

PREVIEW MEN'S DOWNHILL BORMIO – Tuesday 28 Dec 2021

Matthias Mayer

- Matthias Mayer, leader in the downhill standings, finished 16th in the Val Gardena downhill on 18 December, ending a podium run of seven. It was his worst World Cup downhill finish since a 31st place in Beaver Creek in December 2019.
- Mayer has not finished outside the top-10 in successive World Cup downhill participations since November-December 2018 (15th in Beaver Creek, DNF in Val Gardena).
- Mayer won last year's downhill event held in Bormio. He can become the third man to claim successive World Cup wins in this event, after Michael Walchhofer (two wins in December 2006) and Dominik Paris (four in a row from 2017 to 2019).
- Mayer (6 in 2021) can become the second male skier in the last 17 years to claim more than six World Cup downhill podiums in a single calendar year, after Beat Feuz (8 in 2018, 7 in 2019). Feuz is also on six downhill podiums in 2021.

Beat Feuz

- By finishing third in the downhill events in Lake Louise and Beaver Creek, Beat Feuz (now 42) broke the men's record for most World Cup downhill podiums, held by Franz Klammer and Peter Müller (both 41).
- Feuz is level with Didier Cuche and Kristian Ghedina (all 12) in ninth place on the list for most men's downhill event wins in the World Cup. Michael Walchhofer and Aksel Lund Svindal (both 14) are in joint-seventh place.
- Feuz has collected five World Cup downhill podiums in Italy (including three in Bormio), but never won. The most recent Swiss man to win a World Cup downhill event on Italian snow was Didier Defago in Bormio on 29 December 2011.
- Feuz (6 in 2021) could claim more than six World Cup downhill podiums in a single calendar year for the third time, after eight in 2018 and seven in 2019.

Dominik Paris

- **Dominik Paris won five World Cup downhill events in Bormio, in 2012 and four successive between 2017 and 2019. This equals the men's record for most World Cup downhill wins at a specific ski resort, five by Didier Cuche in Kitzbühel.**
- Paris also won one super-G event in the Bormio World Cup (2018). The only male skiers to have achieved more than six victories in World Cup speed events at a single resort are Aksel Lund Svindal (8 in Lake Louise, 7 in Val Gardena) and Kjetil Jansrud (7 in Kvitfjell).
- Paris is level with Franz Heinzer and Hermann Maier (all 15) in fourth place on the men's list for most World Cup downhill wins. Stephan Eberharter (18) is in third.
- Paris finished respectively eighth (Lake Louise), fifth (Beaver Creek) and fourth (Val Gardena) in his three downhill participations this season. His last World Cup downhill podium was a victory in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on 5 February 2021,

Other contenders

- **Aleksander Aamodt Kilde** has claimed three World Cup wins this season, two in the super-G and one in the downhill. Only Marco Odermatt (4) has won as many World Cup events among men this season.
- Kilde's three World Cup wins this season are already a personal record for him in a single season. The most recent Norwegian skiers to achieve more victories in one World Cup season were Henrik Kristoffersen and Kjetil Jansrud (both 5 in 2016/17).
- Kilde could become the third Norwegian man to win the Bormio downhill in the World Cup, after Lasse Kjus (1995/96) and Aksel Lund Svindal (2013/14).
- By winning in Val Gardena on 18 December, **Bryce Bennett** became the first US skier to win a men's downhill event in the World Cup since Travis Ganong in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on 27 January 2017.
- Bennett can become the first US man to win successive World Cup downhill events since Bode Miller in December 2007-January 2008 (Bormio, Wengen).
- **Austrian skiers** have won the Bormio downhill a record 14 times in the men's World Cup. Last season, Matthias Mayer emerged victorious on the Stelvio.
- The 36-year-old **Matteo Marsaglia** finished fourth in the Beaver Creek downhill on 4 December, his best career World Cup result in this discipline. He could become the oldest Italian man to reach a World Cup downhill podium, surpassing Ghedina who was 35 when he finished second in Chamonix on 8 January 2005.
- **Johan Clarey** has collected seven World Cup podiums in the downhill, but failed to win one. Only Heinrich Messner (10) and Mario Scheiber (8) have also claimed as many as seven men's World Cup downhill podiums without ever winning.
- Clarey (40 years) could break the record for oldest man to win a World Cup event, set by Didier Cuche (37y-192d) in the Crans-Montana super-G on 24 February 2012.
- At least one **Swiss skier** has finished on the podium in each of the last 12 downhill events in the men's World Cup: Beat Feuz, Urs Kryenbühl, Carlo Janka, Mauro Caviezel and Niels Hintermann. The last country to reach more successive men's World Cup downhill podiums was Austria from 2003 to 2006 (a men's downhill record run of 33).

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