

PREVIEW 2021/22 FOUR HILLS TOURNAMENT (28 Dec 2021-06 Jan 2022)

Four Hills Tournament

- The Four Hills Tournament will be held for the 70th time. It has been held every year since the inaugural edition in 1953.
- Janne Ahonen won the Four Hills Tournament overall a record five times. Jens Weißflog follows on four overall victories.
- Three ski jumpers completed the Grand Slam by winning all four events in a single edition: Sven Hannawald (2001/02), Kamil Stoch (2017/18) and Ryoyu Kobayashi (2018/19).
- The last ski jumper to claim the overall victory in the Four Hills Tournament despite winning none of the four events was Janne Ahonen in 1998/99 (5th, 2nd, 2nd, 2nd).
- In the history of the Four Hills Tournament, only once the victory was shared by multiple ski jumpers: Janne Ahonen and Jakub Janda finished on exactly the same amount of points after four events in 2005/06.
- Jens Weißflog and Björn Wirkola both won a record 10 different events within the Four Hills Tournament.
- Austria, Finland and Germany (including East and West Germany) all won the the overall in the Four Hills Tournament a record 16 times. Norway is next up on 10 wins.
- Oberstdorf will host the opening event of the Four Hills Tournament for the 68th time. The exceptions came in the inaugural edition 1952/53 (Garmisch-Partenkirchen) and 1971/72 (Innsbruck).

Kamil Stoch

- Kamil Stoch won three of the last five editions on the Four Hills Tournament: 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2020/21. Ryoyu Kobayashi (2018/19) and Dawid Kubacki (2019/20) won the other two editions.
- Stoch could become the third man to win the competition at least four times, after Janne Ahonen (5) and Jens Weißflog (4). Björn Wirkola (3) and Helmuth Recknagel (3) also emerged victorious three times.
- Defending champion Stoch could become the first jumper to win back-to-back Four Hills Tournaments since he achieved this himself in 2016/17 and 2017/18.
- Stoch has won seven Four Hills events, including the most recent two (Innsbruck and Bischofshofen). Only Wirkola (10), Weißflog (10), Ahonen (9) and Gregor Schlierenzauer (9) have won more. Matti Nykänen also won seven Four Hills events.
- Stoch failed to win any of opening nine World Cup events in the 2021/22 season. His best result was a third place in Klingenthal on 11 December.
- Four of the last five editions were won by Polish ski jumpers: Stoch (3) and Kubacki (1). Poland had claimed the victory only once in the previous 64 editions: Adam Malysz in 2000/01.

Karl Geiger

- Karl Geiger is hoping to become the first German winner of the Four Hills Tournament since Sven Hannawald in 2001/02. Germany's current winning drought of 19 editions is the longest for the country (including East and West Germany).
- Since Hannawald's victory in 2001/02, German ski jumpers finished runner-up in the overall standings five times: Hannawald (2002/03), Severin Freund (2015/16), Andreas Wellinger (2017/18), Markus Eisenbichler (2018/19) and Geiger himself (2020/21).
- Geiger finished third overall in 2019/20 and second in last season's edition. The only German ski jumpers (including East and West Germany) to reach the overall podium in three successive editions are Dieter Neuendorf (1965/66 to 1967/68) and Jens Weißflog (1982/83-1994/85 and 1987/88-1990/91).
- Dieter Neuendorf (2-3-3) and Henry Glass (2-3-2 between 1971/72 and 1979/80) are the German ski jumpers (including East and West Germany) to finish on the overall Four Hills podium at least three times without ever winning.
- Geiger begins this Four Hills Tournament top of the World Cup standings. He has worn the yellow bib as the overall leader after each of the opening nine individual World Cup events of this season. Only one of the last five editions was won by the ski jumper who entered the Four Hills Tournament as the World Cup leader: Ryoyu Kobayashi in 2018/19.

Ryoyu Kobayashi

- In 2018/19, Ryoyu Kobayashi became the second Japanese ski jumper to win the overall in the Four Hills Tournament, after Kazuyoshi Funaki in 1997/98. Those are the only two overall victories by non-European ski jumpers.
- A total of 12 ski jumpers have won the Four Hills Tournament multiple times. Kobayashi is among the ski jumpers who could possible join that group.
- Noriaki Kasai (2nd in 1992/93, 2nd in 1998/99) and Funaki (2nd in 1994/95 and 1st in 1997/98) are the Japanese ski jumpers to have reached the overall podium in multiple editions.
- Kobayashi won five Four Hills events, joint-most among Japanese ski jumpers alongside Funaki (5).
- Kobayashi (3) has won the most individual World Cup events in the 2021/22 season. He claimed five individual podium places in the 2021/22 World Cup, joint-most alongside Karl Geiger (5).

Other contenders

- **Halvor Egner Granerud** is hoping to become the first Norwegian winner of the Four Hills Tournaments since Anders Jacobsen in 2006/07. Granerud finished fourth last season, his best result in the competition.
- Granerud won the individual World Cup event in Nizhny Tagil on 21 November. He began the Four Hills Tournament in third place in the overall World Cup standings.
- Granerud has yet to win his first Four Hills event. He finished runner-up in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on New Year's Day in 2021.
- **Anže Lanišek** can become the third ski jumper representing Slovenia to win the Four Hills Tournament, after Primož Peterka in 1996/97 and Peter Prevc in 2015/16.
- **Austrian** ski jumpers did not win any of the last six editions of the Four Hills Tournament, directly after winning the competitions seven times in a row from 2008/09 to 2014/15.
- **Stefan Kraft** (2014/15) was the last Austrian winner of the Four Hills Tournament. Since that triumph in 2014/15, the only Austrian ski jumper to reach the overall podium was Michael Hayböck: third in 2015/16.
- The only time Austria had no ski jumper on the overall podium in six consecutive editions of the Four Hills Tournament was from 1967/68 to 1973/74 (7).
- Kraft could become the fifth Austrian man to win multiple editions of the Four Hills Tournament, after Hubert Neuper, Ernst Vettori, Andreas Goldberger and Gregor Schlierenzauer (all 2).
- Kraft and **Jan Hörl** can hand Austria a record 17th overall win the Four Hills Tournament. They currently share the record of 16 with Finland and Germany (including East and West Germany).
- **Dawid Kubacki** is the only ski jumper to finish in the top five in each of the last three editions of the Four Hills Tournament: third in 2018/19, first in 2019/20 and fourth in 2020/21.
- Kubacki begins this Four Hills Tournament in 39th position in the overall World Cup standings. His best individual result in the 2021/22 World Cup was a 13th place in the opening event in Nizhny Tagil on 20 November.
- The Four Hills Tournament has never been won by a ski jumper from **Switzerland**. Swiss men finished on the overall podium seven times, most recently in 2013/14 (3rd place by Simon Ammann).
- Simon Ammann (4) and Martin Höllwarth (4) share the record for most overall podiums in the Four Hills Tournament without ever winning the competition.

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