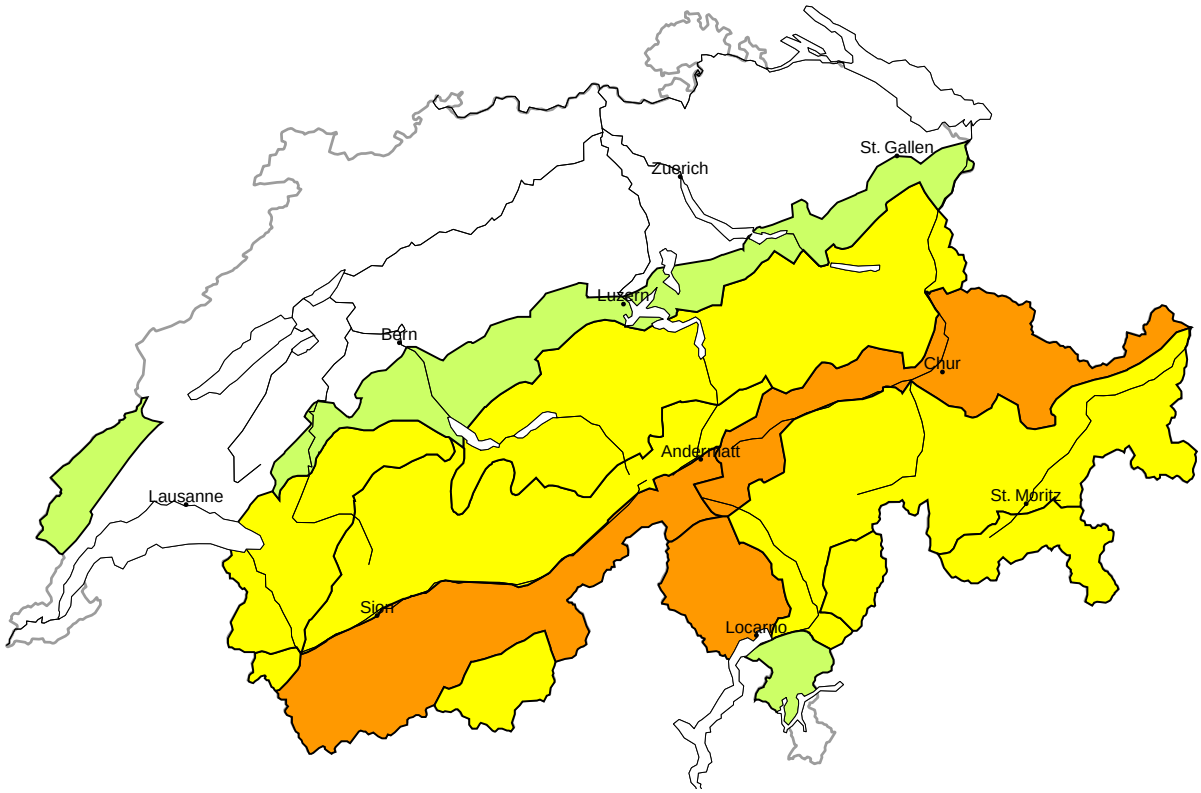
Avalanche bulletin for Friday, 23. January 2026

Avalanche danger

updated on 23.1.2026, 08:00

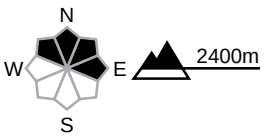


region A

Considerable (3-)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

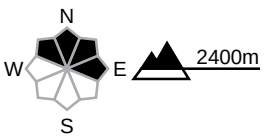
Avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little used north and east facing slopes.

region B

Considerable (3-)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

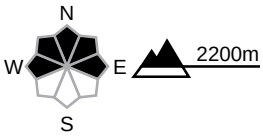
Avalanches can be released in the old snowpack. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Mostly the avalanches are medium-sized. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little used north and east facing slopes.

Danger levels 1 low 2 moderate 3 considerable 4 high 5 very high

region C — Considerable (3-)

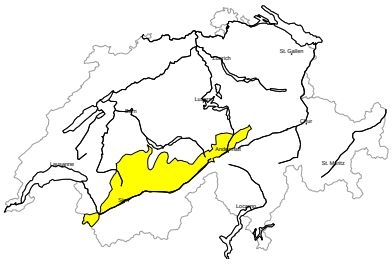
Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



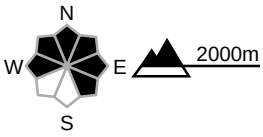
Danger description
The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region D — Moderate (2+)



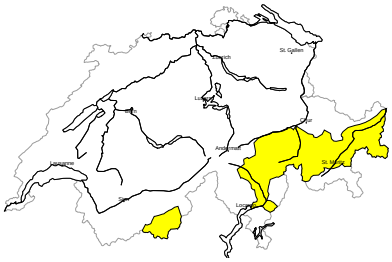
Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



