

PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM ALTA BADIA – Sunday 17 Dec 2023

Marco Odermatt

- Since the beginning of 2021/22, Marco Odermatt has won 13 of the 19 men's World Cup giant slalom events, including each of the last four.
- Odermatt is the first man to win four successive World Cup giant slalom events since Marcel Hirscher set a streak of five in 2017/18 (from December to March).
- Besides Marcel Hirscher, the only other male alpine skier to have won at least five successive World Cup giant slalom events is Ingemar Stenmark: 14 in a row between 1978 and 1980, five between March 1977 and January 1978, and five in 1981.
- Odermatt (15) has equalled Alberto Tomba (15) in joint-sixth place in the list of most men's giant slalom victories in the World Cup. Alexis Pinturault (18) is next on the list.
- Odermatt's worst results in his last 18 giant slalom starts in the World Cup were third-place finishes in Kransjka Gora (13 March 2022) and Alta Badia (18 December 2022).
- The last men's World Cup giant slalom event in which Odermatt participated but did not finish on the podium was an 11th place in Lenzerheide in the final GS event of the 2020/21 season. **Note:** Odermatt did not start in the giant slalom event in Schladming on 25 January 2023.
- Odermatt has only won more World Cup giant slalom events in Kransjka Gora (3) and Val D'Isère (3) than in Alta Badia (2, one apiece in 2021/22 and 2022/23).

Other contenders

- **Marco Schwarz** finished second in the first World Cup giant slalom event of the 2023/24 campaign in Val d'Isère. It marked his second-best result in a World Cup giant slalom, after winning Palisades Tahoe on 25 February 2023.
- Schwarz can become the first Austrian man to win a World Cup giant slalom event in Alta Badia since Marcel Hirscher (won six in a row between 2013 and 2018).
- Schwarz's best results in a World Cup giant slalom event in Alta Badia were sixth-place finishes in 2019 and 2022. He has failed to reach the podium in any World Cup giant slalom event in Italy.
- In the giant slalom event in Val D'Isère on 9 December, **Joan Verdú** became the first alpine skier - man or woman - from Andorra to claim a podium finish in a World Cup event (all disciplines).
- Verdú's previous best results in World Cup giant slalom events were 12th-place finishes in Alta Badia on 18 and 19 December 2022.
- **Henrik Kristoffersen** has only claimed more wins in giant slalom World Cups in Kranjska Gora (3) than in Alta Badia (2, in 2019 and 2021). He finished second in both giant slalom events in Alta Badia last season.

- Only Alberto Tomba (8) and Marcel Hirscher (7) have achieved as many podium finishes in World Cup giant slalom events in Alta Badia as Kristoffersen (6).
- **Noel Zwischenbrugger** (bib number 57) finished 13th in the giant slalom event on his World Cup debut in Val d'Isère on 9 December. Remarkably, Zwischenbrugger set the fastest time in the second run, moving up from 23rd to 13th as a result.
- **Sandro Zurbrügg** - another World Cup debutant - finished 17th in the Val d'Isère giant slalom. Zurbrügg (bib number 69) entered the second run in 30th place and set the third-fastest time in run 2 (behind Zwischenbrugger and Alex Vinatzer).

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