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Snow forecast - Friday 27 December 2013

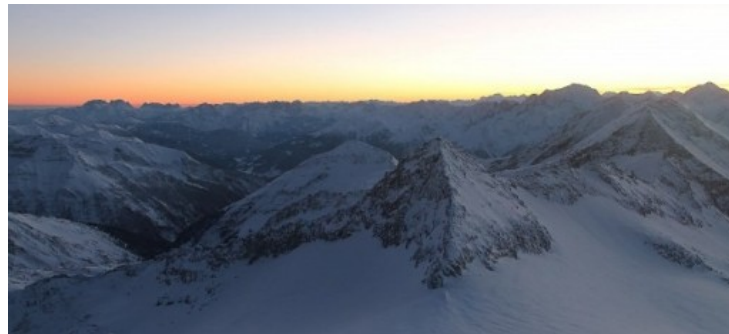
After a dramatic week of weather in the Alps, the medium term forecast is far more benign. There is some snow in the offing – both this weekend and later next week – but in nothing like the quantities we have seen recently, at least in the south. It will never be particularly cold either, putting further pressure on those lower Austrian resorts that haven't seen a big dump for some time.

Detailed forecast:

Austria

Saturday will be mostly dry with sunny spells above any low-lying mist or fog. Later in the day, cloud may start to thicken up in the far west and south west but it should stay dry until after dark. **Sunday** will be mostly cloudy with showers or long spells of snow (above 600-1000m) heaviest again in the far south close to the Italian border. The northern fringes of the Austrian Alps will see little if any snow.

Monday and **Tuesday** will be mostly dry with sunny spells and mild afternoon temperatures.



View from the Sonnblick observatory in Austria this evening - Photo: foto-webcam.eu

France

Saturday should start dry but cloud will rapidly increase with rain/snow breaking out in most regions as the day goes on. The snow will initially only fall above 1500-1700m but fall rapidly to 1000m or so later. Accumulations are likely to be moderate, typically 15-30cm above 1800m with perhaps a little more in places. **Sunday** may start cloudy with the odd snow flurry here and there, but the weather should improve as the day goes on with sunny spells in most places by afternoon. It will feel fresher.

Monday will be dry, mostly sunny and relatively mild by day. **Tuesday** should also stay dry with sunshine to start with, but perhaps more in the way of cloud later.

Italy

Saturday will start dry and bright in most regions but cloud will thicken in the western Italian Alps with some snow later in the day. The rain/snow limit will be lower than on the French side of the Alps – 700m in the Aosta Valley, a bit higher further south. The snow showers will reach the eastern Italian resorts (i.e. the Dolomites) later in the day and overnight (snow around 1000m). On **Sunday**, snow flurries will quickly die out from the western Italian Alps but will linger for a while further east. Snowfall totals from this storm will generally be slight to moderate (5-15cm) but 30cm+ is possible in parts of the eastern Dolomites.

Monday and **Tuesday** are expected to be fine with long sunny spells and mild afternoon temperatures.

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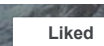
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Dusk over a very snowy Livigno - Photo: valtline.it

Switzerland

Saturday will start dry and bright in most places, but cloud will quickly thicken in the western Alps with outbreaks of rain or snow later in the day, reaching more eastern areas overnight. The rain/snow limit will begin around 1600m but will lower to 800-1000m overnight. **Sunday** may begin cloudy, but it will quickly brighten up in the western Swiss Alps. By contrast, the eastern Swiss Alps may hang on to a few snow flurries until later in the day.

Monday and **Tuesday** will be mostly dry with sunny spells and mild afternoon temperatures.

Outlook:

The weather looks like turning a little more unsettled mid-week onwards with some snow in places, but there is lots of uncertainty over the timing and quantity of this - so stay tuned...

Next detailed snow forecast will be on Monday 30 December 2013, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates