

PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM BANSKO – Saturday 10 Feb 2024

Marco Odermatt

- Marco Odermatt has won each of the last eight men's World Cup giant slaloms, including all five this season.
- Odermatt (8) is the second male skier to have won more than five consecutive World Cup giant slaloms, after Ingemar Stenmark's run of 14 from March 1978 to January 1980.
- Odermatt is the first skier - male or female - to have won eight consecutive World Cup events in a specific discipline since Janica Kostelic won the opening eight women's slaloms in the 2000/01 World Cup.
- **Odermatt can become the first skier - male or female - to win as many as nine consecutive World Cup events in a specific discipline since Alberto Tomba had a streak of nine in the men's slalom from January 1994 to January 1995.**
- Odermatt finished on the podium in 15 of his 17 World Cup participation this season, including nine wins (three second places and three third places). The exceptions were a seventh place in the Val Gardena downhill (16 December 2023) and fourth-place finish in the Garmisch-Partenkirchen super-G (27 January).
- **Odermatt claimed 13 World Cup victories last season. He can become the third male skier to achieve as many as 10 World Cup victories in back-to-back seasons, after Ingemar Stenmark (1978/1979, 1979/1980 and 1980/1981) and Hermann Maier (1999/2000, 2000/2001).**
- Odermatt is joint-10th alongside Bode Miller (both 33) on most World Cup victories among men. Alexis Pinturault is outright ninth on 34 wins.
- Odermatt has yet to claim a World Cup victory in Bansko. He came fifth and second respectively in the most recent two World Cup giant slaloms at this resort (27 and 28 February 2021).

Other contenders

- **Bansko** has hosted 17 World Cup events in total (nine on the women's side, eight on the men's). Sixteen of the 17 victories were claimed by skiers in their twenties, with the exception a win by 31-year-old Mario Matt in the men's slalom on 27 February 2011.
- The four winners of a men's World Cup giant slalom in Bansko are: Marcel Hirscher (18 February 2012), **Henrik Kristoffersen** (24 February 2019), **Filip Zubcic** (27 February 2021) and Mathieu Faivre (28 February 2021). Faivre will not compete in Bansko this year due to injury.
- Zubcic is ranked second in this season's men's World Cup giant slalom standings on 285 points. The gap to Marco Odermatt is 215 points.
- Since his victory in Bansko almost three years ago, Zubcic and has failed to win another World Cup event.

- Since Zubcic emerged victorious in the Bansko giant slalom in 2021, he came runner-up in a World Cup giant slalom on two occasions: in Lenzerheide (20 March 2021) and Alta Badia (17 December 2023).
- Since Faivre's victory in Bansko, the French have won only one of the following 25 men's World Cup giant slaloms: a win by Alexis Pinturault in Lenzerheide on 20 March 2021.
- Marco Odermatt won 18 of the last 25 men's World Cup giant slaloms. Besides Odermatt, only Kristoffersen (3) managed to win multiple men's World Cup giant slalom events in this span, but his most recent wins date back to March 2022 (he did the double in Kranjska Gora).

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