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Snow report - Wednesday 16 January 2013

After a mild start to 2013, winter is back in charge of the Alps, with fresh snow and low temperatures across the board. The heaviest snowfall has been in the eastern Alps, especially the Dolomites, which often missed out in recent weeks. Elsewhere the snow has generally been light, but it has fallen to low levels and all in all conditions are excellent.

Austria

Conditions are excellent right across Austria with low temperatures and fresh snow in most resorts. High altitude **Obertauern** (180/220cm) is as good as anywhere with 15cm of new snow and further flurries in the forecast. Lower down, all 52 lifts are open in **Kitzbühel** (40/135cm) where temperatures are well below 0°C and the snow is powdery at all levels.



Lots of new snow in the far south of Austria near the Italian border. This is Berg im Drautal in Carinthia.

France

Conditions are superb in virtually all French resorts right now, not least **La Clusaz** (85/300cm) which has fresh snow and one of the deepest upper snow packs in the Alps. Not surprisingly, Europe's highest resort, **Val Thorens** (150/250cm) is also in top shape, as are resorts further south such as **Risoul** (60/145cm).



Bright but cold this morning in Les Saisies - Photo: www.lesaisies.com

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Italian village breaks world 24hr snowfall record!
[#snow](http://tinyurl.com/o4u6lmb)
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10h
Colder with some snow in the far eastern Alps. Mostly fine elsewhere.

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Italy



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After missing out on the heaviest of the early season snow, the eastern Italian resorts are back in business - especially the Dolomites, with lots of powder reported in **Cortina** (40/130cm). Further west, **Sauze d'Oulx** (60/120cm) hasn't seen any significant snow for a while, but on piste at least conditions are still excellent helped by the low temperatures.



Bright but cold in the Monterosa region this morning. This is Champoluc - Photo: www.regione.vda.it

Switzerland

Snow conditions remain very good across most of Switzerland where the weather remains cold with occasional snow flurries. **Andermatt** (85/380cm) has the deepest upper snow pack in the Alps right now, but even low resorts such as **Villars** (50/170cm) are in near perfect shape. Only parts of the south-east are slightly below par with regards to snow depths, but on-piste conditions in **Lenzerheide** (52/80cm) are still excellent thanks to the continuing cold.

Rest of Europe

Heavy snowfalls have transformed conditions in the Pyrenees this week with deep powder reported in **Soldeu** (85/140cm) and more snow on the way. No new snow to report in Norway where **Hemsedal** (65/85cm) reports excellent pistes, but very low temperatures (-14°C on Tuesday). Over in Bulgaria, all major resorts also report good skiing, the deepest cover in **Pamporovo** (80/180cm).

USA

Snow depths are still below par in many Colorado resorts, including **Vail** (61cm) where powder days have been few and far between this winter, but on-piste (at least) conditions are still good. Further west, snow depths are much more impressive in **Snowbird** (160cm mid-mountain) but **Mammoth** still leads the way with a whopping 488cm up top. Little or no snow and lots of sunshine is expected across the western US in the next few days.

Canada

After a very snowy start to the New Year, the weather has settled down now in **Whistler** where conditions are excellent at all levels and the mid-mountain base is 189cm deep. Further inland, it has also brightened up in **Revelstoke** (182cm mid-mountain) and, after a very cold spell of weather, temperatures are on the up again.



Fabulous skiing in western Canada. But it's cold. This is Lake Louise - Photo: www.skilouise.com

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