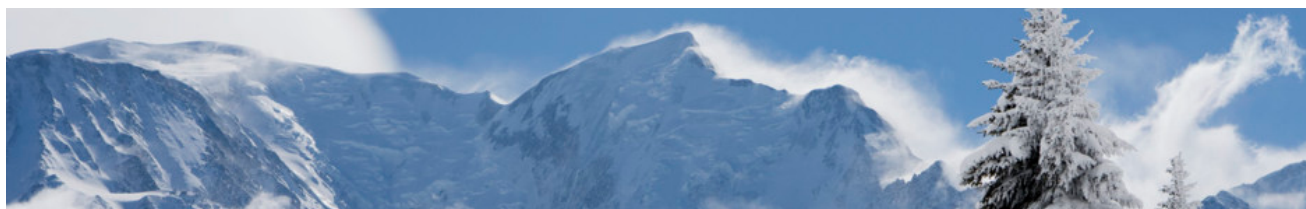




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Snow report - Tuesday 8 January 2013

Conditions in the Alps have been very mixed over the last few days. The eastern half of the Austrian Alps has had lots of rain/snow – the snow mostly above 1000-1200m, with considerable accumulations in places.

Lower down, however, the rain has led to a thaw, with some valley bottoms now looking a bit green. Western Austria and the far east of Switzerland have been on the margins of this bad weather with a few showers but no significant precipitation.

The rest of the Alps have been mostly mild and sunny, at least at altitude, with just a little nuisance-value low cloud plaguing the northern foothills.

The weather is set to change on Thursday with colder and (for some) snowy weather filtering down from the north. Next week could become exceptionally cold so stay tuned to our daily updates.

Austria

Conditions are very variable across Austrian resorts. In the far west, resorts such as **Lech** (90/205cm) have not had much new snow recently, but on-piste at least the skiing is still excellent.

Further east, there has been more in the way of rain/snow – the snow mostly above 1000-1200m, with considerable accumulations in resorts such as **Obertauern** (180/220cm). Lower down, however, resorts such as **Schladming** (50/80cm) have seen rain at resort level.

The good news for everyone is that it will turn much colder later this week and over the weekend with snow showers in many places.



Rain has taken its toll at lower levels in some Austrian resorts. This is Wildschönau - www.viewbitto.com

France

Generally speaking, conditions are still excellent in the French Alps, particularly at altitude in resorts such as **Val d'Isère** (120/250cm) and **Les Arcs** (85/220cm). However, recent freeze-thaw cycles have taken their toll on the lower slopes of resorts such as **Châtel** (50/160cm), which are hard and icy in places.

The good news is that it will turn colder later in the week with the prospect of fresh snow – particularly in the northern 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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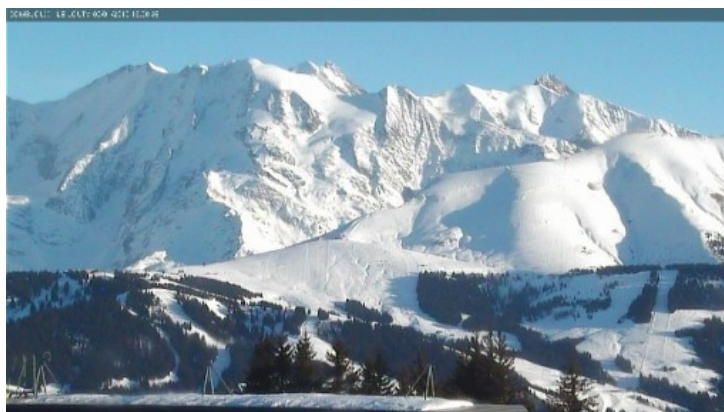
Contact us...

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

[Contact us](mailto:info@weathertoski.co.uk) and we'll do our best to answer it...

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Megève ski area from Combloux, with the Massif de Mont Blanc in the background

Italy

Italian resorts have seen very little in the way of new snow recently but, on the whole, snow depths are still good thanks to storms earlier in the season. This is particularly true in the west where **La Thuile** (50/200cm) and **Sauze d'Oulx** (80/150cm) both offer excellent on-piste conditions, particularly at altitude.

Further east, **Selva** (25-80cm) is also skiing well though some lower pistes are hard and icy. It will turn colder later this week, but it remains to be seen if there will be any significant snow.



Seemingly endless sunshine in Courmayeur - Photo: www.regione.vda.it

Switzerland

Like most of the Alps, there hasn't been much new snow recently, but conditions remain good, especially in the west where snow depths are still way above par for the time of year. The best skiing is on the higher slopes of resorts such as **Zermatt** (60/195cm) and **Verbier** (70/205), though some lower slopes are getting a bit hard and icy.

Colder conditions are forecast for later this week with some snow in places, particularly across the northern half of the Swiss Alps.



This is typical of the weather in the north-western Alps in recent days. Lots of sunshine at altitude, but some cloud trapped in low valleys. This is Villars - Photo: www.villars.ch

Rest of Europe

There hasn't been any significant snow for some time in Andorra, but most pistes are holding up reasonably well. It's mild and sunny again in **Soldeu** (30/60cm) today, but a return to winter is expected this weekend. Conditions are better in Bulgaria where **Borovets** (60/100cm) has had fresh snow and temperatures are well below freezing.

Scandinavian resorts also report good conditions, with 5cm of fresh snow for Sweden's **Åre** (30/60cm) which is skiing superbly after a slightly sluggish start to the season. Norway has been mostly dry recently, but snow cover remains excellent in most resorts including **Hemsedal** (65/105cm).

Scottish ski resorts have suffered in the recent mild weather with only **Cairngorm** (5/35cm) now offering limited skiing. The good news, however, is that colder snowier weather is forecast for this weekend.

USA

Mammoth, California (246/488cm) is in great shape from top to bottom and boasts the most impressive stats in North America. **Jackson Hole**, Wyoming (110/145cm) has also had an excellent start to the season with more snow expected on Thursday.

This snow should then spread into Colorado where conditions are good but snow depths are still modest. **Beaver Creek** has 64cm mid-mountain, and **Breckenridge** has 74cm.

Canada

The excellent conditions continue in western Canada where **Whistler** has fresh snow and the mid-mountain base is nearly 2m deep. Further inland, **Big White** is also living up to its reputation with over 40cm of new snow in the last week on a 180cm base.



Big White living up to its reputation - Photo: www.bigwhite.com

Next full snow report on Friday 11 January, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates