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Eurostar trains and hundreds of flights cancelled as Storm Goretti brings heavy snowfall and ice

Story by Gavin Blackburn • 15h • 4 min read 

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Hundreds of flights cancelled across Western Europe as Storm Goretti brings heavy snowfall and ice



Western Europe is dealing with more snow and ice on Wednesday as Storm Goretti, the first named storm of the year, hits the continent's Atlantic coast.

Hundreds of flights in France and Belgium have been grounded, with passengers stranded at airports. Eurostar services are experiencing delays and some cancellations.

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Drivers across the continent are being warned of dangerous road conditions.

Hundreds of flights cancelled at Paris airports

Around 100 flights were cancelled at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport on Wednesday morning because of **snowfall** and fierce cold, and a

 Feedback

Eurostar trains and hundreds of flights cancelled as Storm Goretti brings heavy snowfall and ice further 40 at the French capital's Orly airport, France's transport minister said.

The disruption had been predicted late on Tuesday, with Transport Minister Philippe Tabarot telling CNews television he was "hoping the situation returns to normal this afternoon".

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All public bus services in Paris and the surrounding suburbs were also suspended due to icy roads, though the vast majority of metro and suburban rail systems were still working, transport officials said.

French state railway company SNCF has warned passengers about disruptions and delays, saying that "snow on the tracks is forcing us to limit train speed and cancel trains or adjust traffic".

The Meteo France weather service said 38 of the country's 96 mainland departments were on alert for heavy snow and black ice, with three to seven centimetres of snow already accumulated.



 A person skies along the Seine river banks after snowfall in Paris, 7 January, 2026 AP Photo

It said the cold snap was of "rare intensity for the season" and authorities had already warned people in the Paris region to avoid unnecessary travel and work at home if possible on Wednesday.

Passengers stranded at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport

Meanwhile, Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, one of the largest in Europe, announced at least 700 **flight cancellations** on Wednesday because of snow and wind, following days of weather-related travel disruptions.

The majority of European services have been grounded until the end of the day, while a few international planes are still taking off with delays.

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More than 1,000 people spent the night at Schiphol, the airport said, adding that it had set up camp beds and offered breakfast to travellers forced to sleep there.

The number of cancellations is expected to rise throughout the day.

In Belgium, at least 40 flights were cancelled at Brussels Airport on Wednesday with officials there warning of delays throughout the entire day.



 A cyclist rides down a street covered with snow in Antwerp, 7 January, 2026 AP Photo

Due to the de-icing of aircraft and clearing snow from runways, the airport warned on its website that delays are expected for all of Wednesday.

"Our winter operations teams are prepared and will make every effort to minimise the impact on the airport," **the statement said**.

Budapest Airport in Hungary said 20 flights had been cancelled overnight after the capital received one of the heaviest snowfalls in 15 years.



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Eurostar trains cancelled and delayed

Some travellers stuck at airports have resorted to alternative routes via train and road, but weather conditions are also hampering those options.

Eurostar said in a service update that its trains between London and Paris, Amsterdam and Brussels "are likely to be subject to severe delays and last-minute cancellations" due to heavy snowfall.

Currently, services between London and Paris are showing delays until mid-afternoon. Many trains between Brussels and London and

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Amsterdam and London are operating with limited services, meaning
travellers cannot disembark at intermediate stops.

Rail and road networks in the Netherlands have been snarled by
snowfall. Rail operator NS urged travellers to "delay your journey if
possible". Both domestic and international trains were affected, the
company said.

Travellers warned of icy conditions in the UK

In the United Kingdom, a yellow warning for strong winds is in place
for Cornwall, Devon and the Isles of Scilly as Storm Goretti is
expected to cause **disruption** across much of the southwest.

Across Bristol, Bath, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, a yellow snow
warning will be active until midday on Friday.

The storm system is also expected to bring heavy **snow** to Wales by
the end of the week.

The Met Office has warned that heavy snowfall could cause difficult
travelling conditions and lead to delays.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) also extended amber cold
health alerts for England until Sunday.

Plunging temperatures see deaths and injuries

Nordic countries were also facing snow-related chaos, with officials
in eastern Sweden warning that power cuts were "likely" because of
heavy snowfall.

Trams were suspended in the western city of Gothenburg and the
authorities in the wider region warned people not to drive and stay
at home if possible.

In Denmark, the authorities in the far-north region of North Jutland
warned people to brace themselves for heavy snow but said the
situation was under control.

"For now, calm prevails in North Jutland, but we are taking the
weather forecast very seriously," police wrote in a statement.

"We also urge citizens to prepare and keep safety advice in mind,
especially if they have to travel in difficult traffic conditions."



L Children play in the fresh snow during heavy snowfall in the centre of Nagykanizsa, 6 January, 2026 AP Photo

Since the mercury dropped on Monday, **five people have died** in France.

With the chill making roads perilous, three people died in accidents linked to black ice in southwestern France on Monday morning, authorities said, while a taxi driver died in hospital on Monday night after his vehicle veered off the road and plunged into the Marne river in the Paris region.

In Hungary, a woman died after a car skidded on ice and crashed into another vehicle on Wednesday, according to the interior ministry.

After nearly 40 centimetres of snow fell in the **Bosnian** capital Sarajevo at the weekend, a woman died in hospital after being hit by a tree that collapsed under the weight of the snowfall on Monday, according to police.

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