

At high altitudes: High avalanche danger due to fresh snow and storm-winds

	Osterhorngruppe, Gamsfeldgruppe, Untersbergstock	
	Chiemgauer Alpen, Heutal, Reiteralpe, Loferer und Leoganger Steinberge, Gosaukamm, Kitzbüheler Alpen, Glemmtal, Oberpinzgauer Grasberge, Dientner Grasberge, Pongauer Grasberge, Großvenedigergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Nord, Glocknergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Goldberggruppe Nord, Goldberggruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Nord, Niedere Tauern Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Süd, Ankogelgruppe, Muhr	
	Nockberge	

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



valid for: **Saturday, 23.12.2023**

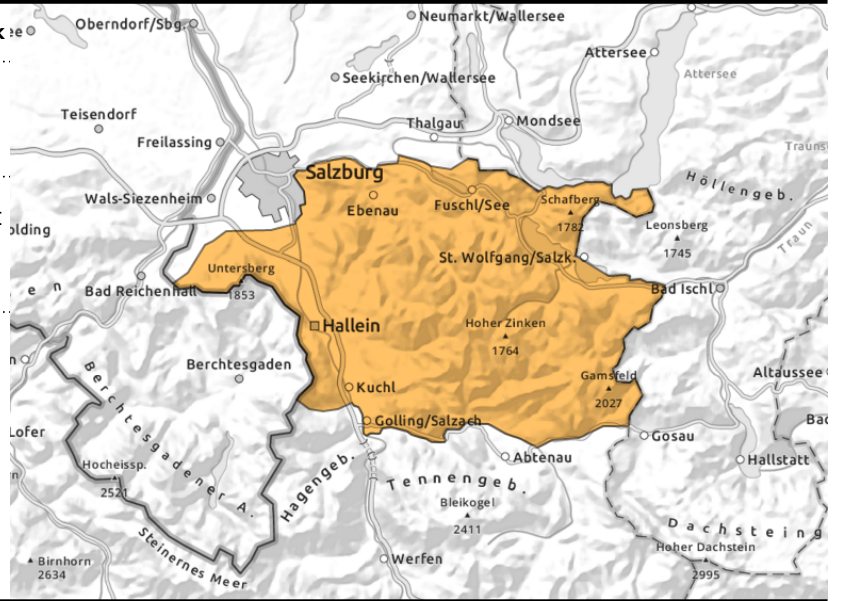
Osterhorngruppe, Gamsfeldgruppe, Untersbergstock



far-reaching snowdrifts, distant from ridges, in gullies, bowls, forest rims, forest lanes



possible at any time of day



Tense avalanche situation, self-restraint necessary

Avalanche danger is considerable.

Due to storm winds and large amounts of fresh snow, many avalanches can trigger naturally, possibly reaching medium size. Danger zones in all aspects in wind-protected terrain, increase with ascending altitude.

Medium-sized glide-snow avalanches can release naturally up to summit levels at any time of day, on steep smooth slopes (grass, rocks) in all aspects.

Furthermore, due to rain impact wet loose-snow avalanches are possible in extremely steep terrain, mostly small sized.

Snowpack structure

Stormy winds have done their work on the snowpack, crests and ridges are windblown, snowdrifts lie far from ridgelines.

The massive amounts of transported fresh snow was deposited at high altitudes on shady slopes atop a loose snowpack surface. Even where the surface was encrusted, the crust formed a faceted weak layer in some places. In addition, weak near-surface layers are forming inside the masses of fresh fallen snow.

At intermediate to low altitudes, rain and snow are increasing the weight load on the snowpack. The entire snow cover can glide downhill over smooth ground.

Due to rain impact, the snowpack is forfeiting its firmness at low altitudes.

Weather

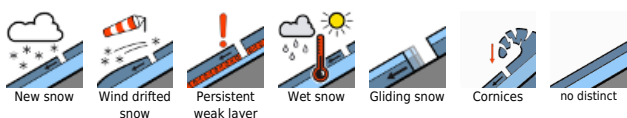
Persistent and heavy snowfall will continue through the night, focal point in the classic northern barrier cloud regions but also in the Tauern. Near the Osterhorn range max. 20-30 cm expected.

