



[Latest snow report](#)

[Latest snow forecast](#)

[Season progress report](#)

[Who got the most snow?](#)

[The complete guide to...](#)

[The snow quality equation](#)

[What is the Foehn?](#)

[Avoiding rain](#)

[Avalanche awareness](#)

[Archive](#)

[2016-17](#)

[2015-16](#)

[2014-15](#)

[2013-14](#)

[2012-13](#)

Latest snow forecast

Updated: 12.20pm Friday 16 December 2016

With just nine days to go until Christmas, all eyes are on the weather in the Alps.

The first piece of good news is that it is relatively cool and will tend to get colder over the next week or so. This has two implications. First: any additional snow loss in the Alps will be limited, even virtually non-existent on north-facing slopes. Second: snow-making will be able to operate in most areas, especially at night, but also at times during the day too.

This is all very well, but the main question on everyone's lips is when will it actually snow again in the Alps?

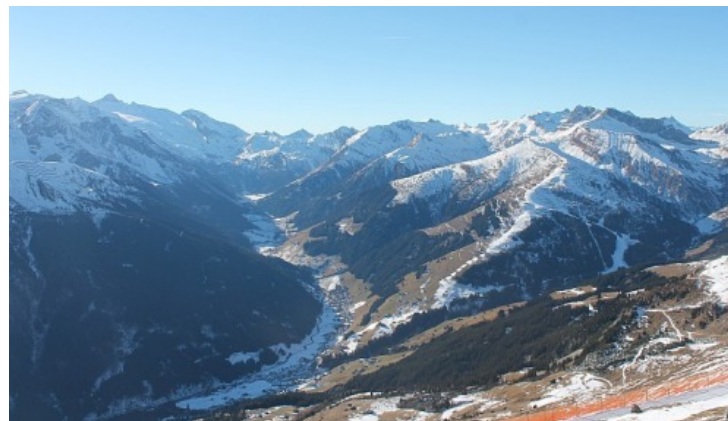
This is the tricky part to forecast, as the breakdown in the current blocked weather pattern will be slow and erratic. For the first half of next week any snowfall looks to be relatively localised and mostly confined to the southern Alps. However, there is some hope of some more substantial and widespread snow towards the back end of next week, which is definitely something that we will be keeping an eye on over the next few days...

Detailed forecast:

Austria

Saturday and **Sunday** will be mostly sunny above any low-lying cloud banks. Freezing levels will be between 1700m and 2000m in the west, and 1000m-1700m in the east.

Monday will remain dry with sunny spells in many parts, but there will be more in the way of cloud in the eastern Alps where the odd snow flurry (700m) cannot be ruled out.



Blue skies in the Tux valley - 16 December 2016 - Photo: foto-webcam.eu

France

Saturday and **Sunday** will be mostly sunny above any low valley cloud or fog, with freezing levels close to 2000m.

Monday may see a bit more cloud in the southern French Alps, also spilling over the Italian border further north. Most places should stay dry but a few flurries (800m) cannot be ruled out close to the border areas. It will feel colder, especially at altitude in the eastern French Alps.

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Blue skies and limited natural snow cover in Orcières - 16 December 2016 - Photo: orcierres.com

Italy

Saturday and **Sunday** will be mostly sunny with freezing levels between 1500m and 2000m.

Monday will also be mostly dry but there will be more in the way of cloud around later in the day, with a few mostly light flurries (1000m) here and there.



Another lovely day in Sestriere, but it will be cloudier at times next week - 16 December 2016 - Photo: vialattea.it

Switzerland

Saturday and **Sunday** will be mostly sunny above any low valley cloud or fog, with freezing levels close to 2000m.

Monday should also stay mostly fine though a few more clouds may appear close to the Italian border later in the day. It will feel a bit colder, especially at altitude.




Glorious weather in Laax - 16 December 2016 - Photo: laax.com

Outlook:

There is still lots of uncertainty as to how the weather in the Alps will pan out next week. However, it seems likely that many southern parts, at least, will see some snow to relatively low altitudes.

There is also hope that other parts of the Alps may get a look in before Christmas, even if this is still rather speculative.

Next detailed snow forecast will be on Tuesday 20 December 2016, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for daily updates

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