

PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM SANTA CATERINA –5-6 Dec 2020

Lucas Braathen

- Lucas Braathen won the season opener in Sölden on 18 October. At the age of 20 years and 182 days, he became the youngest winner of a men's World Cup race since Henrik Kristoffersen (20y-137d) in the Levi slalom on 16 November 2014.
- Braathen became the youngest man to win a giant slalom event in the World Cup since Pirmin Zurbriggen (19y-341d) in Adelboden on 11 January 1983.
- Braathen can become the third Norwegian alpine skier to achieve multiple World Cup wins before his 21st birthday, after Kristoffersen (4) and Erik Håker (2).
- The last man to win multiple World Cup events before turning 21 was Kristoffersen in the 2014/15 season.
- Braathen can become the first man to win the opening two giant slalom events of a World Cup season since Ted Ligety in 2013/14 (Sölden, Beaver Creek).
- The only two Norwegian men to win a World Cup giant slalom in Italy are Kjetil André Aamodt in Sestriere on 28 November 1992 and Henrik Kristoffersen in Alta Badia on 22 December 2019.

Henrik Kristoffersen

- Henrik Kristoffersen has won four giant slalom events in the World Cup: in Méribel (2015), Bansko (2019), Kranjska Gora (2019) and Alta Badia (2019). He also picked up the giant slalom world title in 2019.
- Kristoffersen could become the second Norwegian to win at least five giant slalom events in the World Cup, after Kjetil André Aamodt (6). He now shares second place with Aksel Lund Svindal (4) and Erik Håker (4).
- Kristoffersen won the most recent World Cup giant slalom held in Italy, in Alta Badia on 22 December 2019.
- Kristoffersen is one of only two Norwegian men to win a World Cup giant slalom in Italy, after Kjetil André Aamodt in Sestriere on 28 November 1992.

Alexis Pinturault

- Alexis Pinturault has won 14 World Cup giant slalom events, equal to Benjamin Raich and Hermann Maier in sixth place all-time among men. Alberto Tomba (15) is in fifth place.
- Pinturault has yet to win a World Cup giant slalom race in Italy. Pinturault (now 7 countries) could become the fourth man to win a World Cup giant slalom event in at least eight different countries, after Ingemar Stenmark (14), Marcel Hirscher (9) and Michael von Grünigen (9).
- By winning the parallel giant slalom in Lech on 27 November, Pinturault became the 10th male skier to claim 30 World Cup wins. Bode Miller (33) currently holds ninth place all-time.
- Pinturault won the most recent men's World Cup event held in Santa Caterina, an Alpine combined on 29 December 2016.

Switzerland

- Switzerland's Marco Odermatt (2nd), Gino Caviezel (3rd) and Loïc Meillard (joint-5th) all finished in the top five in the Sölden giant slalom on 18 October.
- The last Swiss skier to win a men's giant slalom event in the World Cup was Carlo Janka in Kranjska Gora on 5 March 2011.
- Since Janka's win in Kranjska Gora in 2011, Switzerland have collected eight World Cup podiums in the men's giant slalom, all since the start of the 2018/19 season: four by Odermatt, two by Meillard and one each by Caviezel and Thomas Tumler.
- The last Swiss skier to win a World Cup giant slalom in Italy was Didier Cuche in Sestriere on 21 February 2009.
- Odermatt achieved his only World Cup win in the Beaver Creek super-G on 6 December 2019. Meillard's only World Cup victory came in the parallel giant slalom in Chamonix on 9 February 2020.

Other contenders

- **Filip Zubcic** achieved all three of his World Cup podiums in giant slalom events in 2020. He won in Naeba (22 February) and finished second in both Adelboden (11 January) and Hinterstoder (2 March).
- Zubcic is one of only three skiers representing Croatia to win a World Cup event, alongside siblings Janica (30) and Ivica Kostelic (26).
- **Žan Kranjec** has won two career World Cup events, both in the giant slalom. He won in Saalbach-Hinterglemm on 19 December 2018 and in Adelboden on 11 January 2020.
- Kranjec could equal Jure Kosir's record for most World Cup wins among male skiers representing Slovenia (3).
- **Tommy Ford** won the Beaver Creek giant slalom on 8 December 2019, his first ever World Cup podium. He also finished third in the Naeba giant slalom on 22 February 2020.
- **Ted Ligety** has won 24 giant slalom events in the World Cup, but not since his victory in Sölden on 25 October 2015. Only Ingemar Stenmark (46) and Marcel Hirscher (31) have won more men's World Cup events in the giant slalom.
- Last season, **Austria** failed to win a single men's giant slalom event for the first time since the 1992/93 season. The last Austrian other than Marcel Hirscher to win a men's giant slalom in the World Cup was Philipp Schörghofer in Hinterstoder on 6 February 2011.
- **Italy** have not won a men's giant slalom event in the World Cup since 26 February 2012, when Massimiliano Blardone triumphed in Crans-Montana

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