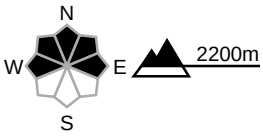
Danger description
Avalanches can in some cases be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered north and east facing slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Isolated whumpfing sounds can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region E — Moderate (2+)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
Older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Especially here avalanches can be triggered in the weakly bonded old snow and reach medium size in some cases. Isolated whumpfing sounds can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

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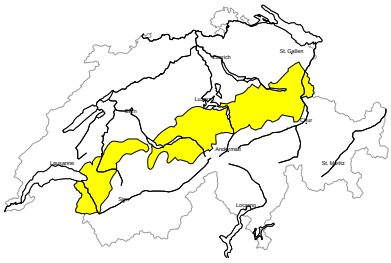
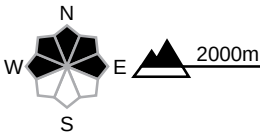
region F — Moderate (2=)



Persistent weak layers

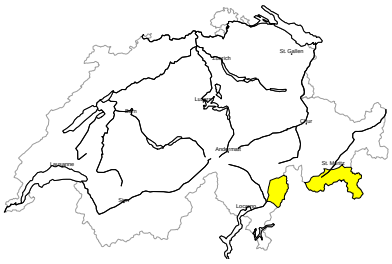
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

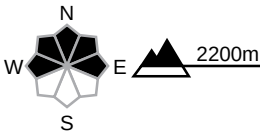
The somewhat older wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. They can still be released in some cases, especially at their margins. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

region G — Moderate (2=)



Persistent weak layers

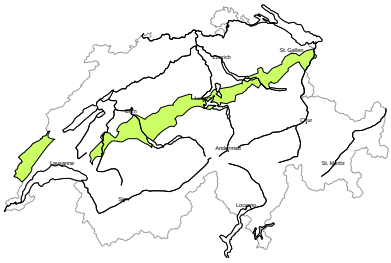
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

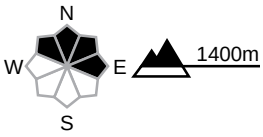
Avalanches can in some cases be released in the old snowpack. Mostly they are small. Isolated whumpfing sounds can indicate the danger.
In addition small wind slabs will form adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas as the day progresses. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

region H — Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

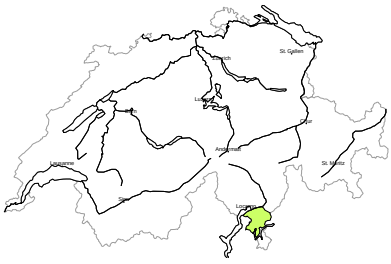
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

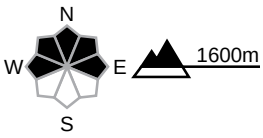
From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Avalanches are only small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region I — Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

From a snow sport perspective, insufficient snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially in extremely steep terrain. Even a small snow slide can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 22.1.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

There are distinct weak layers in the middle and lower part of the snowpack, particularly on wind-protected shady slopes. These areas are particularly widespread south of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine and on the southern flank of the Alps. In these weak layers, medium-sized and sometimes even large avalanches can still be triggered by human activity. The snowpack on northern and eastern slopes in central Valais, as well as in northern Grisons, is particularly prone to triggering and remote triggering is also still possible in these areas in particular. North of a line from the Rhone to the Rhine, the snowpack structure is somewhat more stable and there are fewer hazardous zones.

Weather review for Thursday

In the west conditions were generally very cloudy, elsewhere mostly sunny.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -1°C in the north and -3°C in the south

Wind
Overnight moderate at times from westerly directions, during the day mostly light

Weather forecast to Friday

In the north-east, conditions will still be mostly sunny in the morning due to the foehn wind, but later it will become increasingly cloudy. Valais will see sunny intervals at first, but later on and elsewhere on the western part of the northern flank of the Alps conditions will be mostly cloudy. On the southern flank of the Alps skies will be overcast and a little snow will fall down to low altitudes.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -2°C in the north and -4°C in the south

Wind
South to southwest
- increasing to moderate during the second half of the night
- gradually turning strong on the Main Alpine Ridge
- moderate foehn wind in the north

Outlook to Sunday

On Saturday and Sunday conditions will be overcast on the southern flank of the Alps. Snow will fall during the nights to Saturday and Sunday down to low altitudes. On the central part of the southern flank of the Alps 20 to 30 cm of snow may fall, elsewhere less. In the north, Saturday will be comparatively sunny with variable cloud cover, while Sunday will see only occasional sunny intervals. Saturday in particular will see little snowfall. The wind will be a moderate southwesterly at times, strong at higher altitudes.
Avalanche risk will increase with the fresh snowfall on the Main Alpine Ridge and south of there, but elsewhere will not change significantly. Weak layers in the old snowpack will remain prone to triggering, especially in the inneralpine regions.