

# **WE KNOW SNOW**

About



Latest snow report

Latest snow forecast

Season progress report

Who got the most snow 2014-15?

Who got the most snow 2014-15 - N America

The snow quality equation

What is the Foehn?

Avoiding rain

Avalanche awareness

Who got the most snow 2013-14?

Who got the most snow 2013-14 - N. America

Who got the most snow 2012-13?

Who got the most snow 2012-13 - N. America

The winter of 2012-13 in pictures

Archive

2015-16

2014-15

2013-14

2012-13

#### **Snow forecast**

Updated: 9.25pm Friday 26 December 2014

It's the one we have all been waiting for! A major winter storm is on its way and will deliver serious quantities of snow to the northern and western Alps tomorrow (Saturday). The southern Alps (Italy in particular) will generally see less snow, but it will turn very cold everywhere and remain on the cold side for the foreseeable future.

The storm is expected to hit the western Alps in the early hours of Saturday and by dawn it should be snowing across practically all French resorts, most of Switzerland (away from the south-east) and some parts of Italy closest to the French border. The snow will then move eastwards into Austria and other parts of Italy as the day progresses but become less intense as it does so.

Note that the heaviest falls are expected across the northern French and western Swiss Alps between about 7am and 2pm precisely when the roads will be busiest on this one of the biggest transfer days of the season. Above 1500m we are expecting 30-50cm in these regions (perhaps even a bit more locally), but even the lowlands are likely to see some settling snow. In short, driving conditions in the western half of the Alps are likely to be extremely challenging tomorrow.

One last important point to note - it will turn bitterly cold, especially between Sunday and Tuesday with temperatures remaining below freezing at all levels day and night. At altitude the cold will be exacerbated by a biting north-easterly wind that will make for some difficult skiing conditions. Wrap up warm!

## **Detailed forecast:**

#### Austria

**Saturday** will see scattered snow flurries in the northern Austrian Alps replaced by more persistent snow that will affect most regions later in the day. Accumulations will be more modest than in the western Alps, generally 5-15cm, but 20cm+ in a few favoured spots (e.g. Vorarlberg). The rain/snow level will be between 300 and 500m.

**Sunday** will be bitterly cold with further snow flurries, heaviest on the northern side of the Austrian Alps where another 5-15cm is possible.

It will remain very cold on **Monday**, with scattered snow showers across the northern Alps and sunny spells further south.

#### **France**

**Saturday** will be cloudy with snow falling for much of the day in all regions. The heaviest snow will be in the northern French Alps (e.g. Portes du Soleil, Grand Massif, Tarentaise) where 30-50cm is expected (perhaps even more locally). The southern French Alps (e.g. **Serre Chevalier, Risoul, Isola 2000**) will see more like 15-40cm. The rain/snow level will be very low - generally 300-500m - with very challenging driving conditions on all Alpine routes.

**Sunday** will be bitterly cold with further light flurries giving a few more cm to some northern Alpine areas. Further south there will be sunny spells, but temperatures will remain sub-zero at all skiing levels.

It will remain very cold on **Monday** with snow flurries, perhaps becoming more frequent again for a time in the afternoon across the northern Alps. The best of any brightness will be further south.



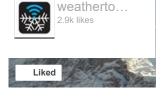
@weathertoski

weathertoski

Follow us on: **twitter** 

Tweet this page







## Contact us...

Got a burning question about weather or snow conditions in the Alps? Contact us and we'll do our best to answer it...

E: info@weathertoski.co.uk

T: +44 (0)20 3151 3154



The calm before the storm in Avoriaz, which could see one of the biggest snowfall totals in the Alps tomorrow - Photo: avoriaz.com

#### Italy

Saturday will see variable cloud cover and scattered snow showers, heaviest and most persistent in the far north-west (e.g. La Thuile, Courmayeur) where some significant snow is likely. Some central and eastern parts (e.g. Lombardy, Dolomites) may start dry, but a little snow is also likely here later in the day. It will be cold with the rain/snow level around 400-700m.

Sunday will see some early snow flurries to low levels over the Dolomites otherwise many areas will be dry, but bitterly cold with sunny spells.

Monday should be mostly dry but still very cold with sunny spells.



Generally speaking, the Italian Alps will see more modest accumulations of snow. This is Sestriere Photo: sestriere.it

## **Switzerland**

Saturday will be cloudy with snow for much of the day, heaviest in the north and west (e.g. Verbier, Villars, Wengen) where some 25-50cm is likely. Further east, snowfall will be a little less intense, especially in the south-east (e.g. St Moritz), but even here a few cm is likely. It will be cold with the rain/snow level around 300-500m.

Sunday will be colder still with further flurries across the northern Alps and the best of any sunshine further south.

On Monday some more persistent snow is again possible in the northern Alps, especially later in the day. It will remain bitterly cold.

# **Outlook:**

A few light flurries are still possible here and there on Tuesday – especially in the eastern Alps. Thereafter, however, most places will be dry with sunny spells. Temperatures will slowly recover but it will remain below average all week.

Next detailed snow forecast will be on Tuesday 30 December 2014, but see Today in the Alps for daily updates

© weathertoski.co.uk