Snowfall level will ascend from the west to just over 1000 m in the evening. Snowfall accompanied by high wind impact, the NW wind will often reach gale strength.

Intermittent snowfall in the morning, most in the eastern ranges. Visibility severely reduced. Snowfall level initially at 1200 m, later ascending to 1500 m. Precipitation will slacken off in the afternoon,

winds from the west will reach 100 km/hr, massive snow transport is the result. At 2000 m: -2 degrees, at 3000 m: -9 degrees.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



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Outlook

Snowdrift accumulations are bonding better with the old snowpack surface. Gliding snow problem persists.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings

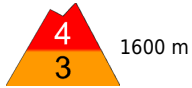
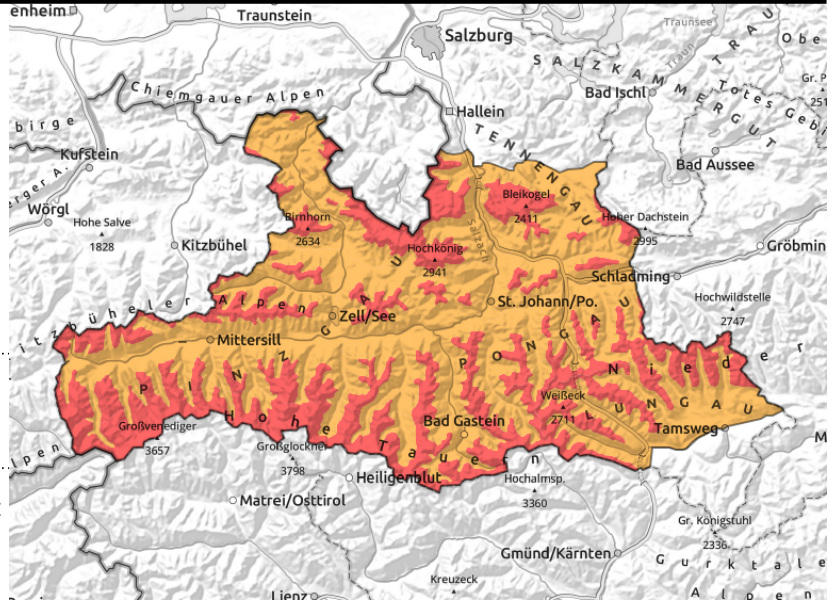




Expositions





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Chiemgauer Alpen, Heutal, Reiteralpe, Loferer und Leoganger Steinberge, Steinernes Meer, Hochkönig, Hagengebirge, Göllstock, Tennengebirge, Gosaukamm, Kitzbüheler Alpen, Glemmtal, Oberpinzgauer Grasberge, Dientner Grasberge, Pongauer Grasberge, Großvenedigergruppe Nord, Großvenedigergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Glocknergruppe Nord, Glocknergruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Goldberggruppe Nord, Goldberggruppe Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Nord, Niedere Tauern Alpenhauptkamm, Niedere Tauern Süd, Ankogelgruppe, Muhr



  far-reaching snowdrifts, distant from ridges, in gullies, bowls, forest rims, forest lanes

  possible at any time of day

High avalanche danger will persist

Avalanche danger is high above 1600 m, below that altitude danger is considerable. Self-restraint is called for.

Due to storm winds and large amounts of fresh snow, many avalanches can trigger naturally, possibly reaching medium size. Danger zones in all aspects in wind-protected terrain, increase with ascending altitude.

Below 2500 m glide-snow avalanches can release naturally up to summit levels at any time of day, on steep smooth slopes (grass, rocks) in all aspects.

Furthermore, due to rain impact wet loose-snow avalanches are possible in extremely steep terrain, mostly small sized.

