

PREVIEW MEN'S GIANT SLALOM – Saturday 8 Jan 2022

Marco Odermatt

- Marco Odermatt won three of the opening four men's World Cup giant slalom events this season, with as exception a second place in the first Alta Badia event on 19 December.
- Four men won at least four of the opening five World Cup giant slalom events of a season: Jean-Claude Killy (4 in 1966/67), Ingemar Stenmark (5 in 1978/79, 4 in 1979/80, 4 in 1980/81), Ted Ligety (4 in 2012/13) and Marcel Hirscher (4 in 2014/15, 4 in 2017/18).
- The only Swiss man to win at least four World Cup giant slalom events in a single season was Michael von Grünigen, who won five in 1995/96 and four in 1996/97.
- Odermatt finished in the top-five in 15 of his last 16 World Cup appearances in the giant slalom, with as exception an 11th place in Lenzerheide on 20 March 2021.
- This century, two Swiss alpine skiers won a World Cup giant slalom event on home snow: Didier Cuche in 2002 and Marc Berthod in 2008, both in Adelboden.
- Odermatt has participated in seven World Cup giant slalom events held in Switzerland. His best result was a third place in Adelboden last season, exactly one year ago.

Alexis Pinturault

- Alexis Pinturault has won 18 World Cup giant slalom events, ranking him in fifth place on the all-time men's list. Michael von Grünigen (23) is in fourth place.
- Pinturault can become the second male skier to win a World Cup event in 11 successive seasons, after Alberto Tomba from 1987/88 to 1997/98.
- In December 2021, Pinturault finished outside the top-10 in both World Cup giant slalom events in Alta Badia, ending a run of 13 consecutive top-five finishes in World Cup giant slalom events.
- Last season, Pinturault won both World Cup giant slalom events in Adelboden. He also won this event in 2017. Only Ingemar Stenmark (5) and Marcel Hirscher (4) have won more World Cup giant slalom events in Adelboden than Pinturault (3).

Other contenders

- **Henrik Kristoffersen** (5) can equal Kjetil André Aamodt (6) on most World Cup giant slalom victories among Norwegians.
- **Manuel Feller** finished on the podium in two giant slalom events this World Cup season (3rd places in Val d'Isère and Alta Badia). Austrian men have not won a World Cup giant slalom event since Marcel Hirscher in Adelboden on 12 January 2019.

- The last Austrian other than Hirscher to win a men's giant slalom in the World Cup was Philipp Schörghofer in Hinterstoder on 6 February 2011.
- **Luca De Aliprandini** can become the first Italian man to win a giant slalom in the World Cup since Massimiliano Blardone in Crans-Montana on 26 February 2012.
- **Alexander Schmid** finished third in the most recent World Cup giant slalom, in Alta Badia. He can become the fourth German man to win a World Cup giant slalom event, after Max Rieger in Mont Sainte Anne in 1973 (representing West Germany), Felix Neureuther in Adelboden in 2014 and Stefan Luitz in Beaver Creek in 2018.
- **Filip Zubcic** finished second in each of the last three World Cup giant slalom events in Adelboden. In no other country he recorded as many World Cup podium finishes as in Switzerland (4, all second places).

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