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Latest snow report

Updated: 10pm Monday 8 February 2016

The weather in the Alps has been very changeable in recent days, and snow conditions are highly variable.

The southern Alps are still lagging behind in terms of snow depths, even if they finally saw some significant and widespread snow on Sunday. However, on-piste conditions here remain good, thanks to excellent snow making, though many southern resorts still need at least one good dump to properly realise their off-piste potential. Further snow is expected here on Tuesday and again later in the week, which should help things along nicely.

The deepest snow cover in the Alps is in the north and west, where plenty more snow is expected this week. However, temperatures will be up and down with some rain likely at times at lower levels. There will also be a lot of wind this week, especially at altitude, so don't be surprised if there is some lift disruption.

Further heavy snow is also likely in many parts of the Alps over the weekend, but there is some hope that things will begin to settle down early next week.

Across the pond, the weather is quieter (generally speaking) but, on the whole, conditions remain good...

Austria

Snow cover is still thin in the southern Austrian Alps but otherwise quite respectable for early February, with the best conditions at altitude in the north and west. **Kaprun** has 85/120cm of settled snow cover, while **Lech** has 130/175cm.

Further snow is expected for many resorts at times this week though, generally speaking, it won't be as heavy as further west. It will also never be particularly cold, which means the chance of some wetter snow/rain at low altitude.



Excellent snow cover in the Austrian Vorarlberg. This is Damüls - Photo: damuels.at

France

Sunday's snow has done lots to improve the situation in the southern French Alps, even if base depths are still considerably below average in **Isola 2000** (60/70cm) and **Vars** (50/70cm).

Further north there is lots of snow, at least above 1500m, with 110/230cm depending on altitude in **La Rosière** and 100/190cm in **Avoriaz**.

Some rain is expected lower down for a time on Tuesday but, at altitude, there will be some big snowfalls and the snow line will descend rapidly on Tuesday night.

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Skiing in June? Yep, there are plenty of good options in the Alps! tinyurl.com/l1t6xzy



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Welcome snow for the southern French Alps. This is Auron - Photo: Pascal Lequenne

Italy

Snow conditions in the Italian Alps are much improved following significant snow on Sunday. **Madonna di Campiglio** (40/120cm) in the western Dolomites is now in excellent shape, as is **Gressoney** (30/80cm) in the Monte Rosa Region, at least on-piste.

Further snow is forecast in many places on Tuesday, especially at altitude. In the longer term, this should help to open up more off-piste, which has been relatively threadbare so far this season.



Good conditions in Madesimo, following a significant snowfall on Sunday - Photo: madesimo.biz

Switzerland

Snow cover is now pretty good across much of Switzerland, and excellent at altitude in some northern and western resorts such as **Mürren** (80/210cm) and **Crans Montana** (45/260cm).

Lots more snow is expected across Switzerland at altitude on Tuesday and Wednesday. Be warned though - high winds will affect lift operations at times and some rain is also likely at first lower down.



Deep snow cover in Lauchernalp, a notorious snow-hole in the Swiss Valais - Photo: lauchernalp.ch

Rest of Europe

Snow depths remain relatively modest in the Pyrenees, but you can still find some decent piste skiing in Andorra's **Soldeu** (35/60cm) and France's **La Mongie** (25/130cm).

Good piste skiing can also be found in the Bulgarian resorts, with **Bansko** (65/100cm) leading the way.

In Norway, **Hemsedal** (85cm mid-mountain) reports excellent conditions, with 20cm of new snow today. Sweden's **Åre** (80cm mid-mountain) is also doing well, with around 50cm of new snow in the last week.

It's also good news for Scotland this week, where new snow has allowed all five main resorts to open (to varying extents). **Glencoe** currently has the best base, with 25/55cm of snow packed down on its pistes.



Reasonable snow cover at altitude in the French Pyrenees. This is Peyragudes - Photo: peyragudes.com

USA

Most Colorado resorts are still in excellent shape following last week's snowfalls, even if much of the off-piste has been tracked out. **Steamboat** has 170cm of settled snow mid-mountain, while **Breckenridge** has 140cm.

Even better is **Snowbird** in Utah, where 33cm fell on Friday and the mid-mountain base is now 229cm.

California's **Mammoth** currently has the highest upper base of any major US resort (419cm), but conditions are more variable here due to a spell of drier, milder weather.

Canada

The **Banff/Lake Louise** area (95/120cm) saw 10cm of fresh snow today and is skiing superbly.

Further west, **Whistler** may have the more impressive mid-mountain base (238cm), but right now the weather is very mild which means more variable snow conditions, both on and off piste.



Plenty of snow in Whistler, but right now it is mild - Photo: whistlerblackcomb.com

**Next full snow report will be on Thursday 11 February 2016,
but see [Today in the Alps](#) for regular updates**