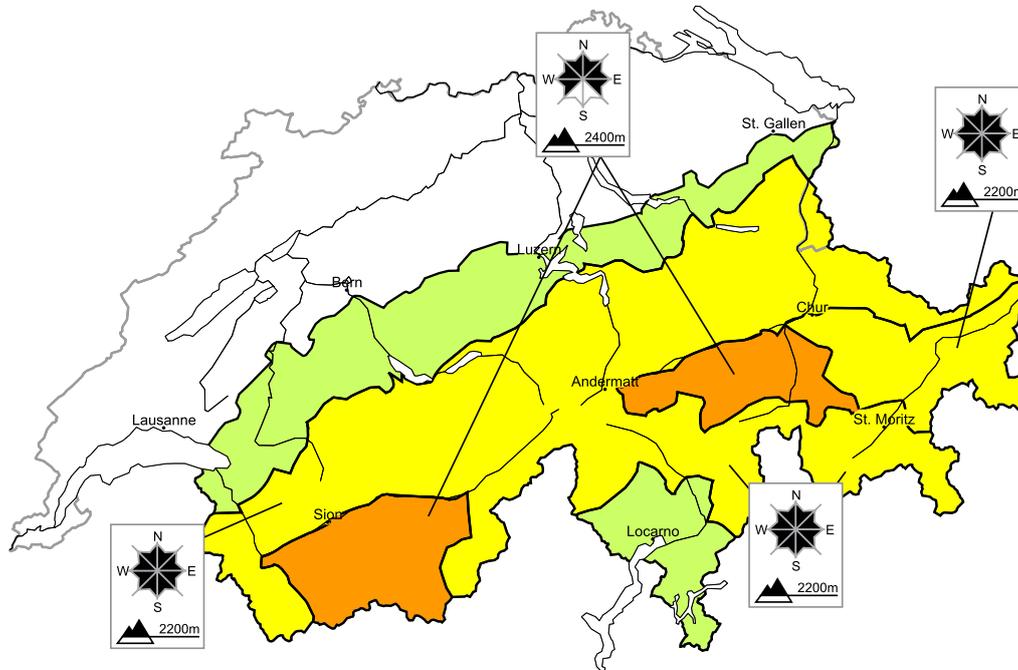


In Valais and in Grisons a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 27.12.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 27.12.2018, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 27.12.2018, 08:00



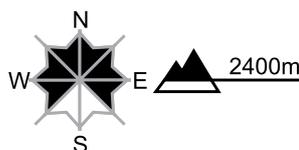
region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

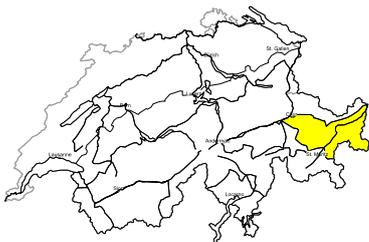


Danger description

In some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Defensive route selection is important. Maintaining distances between individuals and one-at-a-time descents are recommended.

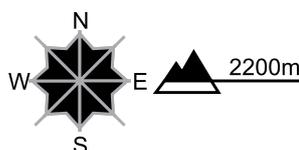
region B

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Maintaining distances between individuals is recommended. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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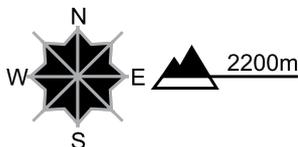
region C

Level 2, moderate



Dry avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can in some cases be released in near-surface layers and reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Northern flank of the Alps: In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard crust, especially below approximately 2200 m.

Gliding avalanches

In particular on steep south facing slopes individual small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m.

region D

Level 1, low



Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on extremely steep slopes. Even a small snow slide can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

In steep terrain there is a danger of falling on the hard crust.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 26.12.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

Above altitudes of 2000 m there are above average amounts of snow on the ground for this juncture of the season throughout all regions of Switzerland. Below 2000 m, on the other hand, the snow cover has average amounts of snow only in certain regions of Grisons, in all the other regions of Switzerland the snowpack is thinner than is customary at Christmastime. In the Jura region, there is hardly any snow left for winter sports following the long-lasting period of rainfall. In the southern Valais and the inneralpine regions of Grisons more than anywhere else, the avalanches which triggered on Tuesday and Wednesday are indicators that above 2400 m there are weak layers in the central section of the snowpack which are still triggerable from place to place. In those regions, dangerously large-sized avalanches are possible. Below approximately 2200 m the somewhat more loosely packed and unbonded snow lies on top of a well consolidated snowpack fundament in many places.

On steep grass-covered south-facing slopes, glide-snow avalanches continue to be possible in isolated cases.

Observed weather on Wednesday, 26.12.2018

Following a night of clear skies, it was sunny and mild in the mountains during the daytime.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +5 °C in western regions and +2 °C in eastern regions.

Wind

Winds during the night were blowing intermittently at moderate strength from northerly directions, during the daytime the winds were predominantly light.

Weather forecast through Thursday, 27.12.2018

Following a night of generally clear skies, during the daytime it will be sunny and mild to start with. In the afternoon, high altitude clouds will move in from the northwest.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +6 °C.

Wind

Winds will be blowing predominantly at light strength, intermittently at moderate velocity on the southern flank of the Alps, from northerly directions.

Outlook through Saturday, 29.12.2018

On Friday, it will be only partly sunny as a result of the wide-ranging cloudbanks, but it will remain dry. On Saturday it is expected to be sunny.

Avalanche danger levels will continue to decrease further.