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#### **Snow report**

Updated: 10.30am Monday 21 October 2013

On the whole, conditions on the Alpine glaciers have been pretty good this autumn, with several moderate snowfalls and one unusually potent storm that dumped over 70cm of snow in the western Tirol (Austria), the far south-east of Switzerland and parts of Lombardy (Italy).

It has turned much milder recently which means that most of the low-lying snow has melted again (to be expected), but at high altitude there have been further top ups, notably in the French Alps where the Grande Motte glacier above **Tignes** saw significant new snow yesterday.

It will continue very mild but unsettled this week, with strong Foehn winds affecting lift operations on the glaciers at times. There will be some showers around too, heaviest mid-week with snow only at high altitude. The best weather will be today (Monday) and possibly again later in the week.

Looking even further ahead and it is likely to remain mild for the rest of October.

#### Austria

Eight Austrian glaciers are open for skiing this week (weather permitting) with excellent cover following the recent storms.

For the most extensive and varied terrain head for **Hintertux**, **Stubai** or **Sölden**, but be aware that the weather will be changeable this week with strong Foehn winds and the risk of showers from Tuesday onwards.



Pitztal, Austria – Photo: pitztaler-gletscher.at

#### France

**Tignes** is the only resort open for skiing in France but will be joined by **Les 2 Alpes** (for 1 week only) on Saturday 26 October.

It snowed heavily at altitude in both resorts yesterday and conditions on the Grande Motte glacier (pictured) look superb this morning. However, bad weather and strong Foehn winds are likely to be a factor at times this week - starting tomorrow.





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





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Tignes, France - Photo: tignes.net

#### Italy

Cervinia is closed today after its season opening this weekend. Access to the Zermatt glacier across the Swiss border will again be possible this coming weekend (26-27 Oct) with a permanent opening on 1 November.

Elsewhere in Italy you can ski on the glaciers at  $\boldsymbol{Val}$   $\boldsymbol{Senales}$  and  $\boldsymbol{Passo}$  $\textbf{Stelvio}. \ \ \textbf{In theory, conditions are very good at the moment-there is certainly}$ plenty of snow – but bad weather is likely to be a factor as the week progresses with high winds and poor visibility at times.

#### **Switzerland**

Two more glaciers opened for skiing this weekend - Engelberg and Diavolezza (near **St Moritz**). However, **Saas-Fee** (with 6 runs) and **Zermatt** (with 9 runs) still offer the more extensive terrain.

Snow conditions are pretty good for the time of year but variable weather and strong Foehn winds are likely to hamper lift operations at times this week.

Next full snow report will be on Monday 28 October 2013, but see **Today** in the Alps for daily updates