Snowpack structure

Stormy winds have done their work on the snowpack, crests and ridges are windblown, snowdrifts lie far from ridgelines. Wide-ranging snowdrifts on shady slopes lie on a loose snowpack surface. Even where the snowpack was encrusted, a weak faceted layer formed prior to the precipitation. There are also weak layers inside the fresh snow.

At intermediate to low altitudes, rain and snow are increasing the weight load on the snowpack. The entire snow cover can glide downhill over smooth ground.

At high-alpine altitudes above 2500 m, the old snowpack base still has faceted layers.

Weather

Persistent and heavy snowfall will continue through the night, focal point in the classic northern barrier cloud regions but also in the Tauern. Near the Osterhorn range max. 20-30 cm expected.

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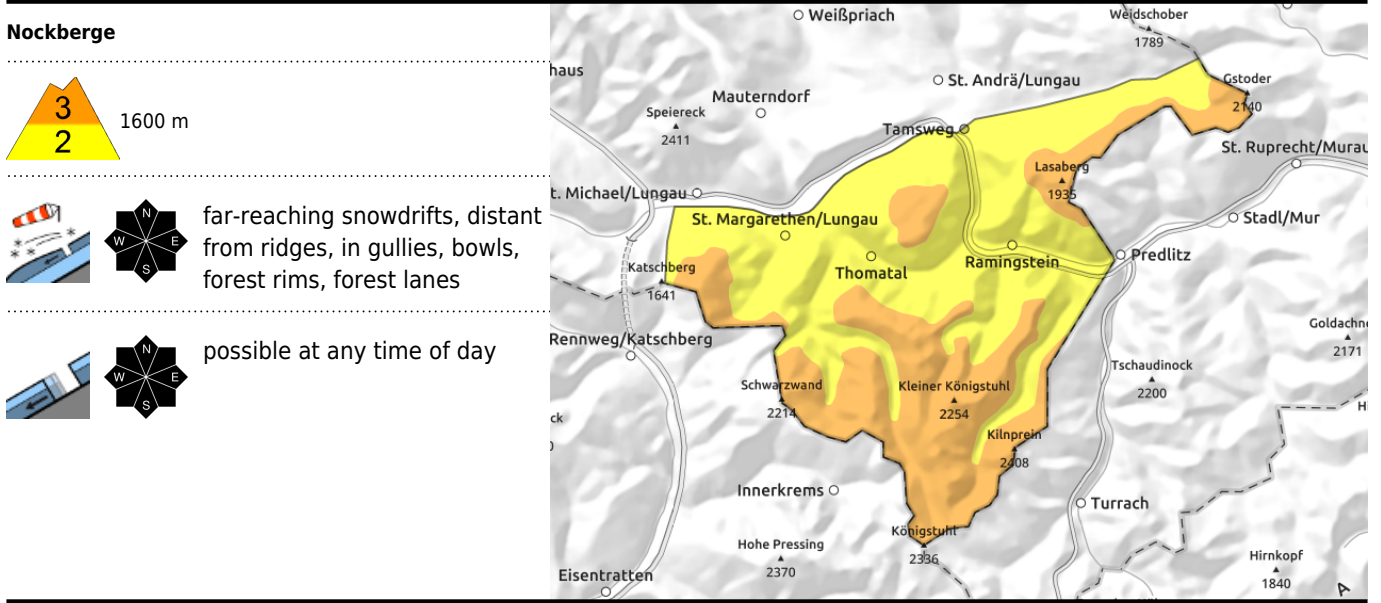


Danger ratings



Expositions





Tense avalanche situation, self-restraint necessary

Avalanche danger is considerable over 1600 m, below that altitude danger is moderate. Due to storm winds and large amounts of fresh snow, many avalanches can trigger naturally, possibly reaching medium size. Danger zones in all aspects in wind-protected terrain, increase with ascending altitude. Medium-sized glide-snow avalanches can release naturally up to summit levels at any time of day, on steep smooth slopes (grass, rocks) in all aspects. Furthermore, due to rain impact wet loose-snow avalanches are possible in extremely steep terrain, mostly small sized.

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

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