

## FACTS & FIGURES – Men’s Slalom, Wengen

- **Henrik Kristoffersen (NOR/Van Deer)** has a great opportunity to extend his lead at the top of the men’s Slalom Crystal Globe standings as the Audi FIS World Cup tour lands in one of his favourite destinations.
- The Norwegian has three wins (2023, 2017 & 2016) and four podium finishes in his last nine races in the iconic Swiss resort.
- Since finishing 15th on his debut in Wengen in 2014, Kristoffersen has missed the podium just twice, ending 4th in 2019 and failing to finish in 2022.
- A fourth win would take him clear of Ingemar Stenmark (SWE) and Benjamin Raich (AUT) in the list of all-time Wengen winners, and into a tie at the top with Ivica Kostelic (CRO).
- So far this season, he has a win (Val d’Isere), two podiums (including a 3rd last week in Adelboden) and three top-six finishes.
- The top three in the Crystal Globe standings are separated by just 50 points with **Clement Noël (FRA/Dynastar)** - currently second - the only person in the Wengen field to have won more than once this season.
- It has largely been feast or famine for Noël, with the reigning Olympic slalom champion having mixed his three wins (Adelboden, Gurgl and Levi) with a DNF in Madonna Di Campiglio and a 6th in Alta Badia. Noël also missed Val d’Isere with injury.
- The Frenchman does have form in Wengen, having won back-to-back titles in 2019 and 2020, although he has not been on the podium since.
- With 13 World Cup Slalom wins Noël is currently second equal with Noël Augert in the list of France’s all-time most successful World Cup slalom skiers. Perrine Pelen leads the way with 15 wins.
- **Loic Meillard (SUI/Rossignol)** has the opportunity to send fans wild and become the first Swiss winner in Wengen for 38 years.
- Should Meillard turn his consistency (four podium finishes already this season) into victory he will join Joel Gaspov (1987) and Dumeng Giovanoli (1968) as the only Swiss victors in the 58 years of World Cup Slalom racing in Wengen.
- Meillard was 2nd behind Kristoffersen in 2023, his only podium finish in the resort so far.
- Meillard’s only career Slalom World Cup win came in Aspen, USA in March 2024.
- **Lucas Pinheiro Braathen (BRA/Atomic)** became the first Brazilian to climb onto a World Cup Slalom podium when second in Adelboden last weekend.
- He has a great record in Wengen, having won (2022) and finished third (2023) in his three races so far. He didn’t compete last year, when absent from the tour.
- Pinheiro Braathen’s former teammate **Atle Lie McGrath (NOR/Head)** is a firm part of an excellent recent record for Norway in Wengen. At least one ‘Attacking Viking’ has been on the podium in Wengen in eight of the past nine races, dating back to 2015.
- McGrath was 2nd 12 months ago and has long been threatening to add to his two World Cup victories, both achieved in March 2022.
- Following three successive podiums, the 24-year-old has failed to finish both of his past two World Cup Slaloms, in Madonna Di Campiglio and Adelboden.
- **Timon Haugan (NOR/Van Deer)** is the third Norwegian inside the top six in the Crystal Globe Standings.
- But aside from victory in Alta Badia, Haugan - 3rd in last season’s Slalom rankings - has struggled to find consistency with a next best finish of 8th.

- His record in Wengen is also patchy. Ninth last year is the only time he has finished the race in four attempts.
- Austria has been the most successful nation in Wengen to date, with **Manuel Feller (AUT/Atomic)** claiming the nation's 10th victory in 2024.
- While that was one of four wins for the skier who went on to claim the 2023/24 Slalom Crystal Globe, Feller has struggled this season having failed to finish four of his six races and with 4th in Val d'Isere his best result.
- After a difficult start to the season, a 6th and a 4th in his past two races have seen **Linus Strasser (GER/ Rossignol)** start to return to the sort of form that ended with him 2nd behind Feller in last season's standings.
- He is yet to crack the podium in Wengen, with 4th in 2023 his best effort.
- At the age of 38 **Dave Ryding (GBR/Head)** will extend his own record as the oldest man to finish on a World Cup Slalom podium should he find his way into the top-three in Wengen for the first time in his long career.
- Despite failing to finish in Adelboden, **Samuel Kolega (CRO/Rossignol)** is enjoying the best form of his career. Following an impressive season start with top-10 finishes in Levi (9th), Val d'Isère (6th), and Alta Badia (5th), the Croatian achieved a major milestone with 3rd in Madonna Di Campiglio by claiming his first-ever World Cup podium.
- With compatriot Kostelic a record four-time winner in Wengen, Kolega has inspiring footsteps to follow in.