

# WE KNOW SNOW



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Head to head... #Ischgl vs #StAnton

Which has the better snow? tinyurl.com/y56wuy9l



8m



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#Cervinia unexpectedly closed again tomorrow following new decree. No further details at this

https://twitter.com/CerviniaValt/sta tus/1320372177292623872

52m

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## Latest snow report

Updated: 4.30pm Thursday 23 November 2017

Snow conditions in the Alps remain pretty good for late November, despite the milder weather this week. This weekend it will turn colder and snowier again, and colder still next week with even more snow, so all in all it's a very encouraging start to the winter season.

There are inevitably still some areas of the Alps that don't have much snow right now, even at altitude. Once such area is the Aosta valley in north-western Italy (e.g. Cervinia, Courmayeur) where cover remains very patchy. Some southern French resorts away from the Italian border are also very short of snow (e.g. Les Orres, SuperDévoluy, Serre Chevalier). However, for the majority of the Alps there now a decent base at altitude with plenty more snow on the day over the next 7-10 days.

Across the pond, the big news is the vast quantity of snow that has fallen in the Pacific north-west, in resorts such as Whistler and Mt Baker...

#### Austria

Milder weather is thawing some of the lower lying snow in Austria right now but, generally speaking, snow conditions are good for November with an increasing number of non-glacial options to choose from. The most prominent of these is Ischgl (60cm upper base) where 166km of runs are now open, the most extensive amount of skiing in the Alps for now.

Other recommended resorts include **Obergurgl** (60/169cm) with 99km of pistes, Sölden (5/180cm) with 91km and Obertauern (60/80cm) with 50km.

More snow is due over the weekend and at times next week.



Ischgl kicks off today with healthy snow cover – 23 November 2017 – Photo: ischgl.com

## France

Of the French ski resorts, Val Thorens (50/60cm) offers the greatest extent of skiing right now. However, this is likely to be eclipsed by L'Espace Killy this weekend as Tignes adds significantly to its current offering of seven runs and is joined by neighbouring (and linked) Val d'Isère (20/45cm). While there isn't a vast amount of snow in L'Espace Killy, there is plenty to get a decent number of runs open, and more snow is expected to fall both this weekend and at times

Other resorts in the French Alps that are partially open include **Montgenèvre** (30/40cm) and Isola 2000 (50/56cm).





#### Contact us...

Got a burning question about weather or snow conditions in the Alps?
Contact us and we'll do our best to answer it...

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Isola 2000 has seen good early snowfall - 23 November 2017 - Photo: isola2000.com

#### Italy

Snow conditions are quite mixed across the Italian ski resorts, with good snow cover for the time of year in both the eastern Italian Alps (e.g. Dolomites) and far south-west (e.g. Prato Nevoso).

The Aosta valley, however, has less snow for now. Indeed snow cover in **Cervinia**  $(0/110\mathrm{cm})$  - often among the better options in the Alps at this time of year - is very patchy and skiing is still confined to the glacier.

Better options include Prato Nevoso (60/100cm), Kronplatz (10/40cm) and Val Senales (10/105cm).

Snow is expected across some Italian resorts this weekend but not, generally speaking, as much as in the northern Alps.



Kronplatz has a good number of runs open thanks to a combination of natural and man-made snow – 23 November 2017 – Photo: kronplatz.com

### Switzerland

Snow cover in the Swiss Alps is generally pretty good for late November. The most impressive snow depths are in the northern Swiss resort of **Engelberg** (20/215 cm), where nine slopes are open and (as of today) you can ski back to resort.

Two other good options are **Zermatt** (5/60cm) which has 41km of pistes open, and **Saas-Fee** (20/80cm) where there are 26km.

Fresh snow is expected across all Swiss ski resorts this weekend and at times next week.



Arosa is one of a number of eastern Swiss resorts that are now partially open – 23 November 2017 – Photo: arosa.com

#### **Rest of Europe**

A number of ski resorts are now partially open in the Pyrenees but Spain's **Baqueira Beret** still leads the way with 23 of its 104 runs in operation.

Most other non-Alpine European skiing is currently in Scandinavia, where dozens of resorts are now open, albeit on a very limited basis. Finland's **Levi**, for example, has four prepared pistes and snow depths of 10/50cm depending on altitude



Baqueira Beret remains the best option in the Pyrenees at the moment – 23 November 2017 – Photo: baqueira.es

## noto: baquenates

#### USA

Recent snow in California has made for a decent early base in **Mammoth** (50/152cm) though warmer weather is now affecting the quality of the snow.

A number of ski resorts are also open in Colorado, though it is currently very mild here too. **Breckenridge** and **Vail** both have settled upper snow depths of around 45cm.

Further north,  ${\bf Jackson\ Hole}$  has more natural snow (around 130cm up top) and will open on Friday.

## Canada

**Whistler** (120cm mid-mountain base) has seen a huge amount of early snow though in recent days milder weather has affected the snow quality, especially lower down.

Further inland, snow conditions are more consistent right now in the **Banff/Lake Louise** area where they have also had plenty of early snow and the upper base is around 100-120cm deep.



Deep snow at altitude in Whistler, though it has turned much milder this week – 23 November 2017 – Photo: facebook.com/WhistlerBlackcomb

Our next detailed snow report will be on Monday 27 November 2017, but see <u>Today in the Alps</u> for daily updates

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