

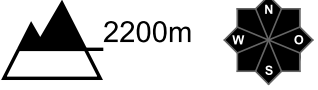








Regional Avalanche Danger Levels in alpine areas from 31.12.2017 07:30 All-Day	WHAT? problem	WHERE? danger spots
	 drifting snow	 2200m fresh, trigger-sensitive
	 wet snow	 2200m thoroughly wet
	General Level Tirol 	Tendency tomorrow  constant

DANGER PATTERNS (DP): [dp.6 - loose snow and wind](#) [dp.10 - springtime szenario](#) [dp.2 - gliding snow](#)

Treacherous avalanche situation, considerable danger widespread

AVALANCHE DANGER

The avalanche situation in Tirol's backcountry touring regions remains treacherous, avalanche danger is considerable (upper notch of this level). Two dangers require attention. First, above 2200 m, the fresh snow. It is poorly bonded with the old snowpack and can thus be triggered even by minimum additional loading. Even the weight of one single skier is enough. Avalanche prone locations are found on steep slopes in all aspects. Below 2200 m, the thoroughly wet snowpack requires high caution. The wetness has caused it to forfeit its firmness. Therefore, pay great heed to the solar radiation and rising temperatures during the day, and to the natural triggerings which they cause: wet-snow and gliding avalanches are the order of the day. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours demand a great deal of experience in assessing dangers on-site.

SNOW LAYERING

Over the last 24 hours there has been an additional 20 cm of fresh snow registered in western regions of North Tirol, along the Northern Alps and in the East Tirolean Tauern Ridge, as much as 30 cm in the Arlberg/Ausserfern region. In the other regions of Tirol there was generally 10-15 cm. The snowfall level tended to ascend towards 2000 m as the day unfolded. High altitude W/NW winds were strong to stormy, thus transporting the fresh snow once again. Both fresh snow and fresh snowdrifts are poorly bonded with the old snowpack surface, making them prone to triggering. Furthermore, in the inneralpine touring regions, along the Main Alpine Ridge and in East Tirol, an old snow problem also threatens: beneath hardened crusts are thin layers of faceted snow crystals, very loose and unbonded. At low and intermediate altitudes the snowpack has been moistened, if not made thoroughly wet, by rainfall and mild temperatures, thereby losing its firmness.

ALPINE WEATHER FORECAST (ZAMG-WEATHER SERVICE INNSBRUCK)

Weather: The Alps are still in the path of a very powerful westerly air current, sometimes shifting more to the southwest, sometimes more to the northwest. In swift succession it is bringing warm and cold fronts our way. Today, Sunday, caught between two perturbances, weather conditions are nearly springlike. Mountain weather today: clouds will rapidly disperse, it will turn sunny, fog will be tenacious only at low altitudes. Winds will slacken off, but remain brisk. Unseasonably mild, the zero-degree level ascending to 3000 m! Temperature at 2000 m: -1 to +6 degrees; at 3000 m: -7 to 0 degrees. Winds will taper off somewhat, but still be blowing at brisk to strong velocity, from west to southwest.

SHORT TERM DEVELOPMENT

Considerable avalanche danger widespread.

Rudi Mair

Translated by Jeffrey McCabe