

PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM SÖLDEN – Sunday 23 Oct 2022

Marco Odermatt

- Marco Odermatt won last season's giant slalom crystal globe, the first Swiss man to do so since Didier Cuche (2008/09).
- The last Swiss man to claim the giant slalom globe in successive seasons was Michael von Grünigen in 1995/96 and 1996/97.
- Odermatt finished on the podium in all eight giant slalom events in last season's World Cup, including five wins. The Swiss also picked up Olympic gold in this discipline in Beijing.
- Odermatt was the first male skier to claim a podium finish in all World Cup giant slalom events contested in a single season since Marcel Hirscher in 2017/18 (7 races, 7 podiums).
- Odermatt has claimed 11 World Cup event wins, of which he achieved seven in the 2021/22 season (5 in giant slalom, 2 in super-G).
- Odermatt won last year's season opener in Sölden, after he had finished runner-up in the same event in 2020/21. The last man to win the opening giant slalom event in successive World Cup seasons was Ted Ligety, who achieved this in four consecutive seasons from 2010/11 to 2013/14 (1 in Beaver Creek, 3 in Sölden).

Henrik Kristoffersen

- Henrik Kristoffersen (3) was the only other man apart from Marco Odermatt (4) to win a World Cup giant slalom event last season.
- Kristoffersen equalled the Norwegian record for most World Cup giant slalom wins in a single season: three by Kjetil André Aamodt in 1992/93.
- Kristoffersen (7) has also surpassed Aamodt (6) for most World Cup giant slalom wins in total among Norwegian skiers.
- Kristoffersen (9) is one of two male skiers to have claimed at least one World Cup win in each of the last nine seasons, alongside Dominik Paris (last 10 seasons).
- The two Norwegian skiers to have won the Sölden giant slalom in the World Cup are Aksel Lund Svindal (2007/08) and **Lucas Braathen** (2020/21).

Other contenders

- In only two of the previous seven World Cup seasons, the winner of the season opener also ended up winning the giant slalom crystal globe: Marcel Hirscher in 2017/18 (Beaver Creek) and Marco Odermatt in 2021/22 (Sölden).
- **Alexis Pinturault** has claimed 18 World Cup wins in the giant slalom, ranking him fifth on the all-time men's list. Michael von Grünigen is fourth on 23 wins. His 18 victories in this discipline are at least 11 more than any other active male skier (7 by both Henrik Kristoffersen and Odermatt).
- Last season, Pinturault failed to win a single World Cup event for the first time since 2010/11. The French skier had claimed at least one World Cup win in 10 successive seasons from 2011/12 to 2020/21.
- Pinturault can become the sixth male skier to win a World Cup event in at least 11 different seasons, after Ingemar Stenmark (13), Marc Girardelli (12), Aksel Lund Svindal (12), Benjamin Raich (12) and Alberto Tomba (11).
- Pinturault won the season opener in Sölden on two previous occasions, in 2016/17 and 2019/20. Only Ted Ligety (4) and Hermann Maier (3) won the Sölden giant slalom more often in the men's World Cup.
- **Manuel Feller**, third in last season's giant slalom standings, could become the first Austrian man to win a World Cup giant slalom event since Marcel Hirscher in Adelboden on 12 January 2019.
- The three Austrian men to have won the Sölden giant slalom in the World Cup are Hermann Maier (1998/99, 2000/01, 2005/06), Stephan Eberharter (2002/03) and Hirscher (2014/15).
- **Luca De Aliprandini** can become the first Italian man to win a giant slalom in the World Cup since Massimiliano Blardone in Crans-Montana on 26 February 2012.

International Ski Federation www.fis-ski.com
Gracenote Sports on Twitter [@GracenoteGold](https://twitter.com/GracenoteGold)