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Snow forecast

Updated: 12.50pm Monday 16 December 2013

High pressure is still dominating the Alpine scene, but will begin to pull away by the middle of the week. This will allow weather fronts to bring snow for some on Thursday -however - most of the snow will be in the western and south-western Alps and it will never be particularly cold.

It will remain unsettled and relatively mild in the run up to Christmas with perhaps some more widespread and significant snow on and after 26 December. Watch this space.

Detailed snow forecast:

Austria

Monday afternoon will be glorious at altitude with lots of sunshine and freezing levels close to 3000m. **Tuesday** will also be mostly sunny but a fraction cooler.

On **Wednesday** it will remain dry with sunny spells to start with, but perhaps a little more cloud later in the day.

Thursday will again be mostly dry with sunny spells, particularly in the eastern Alps. Cloud will thicken in the west later with a few showers (snow above 1000m) possible in the western Tirol and Vorarlberg later.




Warth, Austria - Photo: warth-schroecken.com


France

Monday afternoon will be sunny and mild in the French Alps with freezing levels close to 3000m. On **Tuesday** it will remain sunny at altitude, but will feel a touch cooler with freezing levels around 2600m.


There will be little change on **Wednesday** except that some high cloud may spread in from the west later.

Thursday will be cloudy with snow at times (above 1000-1300m). Some moderate accumulations (typically 10-20cm) are likely above 1500m though, as always, some valleys will get more, others less. At this stage, the southern Alps are slightly more favoured (Les 2 Alpes, Alpe d'Huez southwards) but the detail could change.


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



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Livigno, Italy – Photo: valtline.it

Italy

Monday afternoon will be sunny and very mild at altitude with freezing levels surpassing 3000m.

Tuesday will remain sunny but temperatures will drop a little.

Wednesday should also be mostly sunny with perhaps just a little high cloud creeping in from the west late in the day.

Thursday will be cloudier in the western Italian Alps with some light to moderate snow (1200m) at times. Accumulations are likely to be on the modest side – 5-15cm typically, perhaps a bit more in some favoured spots. It should stay mostly dry with variable cloud amounts in the eastern Italian Alps (e.g. Dolomites).

Switzerland

Monday afternoon will be very mild at altitude with freezing levels close to 3000m.

Tuesday will be a little cooler but still sunny.

On **Wednesday**, most regions will remain dry and bright with just a little cloud possible in places late in the day.

Thursday will be generally cloudier with outbreaks of snow, most frequent in the south and west. Some bright spells are still possible in the north-eastern Alps. Any snow accumulations look to be relatively modest at this stage - typically 5-15cm above 1500m – a bit more perhaps in some favoured parts of the south-west.

Outlook:

Any snow should die out on **Friday**. **Saturday** is then likely to be sunny before further rain and snow spreads into the western Alps on **Sunday**. It will never be particularly cold, however, and we need to wait until after Christmas now for a more convincing return to winter.

Next detailed snow forecast will be on Thursday 19 December 2013, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates