

# **WE KNOW SNOW**



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### Snow report - Wednesday 23 January 2013

Last weekend saw a temporary rise in temperature, but the cold is back, and many places have seen at least a dusting of new snow. All in all, excellent conditions continue across the Alps.

#### **Austria**

Most Austrian resorts have seen new snow in the last few days and, with the low temperatures, conditions are excellent at all levels. High altitude Obergurgl (95/215cm) and Obertauern (180/225) are skiing as well as anywhere in Austria, but lower resorts such as Ellmau (55/235cm) are also in great shape.



Even the lowest resorts are in great shape. This is Kitzbühel - Photo: www.kitz.net

#### France

Conditions are excellent right across the French Alps. In the north, Avoriaz (230/270cm) saw fresh snow on Monday and boasts the highest resort level base in the country. Nearby Les Gets is also skiing superbly at all levels, despite its lower altitude, with 85cm at village level and 200cm up top – well above par even for the middle of January. Further south, Isola 2000 (160/230cm) continues its excellent season with further heavy snow expected today (Wednesday).



Excellent snow cover at all levels in the French Alps. This is Les Gets - Photo: www.lesgets.com





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

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#### **Italy**

Conditions are good in most Italian resorts, including **Sestriere** (60/120cm) where it is snowing this morning and further snowfalls are likely through the day. Conditions are also excellent in **Courmayeur** (80/170cm) where it was bright first thing this morning, but here too a few flurries are likely later on. Further east it should remain dry today in **Cortina** (40/150cm), where they have seen lots of snow over the last few days and excellent skiing is reported at all levels.



Snowing today in the south-western Alps. This is Sestriere, Italy - Photo: www.vialattea.it

#### **Switzerland**

All Swiss resorts are continuing to enjoy excellent snow conditions. **Andermatt** (88/400cm) has received top-ups throughout January and now boasts the highest upper base in the Alps. Further north, **Engelberg** is not far behind with 80cm in the village and 375cm up top on the glacier. Snowfall figures are more modest in **St Moritz** (35/125cm) in the far south-east of the country, but here too there has been fresh snow in recent days and conditions are excellent at all levels.



A very snowy looking Andermatt where the upper snow depths are the greatest in the Alps - Photo: www.monopol-andermatt.ch

## **Rest of Europe**

The Pyrenees had one of their biggest snow storms in recent memory last week with nearly 2m in just 3 days in **Cauterets** (285/325cm). It then rained on Friday and Saturday, but colder temperatures and further snow mean that conditions are once again excellent right across the region, including in Andorra, where **Soldeu** reports 80/120cm depending on altitude.

Steady rather than spectacular conditions continue in Bulgaria where leading resort **Bansko** (35/130cm) reports 5cm of fresh snow. There is also a dusting of snow in Norway's **Hemsedal** (65/85cm) where it is now sunny again but temperatures are in the order of -20°C! Wrap up warm!



Excellent snow cover in the Pyrenees. This is Barèges - Photo: weathertoski.co.uk

## USA

The frustrating season continues for many Colorado resorts with not much in the way of recent snow. On-piste conditions in **Vail** (56cm mid-mountain) are still good, but off-piste powder days have been very few and far between. Further west, **Mammoth** (231/487cm) has also been dry for some time, but here snow depths are much more impressive thanks to several big storms earlier in the season.

#### Canada

It has been dry for some time in western Canada but conditions remain excellent and snow is on its way over the next couple days. **Whistler** has 178cm mid-mountain and is in great shape at all levels as are **Big White** and **Fernie** further inland, which both report 182cm.



Western Canada's excellent season continues. This is Lake Louise - Photo: www.skilouise.com

Next full snow report on Friday 25 January, but see  $\underline{\text{Today in the Alps}}$  for daily updates

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