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Snow report - Friday 8 March 2013

Foehn winds and warm temperatures have taken their toll on the Alps this week, particularly lower down where snow is often slushy. Higher up conditions are better but, even here, snow quality is inconsistent, due to the high winds. Thankfully these have now died down and there is fresh snow at altitude today in the western Alps. Looking further ahead, it will turn colder everywhere next week which should further improve conditions at all levels.

Austria

Warm weather has taken its toll on the lower slopes this week.

Weathertoski.co.uk was in Damüls in the Vorarlberg on Thursday where there is still masses of snow (140/280cm), but it was soft and slushy up to 2000m by the afternoon. For the best conditions you need to head to higher resorts such as **Obergurgl** (90/225cm) where the snow is firmer. Colder weather will improve the snow quality everywhere next week.



Sunny this morning in Kitzbühel but some greenery showing through this week for the first time in a while - Photo: www.kitz.net

France

It's snowing at altitude today (above 1400-1800m) which will help freshen up the pistes after the scouring they got from the wind this week. **Val Thorens** (145/320cm) is benefiting and should offer excellent conditions once the weather improves. Lower down, however, it is raining in **Morzine** (45/270cm) which will only exacerbate the issues they are having with slush right now. Things will improve next week, however, with colder weather forecast.

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8h

Italian village breaks world 24hr snowfall record!

tinyurl.com/o4u6lmb
[#snow pic.twitter.com/JqVV9dRD5C](https://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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Snowing at the Rond-Point in Meribel this morning – just! Rain lower down. Photo: www.merilys.com

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Italy

Snow is falling to about 1300m in many western Italian resorts this morning, especially the south-west where **Sestriere** (80/140cm) will be able to offer plenty of powder once the weather improves. However, conditions are more variable lower down and further east. **Selva** (70/160cm) for example, can still offer decent skiing at altitude but is often slushy lower down. Colder weather will help firm up the pistes here (and elsewhere) next week.



Snowing again in Sestriere today - Photo: www.vialattea.it

Switzerland

Snow cover is still excellent across most of Switzerland but snow quality is highly variable due to the recent Foehn and warm weather. **Engelberg** (80/480cm), for example, offers excellent grippy pistes at altitude but is very slushy lower down. **St Moritz** by contrast (35/170cm) has less snow but can offer more consistent quality due to the greater base altitude.



Better conditions in St Moritz this week than in most resorts.

Rest of Europe

Good conditions continue in Andorra with new snow in **Pas de La Casa** (200/250cm) this week and more in the forecast. There's been no fresh snow for a while in Bulgaria, but the slopes of **Bansko** (80/210cm) are still in good shape, particularly at altitude. Conditions are also good up in Sweden, particularly in **Åre** (60/132cm) where 20cm of snow fell earlier in the week.



Plenty of snow in Andorra still. This is Soldeu.

USA

It has been a little milder in Colorado of late but excellent conditions continue in **Vail** (113cm mid-mountain) particularly at altitude. However, some of the best skiing in the States right now is in California with some significant snowfall in **Mammoth** (238/493cm).

Canada

Lots of snow has been falling across the resorts of western Canada. **Whistler** has had over 1m in the last 7 days and has a mid-mountain base of 255cm. It is quite mild, however, so snow quality is variable lower down. Further inland, **Fernie** has also seen plenty of powder and has an upper mountain base of 281cm.



Lake Louise Ski Area - Temple Lodge Cam : 2013-03-07 16:59:06 Elevation: 2015m (6608 ft)
Lots of fresh snow in western Canada right now. This is Lake Louise - Photo:
www.skilouise.com

Next full snow report on Wednesday 13 March, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates