

FACTS & FIGURES – Women’s Slalom in Flachau

- It has been seven races and eight years since a skier other than **Mikaela Shiffrin (USA/ Atomic)** or **Petra Vlhova (SVK/ Rossignol)** have won a Flachau women’s Audi FIS World Cup night Slalom. But with both skiers missing through injury, a new name will lift the trophy on 14 January.
- After winning both the past two World Cup Slaloms - in Semmering and Kranjska Gora - **Zrinka Ljutic (CRO/ Atomic)** starts as favourite.
- It took Ljutic 36 attempts before she grabbed that first career win in Semmering and became the first Croatian athlete to win a World Cup race since Janica Kostelić in 2006. Now she has the chance to match the three Slalom World Cup wins in succession that Kostelić achieved at the end of 2002 and beginning of 2003.
- No female slalom skier other than Shiffrin or Vlhova has won three-in-a-row since Austrian Marlies Schild won five-in-a-row in 2011/2012.
- Ljutic will have to overcome some poor Flachau form if she is to join such elevated company; the Croatian is yet to finish a Slalom in the Austrian resort in three attempts.
- Ljutic currently leads the Slalom season standings and is second in the Overall rankings, just 23 points behind leader Federica Brignone (ITA/Rossignol).
- Just four points behind Ljutic in the Slalom Crystal Globe race sits **Camille Rast (SUI/ Head)** who has the opportunity to become the first ever Swiss winner of the women’s night Slalom in Flachau.
- Like Ljutic, Rast claimed her maiden World Cup win this season, triumphing in Killington in December. Alongside this victory, she has finished inside the top five in each of the other four races this season. This is comfortably the best sequence of her career.
- Prior to this season, Rast had four top-five World Cup Slalom finishes in her entire career.
- Second in two of the past three World Cup Slaloms (in Kranjska Gora and Killington) **Wendy Holdener (SUI/Head)** also has a great opportunity to be Switzerland’s first Flachau champion.
- Holdener already has two third-place finishes to her name in Flachau, in 2017 and 2021, and the 31-year-old has been typically consistent this season so far, finishing outside the top-six just once in Slalom.
- But Holdener has struggled to turn consistent excellence into victories, with her career statistics so far reading: 121 World Cup Slalom starts, 37 podium finishes, just two of which were wins.
- Like Holdener, Lena Dürr (GER/ Head) and Katharina Liensberger (AUT), **Anna Swenn Larsson (SWE/ Head)** has recorded two Slalom podium finishes this season but is yet to claim a win.
- Of these four skiers, Swenn Larsson won most recently, claiming victory in Soldeu in February last year. When, at the age of 32 years, 7 months, and 23 days she became the oldest skier to win a World Cup Slalom.
- Not only does Swenn Larsson have good Flachau memories to draw upon, having finished second in 2020, but the Swedish women’s team have done well in general in

the Austrian resort, with Frida Hansdotter having won twice (2015 and 2017).

- Meanwhile, **Katharina Liensberger (AUT/Rossignol)** is the only woman in the field with more than two career World Cup Slalom victories.
- Liensberger has won three World Cup Slaloms, the last coming in March 2022 in Are.
- Liensberger could become the first Austrian to win on home snow in Flachau since the second of Marlies Schild's two victories in 2011.
- With two podium finishes and three other top-10 finishes, this is already Liensberger's best Slalom season since 2021/22.

- At the age of 33 years 5 months and 12 days **Lena Dürr (GER/ Head)** also has the opportunity to become the oldest skier to win a World Cup Slalom, should she triumph in Flachau.
- Dürr's only World Cup win came in the Slalom in Špindlerův Mlýn in January 2023.
- Since that win Dürr has finished on the podium six times, including twice this season (second in Semmering, third in Levi)

- Reigning Olympic Giant Slalom champion **Sara Hector's (SWE/Head)** only World Cup Slalom podium finish in her career came in Flachau last season, when she was third behind Vlhova and winner Shiffrin.
- Hector has finished sixth (Kranjska Gora) and fifth (Semmering) in her past two World Cup Slalom races.