

Climatic conditions on Gornergrat

The observatory is located at an altitude of **3089 m** (10,134 ft.) on the **Gornergrat** at the endpoint of the 2nd-highest [railway route](#) [1] of Europe. It is surrounded by some of the most impressive and famous peaks of the Alps with heights above 4000m and exposes a view of the Monte Rosa and the well-known [Matterhorn](#) [2]. At any time, the region around [Zermatt](#) [3] is an excellent skiing area.

The location of the telescope is ideal for radioastronomical observations at high frequencies. Weather conditions and atmospheric transparency are discussed in the KOSMA Technical Memorandum No 5. During winter season, the cumulative probability to find an atmospheric zenith transparency at 350GHz of 0.60 ($\tau=0.50$) is 60%. The atmospheric pressure at the altitude of 3100m is only 690mb. In wintertime, the temperature can drop below **-30** Degree Celsius and in summer it rarely rises above **15** Degree Celsius.

The current weather condition at Gornergrat are monitored by a [live camera](#) [4].

The exact **geographic location** of the observatory is:

Latitude = 45.984 Degree

Longitude = 7.784 Degree

The **local time** is MEZ (Central European Time = UT + 1 h) or MESZ (Summer Time = UT + 2 h).

Source URL: <https://www.astro.uni-koeln.de/node/174>

Links:

[1] <http://www.ggb.ch/englisch/index.html>

[2] http://www.zermatt.ch/graphics/foto/9999_008_l.jpg

[3] <http://www.zermatt.ch/>

[4] <http://www.topin.ch/ch/gornergrat>