

PREVIEW MEN'S DOWNHILL – Friday 5 Mar / Saturday 6 Mar 2021

Beat Feuz

- Beat Feuz finished on the podium in each of the last three downhill events in the World Cup. He won both races on the Streif in Kitzbühel and finished second in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.
- Feuz also claimed a top-three finish in the most recent downhill, a third place at the World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo.
- Feuz (39) is two shy of equalling Franz Klammer and Peter Müller on a record 41 World Cup podiums in the men's downhill.
- Among active male skiers, only Dominik Paris (15) has won more downhill events in the World Cup than Feuz (12).
- With two downhills scheduled in Saalbach-Hinterglemm, Feuz has a chance of securing the downhill crystal globe before the World Cup Finals. Feuz could become the second man to win the downhill globe in four successive seasons, after Klammer from 1974/75 to 1977/78.
- Only Kammer (5) and Didier Cuche (4) have won the men's downhill crystal globe at least four times.

Matthias Mayer

- Matthias Mayer is currently ranked second in the men's downhill standings this World Cup season. He is hoping to become the first Austrian man to win the downhill crystal globe since Klaus Kröll in 2011/12.
- Mayer finished on the podium in each of the last four World Cup downhill events, including a win in Bormio. He recorded a DNF in his race at the World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo.
- Mayer can become the first Austrian man to claim five successive top-three finishes in World Cup downhill events since Michael Walchhofer in 2004-2005.
- The last Austrian man to achieve five downhill podiums in a World Cup season was Kröll (5) in 2011/12.
- Mayer won the downhill in Saalbach-Hinterglemm in the 2014/15 World Cup, on 21 February 2015.

Other contenders

- **Dominik Paris** has won 15 World Cup downhill events, ranking him in joint-fourth place among men alongside Franz Heinzer and Hermann Maier (both 15). Only Franz Klammer (25), Peter Müller (19) and Stephan Eberharter (18) have claimed more World Cup wins in this discipline.
- Paris won the most recent downhill race held in the World Cup, in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. He could win back-to-back downhills in the World Cup for the first time since completing a double in Bormio in December 2019.

- Paris still has a chance of winning the downhill crystal globe this season, but he is trailing Beat Feuz by 118 points with three more races scheduled. After claiming the super-G crystal globe in 2018/19, Paris could become the ninth male skier to win a globe in both speed events.
- **Vincent Kriechmayr** won the men's super-G and downhill at the World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo last month. His last downhill victory in the World Cup came in Wengen on 19 January 2019.
- **Johan Clarey** has collected seven World Cup podiums in the downhill, but has yet to win one. By finishing runner-up in Kitzbühel on 24 January, Clarey became the first skier, male or female, to finish on a World Cup podium after turning 40 years old.
- Didier Cuche is the oldest winner of a World Cup event on either the men's or women's side. He was 37 years and 192 days old when he won the super-G in Crans-Montana on 24 February 2012.
- The last Frenchman to win a downhill race in the World Cup was Adrien Théaux in Santa Caterina on 29 December 2015.
- **Romed Baumann** (silver in super-G) and **Andreas Sander** (silver in downhill) both won a medal at the World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo. Last season, Germany's Thomas Dreßen won the downhill in Saalbach-Hinterglemm on 13 February 2020.
- Sander is chasing his first World Cup podium in the downhill. Baumann claimed four runner-up finishes in World Cup downhill events, most recently in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 2015, but all while representing Austria.

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