

PREVIEW WOMEN'S SLALOM ÅRE – Sunday 10 Mar 2024

Mikaela Shiffrin

- Mikaela Shiffrin is expected to make her comeback in this slalom. She was out of competition since suffering a knee injury in the World Cup downhill in Cortina d'Ampezzo on 26 January.
- Last season's women's World Cup slalom in Åre was a special one, especially to Shiffrin. On 11 March 2023, Shiffrin claimed her 87th World Cup victory to break Ingemar Stenmark's all-time record of 86 WC wins in this sport (1975-1989).
- Shiffrin achieved her first of a record 95 World Cup victories at this resort as well. She was only 17 when she emerged victorious in the Åre slalom on 20 December 2012.
- Shiffrin also claimed her fourth consecutive and most recent slalom world title here in Åre back in 2019.
- Shiffrin (630 points) can win the slalom crystal globe for the eighth time. She leads third-placed Lena Dürr (442) by 188 points. Second-placed Petra Vlhová (505) is out for the remainder of the season.
- Shiffrin could claim her 16th crystal globe, and her eighth in the slalom. She can equal the record for most World Cup classification wins in a specific discipline: eight by Ingemar Stenmark (slalom and giant slalom) and Lindsey Vonn (downhill). Marcel Hirscher won the men's overall World Cup standings eight times.
- Shiffrin only claimed more World Cup victories in Courchevel, Levi and Semmering (all 7) than in Åre (6, including five slalom wins).

Other contenders

- Sweden's **Anna Swenn-Larsson** was the silver medallist behind Mikaela Shiffrin in the slalom at the 2019 World Championships in Åre five years ago.
- Following her first place in Soldeu (on 11 February), Swenn-Larsson can become the first Swedish woman to win successive World Cup slalom events since Anja Pärson won two in a row in December 2005.
- Swenn-Larsson and **Sara Hector** aim to become the second Swedish woman to win a World Cup slalom on home snow, following Maria Pietilä Holmner's win in Åre on 13 December 2014.
- **Zrinka Ljusic** finished second in the two most recent World Cup slalom events. Ljusic (20 years and 44 days old on 10 March) can become the youngest woman to win a WC slalom since a 20-year-old Shiffrin in Jasná in March 2016.
- The only woman representing Croatia to have won a World Cup event is Janica Kostelic. She clinched 30 World Cup victories, including three wins in Åre (2003 and 2006 slalom, 2006 giant slalom).

- Earlier this season, **Leona Popovic** also had come very close to Croatia's first WC victory on the women's side since 2006. Popovic finished runner-up in the second Levi slalom on 12 November 2023.
- **Chiara Pogneaux** entered the second run of the latest World Cup slalom event in Soldeu with the 30th-fastest time (57.10). However, she clocked the fastest time in run 2 (53.76), securing a 10th-place finish overall.
- At least one woman representing United States finished on the podium in 16 out of the last 17 World Cup slalom events (2022/23 Sestriere - now). The exception came in Levi this season, when Petra Vlhová won ahead of Lena Dürr and Katharina Liensberger.
- In the absence of Mikaela Shiffrin, **Paula Moltzan** (3rd) secured a podium finish for USA in the World Cup slalom in Soldeu.
- Switzerland's **Michille Gisin** (10th, 4th, 6th, 4th) and **Camille Rast** (4th, 6th, 4th, 5th) are the only women to have finished inside the top 10 in all four World Cup slalom events in 2024. Rast is still chasing her first career World Cup podium finish (all disciplines).
- The last Swiss woman to win a World Cup slalom event was Wendy Holdener, who won two in a row in November-December 2022 (Killington and Sestrière).
- **Lena Dürr** (422 points) is the only woman who can prevent Shiffrin (630) from claiming her eighth slalom crystal globe. Dürr needs to win the remaining two WC slaloms to have at least a chance to do so. So far, she only has one WC slalom win to her name (Špindlerův Mlýn on 29 January 2023).
- **Katharina Liensberger** claimed three World Cup victories in her career, two of them were slalom wins in Åre (13 March 2021 and 12 March 2022). The only woman to have won more than two World Cup slaloms in Åre is Shiffrin (5).

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