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Snow report

Updated: 3.45pm Thursday 6 November 2014

Slowly but surely more Alpine resorts are starting to open and with the heavy snow we have seen this week, this process could well accelerate.

The heaviest of the recent snow was in the central and western Italian Alps (e.g. **Monte Rosa, Cervinia**), the central and southern Swiss Alps (e.g. **Andermatt, Zermatt, Saas-Fee**) and the southern French Alps (e.g. **Serre Chevalier, Risoul**). Most other parts of Switzerland as well as the far northern French Alps (e.g. **Portes du Soleil**) also did well, with some 30-50cm at 2000m. However, Austria was more hit and miss, with significant new snow for parts of the south-west (e.g. **Ischgl** and **Obergurgl**) but substantially less to the north and east of Innsbruck (e.g. **Kitzbühel**).

We are now at the point in the season when it is almost impossible to keep real time track of what is open as many resorts are making this decision on a whim! However, it should be stressed that it is still early November and the vast majority of open runs are confined to the glaciers.

The medium term outlook is interesting. It will turn milder for a time but never very settled with the chance of further snow at altitude. Further down the line - i.e. mid to late November - there are signals for it to turn more generally wintry, but this is still a long way off - so watch this space!

Austria

Snowfalls have been more erratic in Austria than elsewhere in the Alps this week, but there have still been significant accumulations in many central, southern and western resorts e.g. **Obergurgl** (due to open 13 Nov) and **Hintertux** (open daily). Indeed **Hintertux** remains the pick of several glacier options, with **Sölden** and **Stubai** also offering decent extent and variety (at least by glacier standards).

By contrast, the northern and eastern Austrian Alps have missed the heaviest snow, although **Kitzbühel** and **Schladming** have had a couple of non-glacial runs open these last couple of weekends.



Another decent dump in Hintertux, Austria - Photo: facebook.com/hintertux.glacier

France

Only **Tignes** is open right now in France. They have about 20-30cm of new snow up on the glacier, but not as much as hoped (just a few cm) at resort level.

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



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The southern resorts bore the brunt of the recent storm – as much as 1m up top in **Serre Chevalier**, for example – though it remains to be seen if anyone will attempt a cheeky early opening this weekend.

The far northern French Alps also did well – 40cm at 2000m in the **Portes du Soleil** was certainly more than forecast.



Looking good on the Tignes glacier today, but not as much snow as was hoped for at resort level - Photo: tignes.net

Italy

Italy has just been properly dumped on with over 1m of new snow at altitude in some central and western resorts such as **Cervinia**. They are currently offering skiing on the glacier (shared with **Zermatt**), but will hopefully open some non-glacial runs down to mid-station this weekend.

Elsewhere in Italy you can ski on the glacier in **Val Senales**, and it wouldn't surprise us if one or two other resorts decided to get in on the action this weekend.



More than 1m of new snow has fallen at altitude in Cervinia - Photo: cervinia.it

Switzerland

Lots of snow has fallen across the Swiss resorts with a metre or more at altitude in some central and southern areas such as **Saas-Fee** and **Zermatt**. These two resorts are as good as any glaciers right now, but you can also ski in **Glacier 3000** (near Les Diablerets), **Diavolezza** (near St Moritz) and **Laax** (weekends only). We have also just heard that **Verbier** will open a run or two on Saturday, with one or two other resorts possibly following suit.



Sunny skies and masses of snow above Zermatt this afternoon - Photo: zermatt.ch

Next full snow report will be on Thursday 13 November 2014, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates