



[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](#)

2017-18

Latest snow report

Updated: 7.30pm Thursday 25 January 2018

Snow depths remain exceptional across many parts of the Alps, especially at altitude where a number of resorts now have upper base depths in excess of 4m. Some resorts such as Crans Montana and Engelberg even have in excess of 6m!

Despite these astonishing snow depths, it has actually been very mild in the Alps and at low altitudes January looks set to become one of the mildest ever in parts of France and Switzerland. This means that we have an unusual disparity between upper and lower snow depths in many areas. Engelberg, for example, has 655cm up top on the glacier but just 5cm at village level. Similarly, the Portes du Soleil has around 360cm at 2300m yet just 5cm at 1000m.

On Friday it will snow across some southern and western parts of the Alps but the fine and very mild weather will return on Saturday and last until the middle of next week.

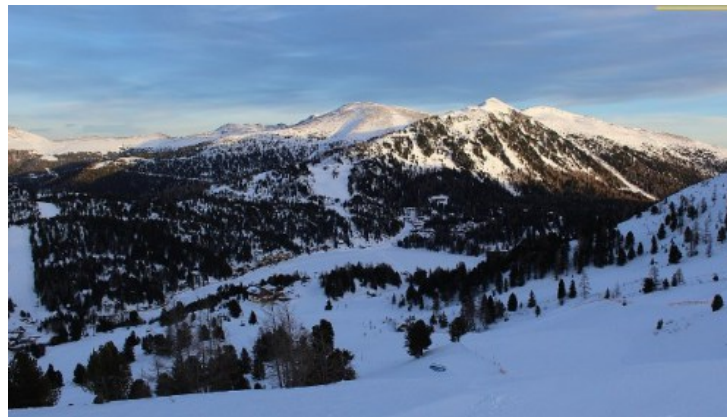
Meanwhile, across the pond, snow conditions (generally speaking) remain better in Canada than in the US...

Austria

Generally speaking snow conditions remain excellent across Austria though the mild weather has led to variable snow quality on some lower slopes, especially off-piste.

High altitude **Obergurgl** has settled snow depths of 180/360cm while **Obertauern** has 200/250cm. Lower down, **Niederau** still has an impressive 80/200cm while **Söll** has 70/165cm.

Austrian resorts will see little or no snowfall from the next storm and should stay dry and mild until the middle of next week.



Mostly sunny today in the southern Austrian Alps. This is Turracher Höhe – 25 January 2018 – Photo: turracherhoehe.at

France

French resorts have a huge amount of snow at altitude, especially in the northern Alps where **Tignes** boasts 244/400cm depending on altitude, and **Flaine** has 157/410cm.

Snowfall figures are a bit more "normal" lower down, but 120/260cm in **Megève** is still impressive for a resort where most of the skiing is below 2000m. Generally speaking, the recent mild weather has meant that snow quality is just that bit more variable low down, especially off-piste.

Some areas will have a top up of snow on Friday, mostly in the southern French Alps (e.g. Isola 2000), before it turns fine and very mild again everywhere over the weekend and into the first part of next week.

Tweets by @weathertoski



Head to head... #Ischgl vs #StAnton
Which has the better snow?
tinyurl.com/y56wuy9l



16m



#Cervinia unexpectedly closed again tomorrow following new decree. No further details at this time.
<https://twitter.com/CerviniaValt/status/1320372177292623872>

1h

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Very snowy in Val Thorens – 25 January 2018 – Photo: facebook.com/ValThorens.Resort

Italy

Snow conditions in Italy remain impressive though, as with everywhere else in the Alps, milder weather has led to some variability in snow quality low down, especially off-piste.

The very deepest snow is still at altitude in the west where **Cervinia** has base depths of 90/400cm, and **La Thuile** has 80/290cm. Further east, snow coverage is also excellent with 125/155cm in **Arbba** and 60/250cm in **Passo Tonale**.

Some central and western Italian resorts (e.g. Champoluc, Sestriere) will see fresh snow tomorrow before the weather settles down again over the weekend.



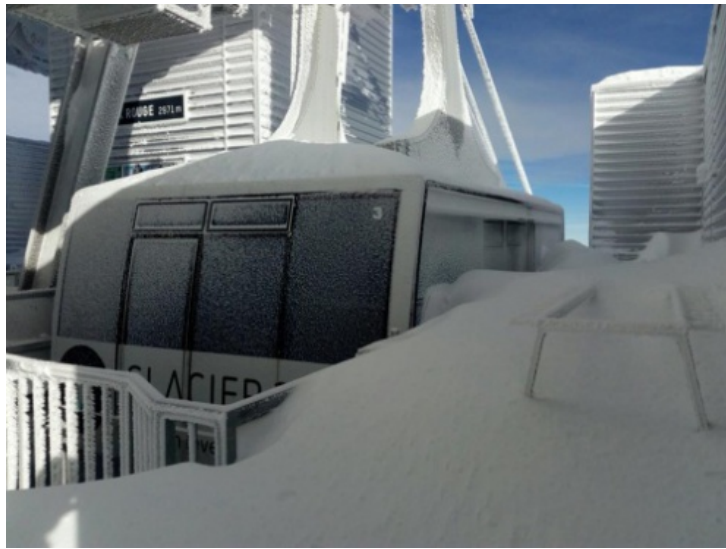
Clouding over this afternoon in Madonna di Campiglio – Photo: funiviecampiglio.it

Switzerland

Snow conditions remain impressive across Switzerland even if the mild weather has led to a slight thaw in some low resorts.

Some high resorts such as **Zermatt** (120/345cm) are only just getting back up to speed following the recent massive storms. Further north, **Wengen** has snow depths of 25/130cm while **Fims** has 72/465cm.

Some snow is expected in the southern Swiss Alps (e.g. Zermatt, Saas-Fee) on Friday, before it turns fine and mild again over the weekend and into the first part of next week.



Massive snow depths at Glacier 3000 – 25 January 2018 – Photo: facebook.com/Glacier3000

Rest of Europe

There hasn't been much snow in the Pyrenees in recent days but there is still some good piste skiing to be found both in Andorra, where base depths in **Pas de La Casa** are 70/90cm, and in Spain where **Baqueira Beret** has 105/160cm.

In Scotland, the wind has been playing havoc with conditions in recent days but generally speaking west is best with a respectable 90/130cm in **Glencoe**. **Glenshee**, by comparison, is struggling with a rather paltry 5/50cm.

Recent snow in Norway means that conditions are excellent in most resorts, including **Hemsedal** where upper base depths are 120cm.



Decent pistes in Les Angles in the French Pyrenees – 25 January 2018 – Photo: lesangles.com

USA

The deepest snow and best conditions continue to be found in the northern Rockies where **Mt Baker** has seen over half a metre of new snow in the last 24 hours alone, and upper base depths now stand at 452cm.

Jackson Hole (216cm upper base) has also seen significant new snow but many Utah and Colorado resorts have only seen bits and pieces and remain below par. **Aspen** has 64/109cm on its pistes depending on altitude, while **Vail** has 97cm up top.

Canada

Whistler (274cm upper base) has seen a lot of snow recently - 154cm in the last seven days in fact – which means that conditions are fantastic right now. There is also more snow in the forecast, heaviest on Sunday though it will turn to rain for a time lower down.

Further inland, new snowfalls have been more moderate but conditions are still excellent in both **Fernie** (235cm upper slopes) and **Revelstoke** (205cm upper slopes).



Good snow conditions in Lake Louise – 25 January 2018 – Photo: skilouise.com

Our next full snow report will be on Monday 29 January 2018, but see [Today in the Alps](#) for regular updates