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### Snow report

**Updated: 1.25pm Thursday 23 April 2015**

For most of the Alps it has been another fine and settled week with plenty of sunshine and pleasant (but not excessively warm) afternoon temperatures.

Given the strength of the sun at this time of year, this has meant typical freeze/thaw conditions with hard snow early in the morning followed by plenty of slush, with only the highest north-facing slopes remaining "wintry" all day long.

The weather is on the change though, starting today - with snow for higher parts of the south-eastern Alps. This will be followed by a more general deterioration in the weather over the weekend, with heavy snow to relatively low levels later on Sunday and into the first part of next week!

Watch this space...

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#### Austria

Many Austrian resorts are now closed but there is still some good skiing available at altitude, even with some fresh snow today in the southern and eastern Austrian Alps!

Glaciers aside, **Obergurgl** (13/106cm) and **Ischgl** (0/150cm) are among the best options right now, due to the fact that most of their slopes are above 2300m.

Most of today's fresh snow will be in the south-east (e.g. **Mölltal glacier**) but more widespread snow is forecast later in the weekend and early next week.



Decent skiing still possible at altitude in Sölden - Photo: soelden.at

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#### France

After a warm and mostly sunny week, spring conditions rule in France with the best conditions in high altitude resorts such as **Val d'Isère/Tignes** (50/155cm) and **Val Thorens** (100/220cm), where there is plenty of skiing above 2500m.

However, there are also options lower down - for example, **Avoriaz** (80/250cm) - where all the skiing is below 2500m - still has plenty of snow and is open until Sunday. Though, at these altitudes and at this time of year, slush is more of a problem earlier in the day.

Next week only a handful of the highest resorts will still be operating - ironic given the wintry forecast later this weekend!

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Skiing in June? Yep, there are plenty of good options in the Alps! [tinyurl.com/llt6xzy](http://tinyurl.com/llt6xzy)



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

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Tignes remains one of the best bets in France right now - Photo: tignes.net

### Italy

Only a handful of the highest resorts are still open in Italy with the greatest extent of skiing (by far) in **Cervinia** (40/250cm) which links over into **Zermatt** in Switzerland. Spring conditions have dominated this week with pronounced freeze/thaw conditions lower down, but there is still lots of "wintry" snow above 2600-2800m.

Further east, two of the best bets are **Val Senales** (35/320cm) and **Passo Tonale** (50/420cm), both of which benefit from glaciers.

A little fresh snow is expected above 1800m in the Dolomites today with more widespread wintry showers forecast for later in the weekend.



Cervinia currently offers the most extensive skiing in Italy - Photo: cervinia.it

### Switzerland

Only a handful of Swiss resorts are still open, with the most extensive skiing in **Zermatt** (0/240cm) which has the highest pistes in the Alps.

Two other good options right now are **Engelberg** (0/350cm) and the **Corvatsch** mountain (0/155cm) near **St Moritz** (both of which have north-facing slopes reaching 3000m or more).

The weather will turn very unsettled over the weekend and early next week with snow to increasingly low levels.



Excellent snow cover remains at altitude in Engelberg - Photo: titlis.ch

### Rest of Europe

Elsewhere in Europe most resorts are now closed but there are a handful of

exceptions, most of which are in Scandinavia. **Hemsedal** in Norway, for example, offers spring snow conditions and an upper mountain base of 90cm.

Further south, Bulgaria still has a surprising amount of snow left - 315cm up top in **Borovets**, which remains open for the time-being.

In the Pyrenees, **Cauterets** (180/280cm) is one of a very few areas still offering any snow sports, while Scotland is now down to two resorts - **Glencoe** (10/150cm) and **Cairngorm** (0/40cm) - the former by far the better bet.



Glencoe remains the best bet in Scotland - Photo: winterhighland.com

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#### USA

Most resorts have now closed for the season, but some exceptions include **Winter Park** (175cm upper mountain) in Colorado and **Snowbird** (190cm mid-mountain) in Utah, which benefited from a monster 1m+ dump last week.

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#### Canada

Many resorts have now closed but **Whistler** (174cm upper mountain) struggles on, despite patchy lower snow cover. Better conditions can be found inland in the **Banff/Lake Louise** area (180cm upper mountain).



Plenty of snow remains in the Banff/Lake Louise area, despite relatively warm weather this week - Photo: skilouise.com

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**Next full snow report will be on Thursday 30 April 2015, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates**