

Ongoing lots of snow at elevated altitudes and in high alpine regions. The avalanche danger requires caution.

Edition: 27.5.2021, 17:00 / Next update: 31.5.2021, 18:00

Avalanche danger

The Avalanche Warning Service no longer has up-to-date information of snowpack layering in the outlying regions. For that reason, the current situation requires a highly critical degree of attentiveness to risks on-site.

Dry-snow avalanches

Near-surface layers are still prone to triggering, particularly on very steep north-facing slopes in the high alpine regions. Avalanches can be triggered by persons, including medium-sized releases. In addition, the dangers of being swept along and forced to take a fall require appropriate attentiveness, particularly in rocky terrain.

Wet-snow and gliding avalanches during the course of the day

As a consequence of daytime warming and solar radiation, wet-snow and gliding avalanches are possible in all aspects during the course of the day. These releases can in isolated cases grow to large size, more than anywhere else on north-facing and east-facing slopes in starting zones which have not yet discharged. Skiing and freeriding tours in outlying terrain should be brought to a close early in the day.

Snow and weather

Snowpack

At elevated altitudes and in the high alpine regions, there are still above-average amounts of snow for this juncture of the season. Particularly in the high alpine regions, conditions are still wintry. Following nights of clear skies, the snowpack surface in the early morning hours is frozen and capable of bearing loads. As daytime warming increases and solar radiation accumulates, the snowpack surface softens up rapidly. East-facing, south-facing and west-facing slopes are thoroughly wet up to high altitudes. Particularly on north-facing slopes above 2700 m, more deeply embedded layers inside the snow cover can become weakened as the wetness penetrates ever further into the snowpack; large-sized avalanche releases which sweep along the entire snowpack then become increasingly possible.

Weather review to Wednesday, 26 May

In the southern regions it was frequently sunny, in the northern regions skies were variably cloudy. In the northern Alpine Ridge between the Gotthard region and the Alpstein there was 10 to 20 cm of fresh snow registered above approximately 2000 m. Winds were blowing at moderate strength, intermittently also at strong velocity, from southwesterly directions.

Weather forecast through Monday, 31 May

It will frequently be sunny, isolated showers are possible during the course of the day. The amounts of precipitation are expected to remain minor. In the northern regions, a light-to-moderate strength bise wind is expected to arise. At 2000 m the temperature will lie at approximately +5 °C.

For a detailed prognosis of weather developments, please consult the weather reports.

Outlook

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Keep informed about the publication of unannounced Avalanche Bulletins. Activate in the App WhiteRisk the "Push Summer Bulletin".