# **WE KNOW SNOW**



Latest snow report

Latest snow forecast

Season progress report

Who got the most snow 2014-15?

Who got the most snow 2014-15 - N America

The snow quality equation

What is the Foehn?

Avoiding rain

**Avalanche awareness** 

Who got the most snow 2013-14?

Who got the most snow 2013-14 - N. America

Who got the most snow 2012-13?

Who got the most snow 2012-13 - N. America

The winter of 2012-13 in pictures

### Archive

2015-16

2014-15

2013-14

2012-13

### Latest snow report

Updated: 8pm Monday 15 February 2016

Snow conditions in the Alps are generally very good this half-term, thanks to multiple snowfalls over the last week.

The greatest snowfall totals have been at altitude in the northern French and western Swiss Alps (e.g. **Chamonix**, **Flaine**, **Verbier**), where between 60cm and 100cm has fallen over the last few days. However, most other parts of the Alps have also seen some useful snowfalls, including the central and eastern Italian Alps (e.g. **Livigno**, **Selva**) which so often missed out earlier in the season.

That said, it has been a very mild winter overall which means that base depths are still modest at low altitude (e.g. **Morzine**), something to keep an eye on as we move into the second half of the season. For now though most resorts are grateful for the generally good conditions, after all the problems they faced early in the season.

Snow conditions across the pond remain favourable, generally speaking, with significant new snow in many Colorado resorts, for the first time in a while...

#### Austria

All Austrian ski resorts have seen new snow to varying degrees over the last few days.

Glaciers aside, the best snow conditions remain in the higher western resorts such as Lech (140/205cm) and Ischgl (30/115cm).

Lower down, there is also plenty of good skiing in resorts such as  $S\"{o}II$  (55/65cm), though base depths here remain below average - something to keep any eye on later in the season.



Decent piste skiing in Zell-am-See, even if cover is on the thin side lower down - Photo: foto-

### France

Skiing conditions are excellent right across the French Alps, with just some nuisance-value low cloud in the north today.

The deepest snow remains at altitude in the Haute-Savoie, where **Flaine** has  $135/290 \, \mathrm{cm}$  and **Chamonix** has  $40/310 \, \mathrm{cm}$ .

The southern French resorts are much improved after their very poor start to the season. **Risoul** now has 100/120cm of snow packed down on its pistes, while **Isola 2000** has 90/100cm.

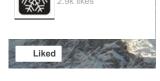


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Great pistes in Montgenèvre in the southern French Alps - Photo: montgenevre.com

#### Italy

Snow conditions are excellent in most areas in Italy, particularly so in the northwest where resorts such as  ${\bf Courmayeur}$  (110/220cm) and  ${\bf La}$   ${\bf Thuile}$ (85/290cm) have seen huge quantities of new snow this February.

Further east, snow depths are more modest, but on-piste at least the skiing is just as enjoyable, with 35/75cm of snow in Selva and 60/120cm in Passo Tonale.



Fabulous snow conditions in Madonna di Campiglio - Photo: funiviecampiglio.it

### **Switzerland**

Snow conditions are very good right across Switzerland this week. The deepest snow cover remains in the west, where **Crans Montana** has base depths of 87/285cm, and **Verbier** has 60/215cm.

Further east, excellent skiing can also be found in **St Moritz** (57/92cm), despite its very slow start to the season.



Much improved snow conditions in St Moritz, compared with earlier in the season - Photo: stmoritz.ch

### **Rest of Europe**

Fresh snowfalls have much improved conditions in the Pyrenees. Spain's Baqueira Beret (70/140cm) is skiing as well as anywhere, while Arcalis (85/125cm) is the pick of the Andorran resorts.

By contrast, most Bulgarian ski resorts haven't seen any serious snow for some weeks now. Despite this, on-piste conditions are still holding up in **Bansko** (65/100cm).

Norwegian ski resorts report generally good conditions, with **Hemsedal** (117cm mid-mountain base) in particularly good shape right now.

All five Scottish ski areas are also doing ok, even if the lower cover is still on the thin side in places. **Glencoe** currently has base depths of 30/60cm.



Good snow cover in Glencoe - Photo: winterhighland.info

#### USA

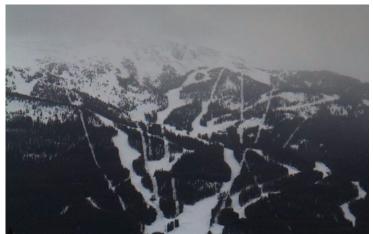
It's been snowing again in Colorado after a long spell of relatively dry and mild weather. **Vail** has 15cm of fresh and mid-mountain base depths approaching 1.5m.

It's also been snowing in Utah, where  ${\bf Alta}$  (213cm mid-mountain base) offers some of the best powder conditions in the country right now.

## Canada

It's snowing at altitude in **Whistler** (247cm mid-mountain base), with plenty more in the forecast. It's not cold though, which means some rain in the mix low down and variable snow quality.

There is also fresh snow further inland - 15 cm today in **Kicking Horse**, where the mid-mountain base is 134 cm deep.



Excellent skiing conditions in Lake Louise - Photo: skilouise.com

Next full snow report will be on Thursday 18 February 2016, but see <u>Today in the Alps</u> for regular updates