

PREVIEW WOMEN'S DOWNHILL SAALBACH-HINTERGLEMM – Saturday 23 Mar 2024

Crystal globe

- In the final race of the 2023/24 women's World Cup four female skiers are in contention for the downhill crystal globe: Lara Gut-Behrami (369 points), Stephanie Venier (301), Cornelia Hütter (297) and Jasmine Flury (275). Sofia Goggia (second on 350 points) is injured.
- **If Lara Gut-Behrami secures the super-G crystal globe on Friday, she can become the fourth woman to win a joint-record four World Cup classifications in a single season, after Lindsey Vonn (2009/10, 2011/12), Tina Maze (2012/13) and Mikaela Shiffrin (2018/19).**
- Last season, Gut-Behrami came third in the downhill at the World Cup Finals in Soldeu. A podium result in this race would be enough to claim her first crystal globe in the downhill.
- In the past 30 years, only one female skier representing Switzerland claimed this specific crystal globe: Corinne Suter in 2019/20.
- Cornelia Hütter or Stephanie Venier could become the first Austrian woman to win the World Cup downhill crystal globe since Nicole Schmidhofer in 2018/19, who finished 96 points ahead of Venier in second place (Venier's only WC standings top-3).
- Hütter can finish inside the top three of a World Cup classification for the first time. Her previous best results were fourth places in the super-G (2014/15, 2015/16) and downhill (2017/18). **Note:** this excludes the super-G results from 22 March.

Lara Gut-Behrami

- Lara Gut-Behrami (13) is level with Marie-Theres Nadig (13) in joint-eighth place on most World Cup wins in the downhill on the women's side. Their compatriot Maria Walliser (14) is seventh.
- One out of seven World Cup downhill events in Saalbach-Hintergless was won by a Swiss woman. Doris De Agostini triumphed here on 19 December 1981.
- Switzerland (99) can become the second country to claim 100 wins in women's World Cup downhill events, after Austria (123).

Other contenders

- Including last season, each of the last nine women's World Cup downhill events got a different winner: Kajsa Vickhoff Lie, Ilka Štuhec (World Cup Finals), Mikaela Shiffrin, Jasmine Flury, Sofia Goggia, Stephanie Venier, Ragnhild Mowinckel, Lara Gut-Behrami and Marta Bassino.
- There have been seven different winners in the downhill in a single women's World Cup season for the second time, after this was also the case in 2019/20 (7).

- The women's record for most different winners in a specific discipline in a single World Cup season is eight, set in the slalom on three occasions (1983/84, 1987/88 and 1998/99).
- **Cornelia Hütter** and **Federica Brignone** have both secured two podium finishes in World Cup downhill events this season (one second and one third), but neither has managed to secure a victory.
- Brignone has yet to win a World Cup downhill event. She came second five times, including in Crans-Montana on 17 February (the most recent downhill).
- Hütter or **Stephanie Venier** could become the first Austrian woman to win a World Cup downhill event in Austria since Christine Scheyer triumphed in Altenmarkt/Zauchensee on 15 January 2017.
- Annemarie Moser-Pröll is the only Austrian woman to have clinched a World Cup downhill event victory in Saalbach-Hinterglemm, winning the inaugural edition on 19 December 1972.
- This will be the final race of **Ragnhild Mowinckel's** ski racing career. Mowinckel is the Norwegian woman to have claimed the most World Cup victories (4), including one downhill (in Cortina d'Ampezzo on 27 January 2024).
- Mowinckel also claimed medals at the world championships (G0-S0-B2) and Olympic Winter Games (G0-S2-B0). She took silver in the downhill at the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Games, only 0.09 second behind gold medallist Sofia Goggia.
- **Marta Bassino** can become the first woman to win successive World Cup downhill events since her compatriot Sofia Goggia achieved this in December 2022-January 2023.
- Since the start 2023, **Jasmine Flury** has either finished first (Val d'Isère, 16 December 2023), second (Crans-Montana, 16 February 2024) or outside the top 10 (ten times) in all 12 World Cup downhill events.
- **Elvedina Muzaferija's** fourth place (0.11 seconds off the podium) in the second downhill in Crans-Montana (17 February) was the best-ever result for an alpine skier - male or female - representing Bosnia and Herzegovina. Prior to this, the country's best World Cup result in this sport was a 14th place by Muzaferija in the Cortina d'Ampezzo super-G on 28 January this year.
- **Germany** has won each of the last two World Cup downhill events in Saalbach-Hinterglemm, both victories by Hilde Gerg in January 2002.