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Latest snow forecast

Updated: 10.15am Wednesday 17 February 2016

The weather situation remains quite complicated in the Alps, with a significant disturbance moving out of the Balkans to give the south-eastern Alps (notably the Dolomites) a decent fall of snow today (Wednesday).

This storm will be very welcome in the Dolomites and southern Austria, areas that haven't seen a huge amount of natural snow this season, with 20-40cm falling quite widely at altitude, especially close to the Slovenian border.

Other parts of Austria will also see a few snow showers today, but not as heavy as in the south, while the western Alps remain mostly dry and, at altitude at least, mostly sunny.

After a mostly fine Thursday, further weather fronts will affect the Alps on Friday, with some snow in places, especially in the north.

Detailed forecast:

Austria

Wednesday will be mostly cloudy with snow showers (600-800m), heaviest and most frequent in the south and east (Carinthia, Osttirol), but lighter and more scattered elsewhere.

Thursday will be mostly dry with variable cloud, thickest in the far south, more broken further north. It will be milder with freezing levels between 1400m and

Friday will be colder again with scattered snow showers (700-900m) returning in the north and west (Salzburgland, Tirol, Vorarlberg). It will remain mostly dry in the southern Austrian Alps.



Cloudy with a few flurries in Schröcken this morning - Photo: warth-schroeken.com

France

Wednesday will be mostly dry with plenty of sunshine at altitude, but some areas of low cloud, especially close to the northern foothills. There may also be a few light snow flurries close to the southern French/Italian border, but nothing of note. Freezing levels will be between 1400m and 1700m.

Thursday will again be mostly dry and bright, but cloud will thicken up from the north-west later in the day.

Friday will be generally cloudier with a few light snow flurries to low altitudes, especially in the morning, though snowfall totals will be very modest.



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Clear skies at altitude in Les Arcs this morning - Photo: weathertoski.co.uk

Italy

Wednesday will be cloudy with snow (900-1200m), heavy at times in the Dolomites and perhaps the far east of Lombardy. Elsewhere in the Italian Alps, it will be mostly dry with variable cloud and sunny spells.

It will remain mostly fine on Thursday, but cloud will thicken in the far north-

Friday will be rather cloudy in the west, especially in the north-western Italian Alps, with the chance of the odd flurry. Further east it will be mostly dry with sunny spells.



Snowing in the south-eastern Alps today. This is Colfosco - photo: altabadia.org

Switzerland

Wednesday will be mostly dry, with plenty of sunshine at altitude, and lower down in the more internal valleys. By contrast, there will be lots of low cloud close to the northern edge of the Alps, where a little drizzle/drizzly snow is possible at times. Freezing levels will generally be between 1000m and 1500m.

Thursday will be mostly dry and bright, but cloud will thicken in the west later.

Friday will be mostly cloudy with snow flurries to low altitudes, especially in the north and west.



Variable cloud cover in Laax today - Photo: laax.com

Outlook:

There remains lots of uncertainty with the weekend outlook, but it looks like many places will be dry with variable cloud, some sunshine and relatively mild temperatures. That said, weather fronts could skim the northern Alps meaning some are showers possible.

Next detailed snow forecast will be on Friday 19 February 2016, but see <u>Today in the Alps</u> for daily updates

