

PREVIEW WOMEN'S 10KM CLASSIC STYLE RUKA – Saturday 27 Nov 2021

Therese Johaug

- Therese Johaug has won the distance World Cup on four occasions - 2013/14, 2015/16, 2018/19, 2019/20 - a joint women's record alongside Justyna Kowalczyk.
- Johaug finished on the podium in all eight distance races at world level she participated in last season. She won three World Cup distance events and collected three gold medals in distance events at the 2021 World Championships.
- Johaug has won an all-time record 66 World Cup distance events (next 62 by Marit Bjørgen).
- Including overall Tour wins and team events, Johaug (95) is five short of becoming the second cross-country skier to reach 100 World Cup wins, after Bjørgen (144).
- Johaug won each of the last five World Cup distance events held in Ruka. The Norwegian has claimed 10 World Cup distance wins in total in Ruka, a joint women's record for a single ski resort (also 10 by Johaug in Val di Fiemme).

Jessica Diggins

- Jessica Diggins won the overall World Cup and the distance World Cup last season. She became the second non-European to win the overall, after USA's Bill Koch (1981/82), and the first non-European to win the distance World Cup.
- Diggins has claimed eight World Cup wins in distance events, but all came in the freestyle. The only United States skier to win a World Cup distance event in the classic style is Koch (5 in the early 1980s).
- The most recent non-European woman to win a World Cup distance event in the classic style was Canada's Beckie Scott, who won the 15km classic style in Canmore on 17 December 2005.
- Diggins's most recent World Cup podium in the classic style was a third place in the 10km pursuit in Toblach (Tour de Ski) on 6 January 2021.

Other contenders

- None of the last four 10km classic style events in the World Cup was won by a Norwegian skier. Sweden's **Linn Svahn** won in Val Müstair (Tour de Ski) and Falun, Russia's **Natalia Nepryaeva** in Val di Fiemme (Tour de Ski) and Russia's **Yulia Stupak** in Engadin.
- The most recent World Cup season in which the opening distance event was won by a non-Norwegian woman was 2013/14, when Poland's Justyna Kowalczyk won the 5km classic style (3-Days Tour) in Ruka on 30 November.
- Of the last 19 World Cup distance events held in Ruka, 17 were won by Norwegian women, including each of the last 11. In this run, Poland's Kowalczyk (5km classic) and Sweden's Charlotte Kalla (10km pursuit freestyle) claimed a distance victory in the Finnish ski resort, both in 2013.

- **Ebba Andersson** finished on the podium in seven of her last nine World Cup participations in a distance event. The exceptions in this run are a fourth place in the Lahti skiathlon on 23 January and a 10th place in the Falun 10km classic on 30 January.
- Andersson has collected 22 World Cup podiums in distance events, with her only victory coming in the 10km freestyle in Val di Fiemme (Tour de Ski) on 10 January 2021. Since the start of 2018/19, only Therese Johaug (34) finished on as many World Cup distance podiums as Andersson (22).
- **Ingvild Flugstad Østberg** could make her comeback to the World Cup tour after missing the entire 2020/21 season. The Norwegian collected 41 World Cup podiums in distance events, including 13 wins.

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