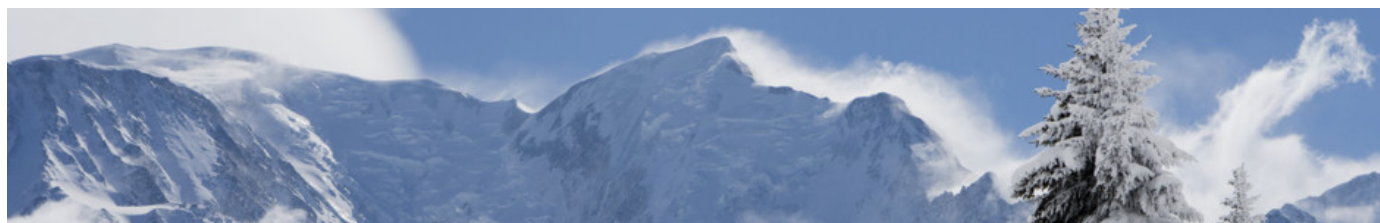




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Snow report

Updated: Thursday 30 January 2014

Conditions are much improved across the lower resorts of the north-eastern Alps, particularly Austria, where snow fell in significant quantities last weekend.

However, the weather has now reverted to type (for this season) with a southerly airflow bringing heavy snow to the southern Alps, especially the Dolomites where over 1m of fresh is possible in the next 48 hours.

Generally speaking, Italy remains in the best shape of the four main Alpine countries, but elsewhere conditions are pretty good, even if snow depths are on the modest side at low altitude.

Austria

Conditions are much improved across Austria thanks to heavy snow last weekend. That said, depths are still below average in the likes of **Kitzbühel** (60/125cm) and **Zell-am-See** (25/118cm).

The very best conditions, however, remain at altitude and/or in the south of the country with **Obergurgl** (71/179cm) perhaps still the pick of the non-glacial resorts.

The forecast for the next couple of days has a familiar ring to it with snow in the south, especially close to the Italian border but little or nothing getting through to the northern Alps.



Zell-am-See, Austria - Photo: foto-webcam.eu


France

Conditions are generally good even if snow depths are still below average at low altitude in resorts such as **Megève** (40/140cm) and **Morzine** (50/210cm).


Higher up, **Val Thorens** (110/190cm) and **Val d'Isère** (90/155cm) are both in excellent shape but largely tracked out off-piste.

For the freshest snow you need to head to the far south where it is snowing today in **Isola 2000** (180/245cm) and there is plenty of powder to be found among the trees (though note the considerable avalanche danger).


The northern Alps is missing out most of today's snow but will see some on Saturday night/Sunday when it will snow more widely across the French Alps.




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Fresh snow for parts of the Alps this morning:
tinyurl.com/d9cz7z2



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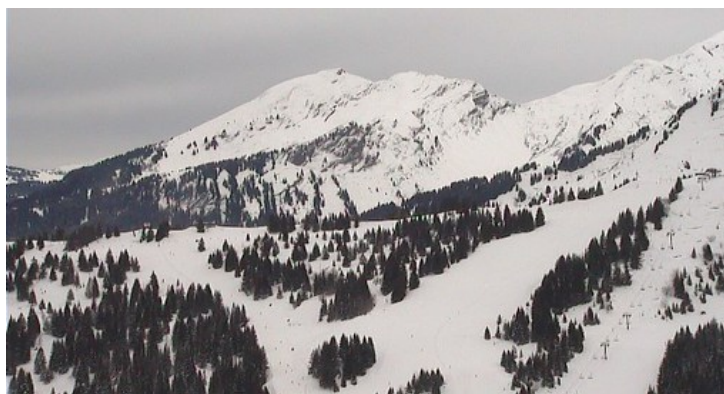
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Les Gets, France - Photo: lesgets.com

Italy

Another big snowstorm is affecting the Italian Alps right now, particularly the east where conditions remain potentially the best in the Alps. Indeed over 1m of fresh snow is expected across much of the Dolomites in the next 48 hours, with epic conditions expected in the likes of **Cortina** (120/240cm) and **Madonna di Campiglio** (180/240cm) once the weather clears (NB. these figures were taken before the latest storm).

Further west, the snow won't be quite as heavy, but conditions are still superb in **Cervinia** (135/300cm), **Courmayeur** (60/130cm) and **Sestriere** (100/140cm).



Livigno, Italy - Photo: valtline.it

Switzerland

The best conditions remain in the far south of the country where resorts such as **Zermatt** (55/260cm) and **St Moritz** (111-146cm) have considerably above average snow depths. These resorts will also see a little bit of new snow spilling over the Italian border from the current southerly airflow, but it is unlikely to amount to very much.

Further north, most resorts will miss out completely and will have to wait until Saturday night/Sunday for a more widespread fall of snow. That said, conditions are pretty good in most resorts - **Wengen** has 35/110cm depending on altitude, and **Davos** has 51/126cm.



Rest of Europe

There has been further heavy snowfall in the Pyrenees with excellent all-round conditions reported in Andorra's **Arcalis** (130/230cm) and in **Baqueira Beret** (215/285cm) in Spain.

Up in Scandinavia, the best of the recent snow has been in the southern Norwegian resorts where **Lillehammer** (120/200cm) has lots of powder. Further north, Sweden's **Åre** offers decent enough piste skiing but more snow would be welcome to freshen up the off-piste.

Over in Bulgaria, there has been some fresh snow, 15cm or so this week for **Bansko** (10/70cm) where conditions have improved but are still some way short of where they should be at this time of year.

By contrast, Scotland has had masses of snow and they were digging out the lifts on Tuesday in **Glencoe** where the upper mountain base is close to 3m deep.



Cairngorm, Scotland - Photo: cairngormmountain.org

USA

At last there is snow falling in California, heaviest around **Lake Tahoe** where 50cm or more is possible at altitude. Before this storm, the likes of **Squaw** and **Heavenly** were skiing on a largely man-made base of between 40 and 80cm. It remains to be seen how much terrain it will be possible to open once the weather clears, but one thing is for sure, we will see an improvement on what has been one of the worst early seasons in living memory.

Further east, big dumps are also expected in Colorado further improving the already impressive conditions in resort such as **Breckenridge** (155cm upper mountain) and **Copper Mountain** (162cm).




Breckenridge, Colorado - Photo: breckenridge.com

Canada

There hasn't been much new snow in western Canada recently, but some light falls are expected in most resorts over the next couple of days. This probably won't be enough to significantly improve the off-piste but, generally speaking, conditions remain pretty good, especially in the interior with settled snow depths of 171cm (at altitude) in **Fernie**, 147cm in **Revelstoke**.

Further west, snow depths in **Whistler** (128cm at altitude) remain considerably below par, but there is still good skiing available, especially on the groomers.

Next full snow report will be on Thursday 6 February 2014, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates

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