermatt.ch $\,$

Rest of Europe

Andorra is skiing quite well right now with some overnight snow freshening things up for **Soldeu** (40/85cm). Bulgaria is also enjoying a decent early season with 60/90cm in **Borovets** where upper pistes are described as excellent. Conditions continue to improve in **Åre**, Sweden where 54 runs are now open and the mid-mountain base has crept up to 41cm. The best skiing in Scandinavia, however, is perhaps still in **Hemsedal** (Norway) where most of the 48 runs are open and the snow is 75/80cm deep depending on altitude.

It has been a stormy week in Scotland with fluctuating temperatures and some loss of snow at lower altitudes. In theory, however, you can still ski to the car park at **Cairngorm** (20/65cm) where snow is still pretty impressive for Christmas, when in some years there may not be any snow at all.



The snow is getting a bit thin in the Lecht, Scotland, but at least there is still skiing www.lecht.co.uk

USA

There has been plenty going on across the pond this Christmas, not least in California where resorts such as **Kirkwood** (163/229cm) have had over 1.5m of snow in recent days with more on its way! Fresh snow has also fallen in Colorado where conditions continue to improve after their iffy start to the season. **Breckenridge**, for example, is now skiing superbly with a settled mid-mountain base of 87cm.

Canada

Excellent early season conditions continue in western Canada with fresh snow at all levels in **Whistler** where the mid-mountain base is just over 2 metres. As you can see there is also plenty of powder in the **Banff/Lake Louise** area where the snow pack is 133cm deep. It is cold, however (-20°C today) so wrap up warm!



Plenty of powder in the Lake Louise area right now - www.skilouise.com

Next snow report on Saturday 29 December, but see $\underline{\text{Today in the Alps}}$ for daily updates

