

## PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM VAL D'ISÈRE – Saturday 10 Dec 2022

### Marco Odermatt

- Marco Odermatt finished on the podium in the opening five events of the 2022/23 men's World Cup (G2-S2-B1). He won the giant slalom in Sölden on 23 October (season opener) and the super-G in Lake Louise on 27 November.
- Including the end of last season, Odermatt reached the podium in 10 of the last 11 events held in the men's World Cup (G3-S5-B2). He did not take part in the men's slalom at the World Cup Season Finals in Méribel on 20 March.
- The last time Odermatt did not make the podium in a men's World Cup event **when he competed** was in the super-G in Kvitfjell on 6 March 2022 (28th place).
- Since the start of last season, Odermatt has finished on the podium in all nine giant slalom events in the men's World Cup, including six wins (G6-S2-B1). The Swiss also claimed the gold medal in this discipline at the Beijing 2022 Winter Games.
- **Odermatt can become the sixth male skier to reach the podium in 10 successive giant slalom events held in the men's World Cup, after Ingemar Stenmark (22, 1977-1980 and 10, 1980-1981), Marcel Hirscher (18, 2016-2018), Phil Mahre (10, 1981-1982), Alberto Tomba (10, 1990-1992) and Ted Ligety (10, 2012-2013).**
- The last time Odermatt missed the podium in a giant slalom in the World Cup was in Lenzerheide on 20 March 2021, when he only came 11th.
- Odermatt can become the first male skier to win three successive giant slaloms in the World Cup since Alexis Pinturault in December 2020 - January 2021 (in Alta Badia and twice in Adelboden).
- Odermatt won the most recent giant slalom in the men's World Cup to take place in Val-d'Isère, on 11 December 2021. Alexis Pinturault (runner-up) and Manuel Feller (third) joined him on the podium.

### Aleksander Aamodt Kilde

- Aleksander Aamodt Kilde did not reach the finish in the men's giant slalom in the season opener in Sölden on 23 October, but finished first or second in the next four events in the World Cup: 1-2-1-1.
- Kilde emerged victorious in the downhill in Lake Louise (26 November) and Beaver Creek (3 December), and also triumphed in the super-G in Beaver Creek (4 December). He finished second in the super-G in Lake Louise (27 November).
- Kilde has never made the podium in a giant slalom in the men's World Cup. His best results are fourth-place finishes in Alta Badia (22 December 2019) and Adelboden (8 January 2021).

## Other contenders

- **This marks the 100th event in the men's World Cup in Val-d'Isère. Austria's Karl Schranz took the win in the first men's World Cup event at this venue, a giant slalom on 12 December 1968.**
- Since the start of last season, the nine giant slalom events in the men's World Cup have either been won by Marco Odermatt (6) or **Henrik Kristoffersen** (3). The latter took the wins in Alta Badia (19 December 2021) and Kranjska Gora (12 and 13 March 2022).
- Kristoffersen can become the second male skier representing Norway to win a giant slalom in the World Cup in Val-d'Isère, after Erik Håker on 9 December 1971. Håker's triumph marked the first-ever World Cup victory for Norway in alpine skiing.
- The last male skier other than Odermatt or Kristoffersen to emerge victorious in a World Cup giant slalom was **Alexis Pinturault** in Lenzerheide on 20 March 2021.
- Only Marcel Hirscher (7) and Michael von Grünigen (4) have won as many men's World Cup events in Val-d'Isère as Alexis Pinturault (4).
- Pinturault won the giant slalom in Val-d'Isère in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 World Cup. Only Hirscher (5) and Von Grünigen (4) claimed more than two giant slalom wins in the men's World Cup at this venue.
- Pinturault only claimed as many individual World Cup wins in Hinterstoder (4) as here on home snow in Val-d'Isère (4).
- Pinturault only recorded more individual World Cup podium finishes in Kranjska Gora (8) as in Val-d'Isère (6, also six in Adelboden).
- The last male skiers other than Odermatt, Kristoffersen or Pinturault to claim a World Cup victory in the giant slalom were **Filip Zubcic** and **Mathieu Faivre** in Bansko, on 27 and 28 February 2021 respectively.
- **Žan Kranjec** (2) hopes to equal Jure Kosir (3) on most World Cup victories among men representing Slovenia. Kranjec came second in the giant slalom in Sölden this season.

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