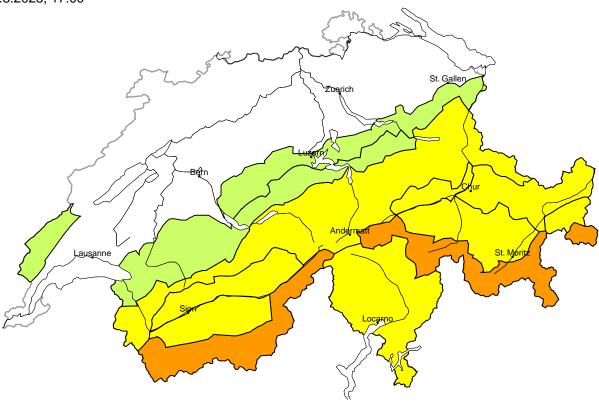
Avalanche danger

updated on 20.3.2025, 17:00



region A

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

Danger description

As a consequence of a strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in the course of the day. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in deeper layers also. They can reach large size.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

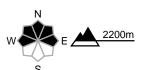
region B

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can in some cases be released in deep layers and reach large size. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

As a consequence of a sometimes strong southerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form in the course of the day as well. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming.

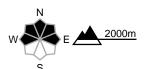
region C

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a sometimes strong southerly foehn wind, easily released wind slabs will form in the course of the day in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places, including medium-sized ones.

The fresh wind slabs are to be bypassed in steep terrain.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

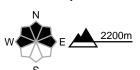
region D

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can be released by people and reach medium size. In isolated cases avalanches can penetrate deep layers and reach large size.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in the course of the day as well. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

Defensive route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming.

region E

Moderate (2+)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist in the old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers and reach large size. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

Defensive route selection is recommended.

Low (1)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

More small and medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are possible.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

region F

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

W E 2200m

Danger description

Fresh wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain. The avalanches are rather small.

Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming.

region G

Moderate (2-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

W E 2200m

Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on very steep shady slopes, especially in little used backcountry terrain. In addition avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes as the day progresses. Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of warming.

region H

Low (1)



Wind slab

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Low (1)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes small to medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming.



region I

Low (1)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be reduced in some case. In particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes small to medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 20.3.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

On the Main Alpine Ridge and north of it, the increasingly strong southerly wind transports still-loose snow on the shady slopes and forms snowdrift accumulations that are easily triggered. On the northern flank of the Alps, the snowpack structure is otherwise quite favourable. In southern Valais, Ticino and Grisons, there are weak layers prone to triggering in the central part of the snowpack. Especially along the central and eastern parts of the Main Alpine Ridge and south of it, avalanches can also be triggered on shady slopes in near-ground layers of the snowpack. Individual wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected.

Weather review for Thursday

After a fairly clear night, it was sunny in the mountains during the day.

Fresh snow

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Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +4 °C in the north and +1 °C in the south.

Wind

Mostly light, in the Gotthard region moderate from southerly directions

Weather forecast to Friday

Clouds will move in from the west during the night. The night will still be mostly clear in the east and south. During the day, it will be only partly sunny with Saharan dust and often dense high clouds.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +8 °C in the north and 0 °C in the south.

Wind

- Light to moderate during the night, increasingly strong from the southwest during the day.
- A strong foehn wind will blow in the alpine valleys of the north.

Outlook

Precipitation will fall in the south on Saturday and Sunday. The snowfall level will be between 1400 and 1800 m. On Saturday, 15 to 30 cm of new snow is expected at high altitudes, and 30 to 50 cm on Sunday. The quantities are still uncertain, especially on Sunday. The avalanche danger will increase somewhat on Saturday and appreciably on Sunday. In the north it will be quite sunny on Saturday with a strong foehn wind from the south. On Sunday it will often be cloudy with showers. The danger of dry avalanches will increase somewhat on Saturday with the foehn wind, but will not change significantly on Sunday. The danger of wet avalanches will increase during the day, probably more so on Saturday than on Sunday.

