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Snow forecast

Updated: 12.30pm Friday 6 February 2015

The Alpine weather is still in a changeable mood with further snow in places over the next few days. By Tuesday, however, it looks like things might finally start to settle down, with an extended period of fine weather looking increasingly likely.

Back to the here and now and we have an area of low pressure centred over the Mediterranean, drawing in cold easterly airflow over the Alps. This has been delivering significant snow to parts of the southern Alps - especially western Italy (e.g. **Sestriere**), but also spilling over the border into some French and Swiss resorts (e.g. **Val d'Isère** and **Zermatt**).

Apart from a few flurries here and there, many northern Alpine areas have been dry if still cold and rather cloudy. Over the next couple of days, the easterly airflow will ease, but will be replaced by a northerly blast that will bring snow to the north-eastern Alps (notably Austria) between Sunday and Tuesday.

If you are skiing in the Alps this weekend, Saturday will (on the whole) be the best weather day.

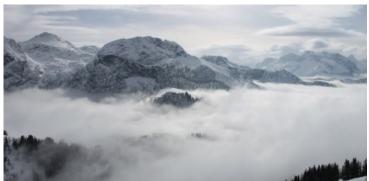
Detailed snow forecast:

Austria

The rest of ${\bf Friday}$ will be cold and mostly cloudy with the odd flurry in the south and the best of any brightness in the north.

Saturday looks set to be sunny but still cold.

Sunday will see a return to strong winds and snow showers (all levels), heaviest in the north-east with the best of any sunshine in the south and west.



Variable cloud but mostly dry on the Austrian-German border. This is Berchtesgaden - Photo: foto-webcam.eu

France

The rest of **Friday** will be cold with variable cloud and further snow showers in the southern Alps, especially close to the Italian border. Apart from the odd flurry, the northern Alps will stay mostly dry with one or two brighter spells.

Saturday will see the last flurries close to the southern borders with Italy die away later. Elsewhere it will be mostly dry and increasingly bright or sunny, but still cold.

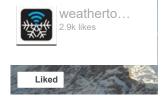
Sunday will also be dry with plenty of sunshine, but thickening high cloud in the north later.



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Val d'Isère is one of the few northern French resorts to benefit from the latest storm - Photo: valdisere.com

Italy

The rest of **Friday** will be cold and mostly cloudy with further snow in places. This will be heaviest again in the south-west (e.g. Sestriere/Sauze d'Oulx), where storm totals since Wednesday may surpass 1m, but lighter and more sporadic elsewhere.

Saturday will see the last of the snow showers die out from the south-western Alps, then most regions will be dry with plenty of sunshine.

Sunday will also be dry and mostly sunny, though cloud will thicken up in the far north-east later.



Sestriere is the place to be right now if you want deep powder - Photo: vialattea.it

Switzerland

The rest of **Friday** will be cold and often cloudy with a few snow flurries here and there, mostly in the far south (Ticino).

Saturday will be dry with plenty of sunshine – at least above any stubborn low cloud/valley fog.

Sunday will start dry and bright everywhere, but snow flurries are likely in the northern and especially north-eastern Alps later in the day.



Cloudy, but mostly dry on the northern side of the Alps right now. This is Champéry - Photo: idelec.ch

Outlook:

Snow showers are likely in the north eastern quarter of the Alps on Monday and Tuesday (notably in Austria) before all areas settle down to an extended period of fine weather from mid-week on.

Next detailed snow forecast will be on Tuesday 10 February 2015, but see $\underline{\text{Today in the Alps}}$ for daily updates

