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Snow report

Updated: 3.15pm Thursday 3 April 2014

Until now it has been mostly sunny this week in the Alps, with balmy afternoon temperatures and rapidly deteriorating snow conditions at low altitude. Higher up there has still been some great skiing, particularly on shadier slopes.

Weathertoski.co.uk was in **Saas-Fee** on Sunday and Monday, where the snow remained firm all day above 2300m on slopes facing due north. The trouble now is that it has clouded over, which means little or no overnight refreeze and soft or slushy snow (even at relatively high altitude) from the off.

In short, expect very mixed snow quality if you are off to the Alps this weekend.

Austria

The warm spring weather combined with meagre snowfalls earlier in the season have taken their toll, particularly in the lower resorts of the northern Austrian Alps, where many resorts (e.g. **Söll**, **Seefeld** and **Filzmoos**) are already closed.

For the best conditions you need to aim high, with **Obergurgl** (35/120cm) and **Hintertux** (30/400cm) still offering plenty of good piste skiing right now.

The forecast is for it to remain mostly dry and very mild with just the outside chance of some (temporary) snowfall in the northern Austrian Alps on Tuesday.



Many lower Austrian resorts are on their last legs. This is Zell-am-See Photo: foto-webcam.eu

France

Another warm week has taken its toll on some lower runs but, on the whole, cover is still good particularly at altitude and on north-facing slopes. It is still possible to ski top to bottom in **Les Gets** (40/140cm), for example, even if it is mostly slushy.


For the best snow quality you need a resort with plenty of runs above 2200m or even 2500m, such as **Val Thorens** (110/220cm) and **Tignes** (90/210cm).

A few isolated snow showers are possible at altitude over the next couple of days (particularly in the south) but most places will stay dry, if rather cloudy at times and relatively mild.

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Skiing in June? Yep, there are plenty of good options in the Alps! tinyurl.com/llt6xzy



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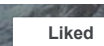
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Still plenty of snow at high altitude in the French Alps. This is Val d'Isère - Photo: valdisere.com

Italy

Warm spring weather has meant variable snow conditions across the Italian resorts in recent days, with plenty of spring snow/slush to contend with.

Some new snow is possible at altitude in the west over the next 36 hours, but this is the exception rather than the rule, and it still pays to aim high. **Cervinia** (50/320cm) and **Passo Tonale** (60/600cm) are as good as anywhere right now.



Lower slopes looking a bit worn in La Thuile, but snow cover remains excellent higher up - Photo: lathuille.it

Switzerland

The valleys of the central and northern Swiss Alps are looking decidedly green right now. You can still just about ski back to low altitude **Wengen** (0/110cm) and **Villars** (20/110cm), but the snow has been very slushy in recent days, with no sign of a significant cool down.

For the best conditions, you need a resort with plenty of skiing above 2500m, such as **Zermatt** (10/205cm), **St Moritz** (80/190cm) and **Saas-Fee** (75/340cm).

No significant snow is expected over the next few days.



Rapid snow loss on the lower slopes of Zermatt, but you can still find excellent skiing up top -

Rest of Europe

Some snow is falling at altitude across the Pyrenees today, but it's rain lower down - so expect very mixed snow quality once the weather clears. That said, snow depths are still good for the time of year with 160/280cm in Andorra's **Arcalis**.

In Bulgaria, several resorts are still open despite their lean season, including **Borovets** (30/120cm) where spring snow is the order of the day.

Conditions are better up in Scandinavia where Norwegian resorts have had a respectable season and there is still 130/210cm in **Hemsedal**.

USA

There has been masses of new snow in California, not something we have said very often this season, with settled depths now of 152/229cm in **Mammoth**. Other western states are also in great shape, with 60cm of new snow for **Aspen** (140/290cm) in the last week and 68cm for **Jackson Hole** (292/359cm).

Canada

Western Canadian resorts are also enjoying a strong season finale with fresh snow on an impressive base in **Banff/Lake Louise** (140/235cm) and nearly 4m of settled snow now up top in **Fernie**. Further west, **Whistler** is also in good shape for early April with a base of 273cm at altitude.



Ample snow in Lake Louise following a record-breaking March - Photo: skilouise.com

Next detailed snow report will be on Thursday 10 April 2014, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates