

MontPhoto 2019

Welcome to the international contest of Nature Photography MontPhoto 2019, opened to amateurs and professionals around the world and organized by the MontPhoto Association.

Since 1997 our task is to value and promote the art of photography and to contribute to the defense of nature.

The contest rewards the excellence in the photos. We are looking for innovating and inspiring images. Unknown places, new perspectives of living beings, surprising behaviours or a new interpretations of what is already know to us. We look for a glimpse to document the diversity, beauty, mystery and fragility of life on our planet.

MontPhoto stands for respect towards Nature and that is why the pictures presented in this contest must truly show natural situations, respecting the authenticity of the scenery, conserving the living beings in their habitat and by all means avoiding their suffering and the disruption or interference with their behaviour.

Sections and Categories

Mountain

A1. MOUNTAIN

A2. MOUNTAIN ACTIVITY

Nature

B1. MAMMALS

B2. BIRDS

B3. OTHER ANIMALS

B4. PLANT LIFE

B5. LANDSCAPE

Technique

B6. UNDERWATER WORLD

B7. MACRO

Ecological Report

D. ECOLOGICAL REPORT

Art

B8. ART IN NATURE

Each author can participate with a maximum of 25 photographs that can be distributed across the different contest categories.

Awards

From the selected photographs by the jury, awards worth more than 23,000€ will be distributed as follows:

MONTPHOTO GRANT

- **MontPhoto - WWF Grant 2019:** 6000€ and exhibition production.

GENERAL AWARDS

- MontPhoto 2019 Award of Honour: 2.000 € and diploma.
- First Prize of each category: 300€ and diploma.
- Popular Vote in each category: Diploma.
- **8 Honorary mentions in each** category: Diploma.

SPECIAL AWARDS

- Special Award for the region of Girona: 300€ and diploma.
- Special Award Lloret de Mar: 300€ and diploma.

YOUTH AWARDS

- 6 Awards in youth participation category (15-17 years old): One photographic experience with Photo Logistics and diploma.
- 6 Awards in child participation category (until 14 years old): One photographic experience with Photo Logistics and diploma.

AEFONA AWARDS

- Two awards in each category for the best qualified AEFONA members.

All runner-ups will receive a copy of the **book “Inspired by Nature 2019”, an invitation to the Gala Awards ceremony**, VIP access to all MontPhoto Festival activities, and **one night of accommodation in Lloret de Mar** to attend the Gala Awards Ceremony.

Registration rights

Registration fee costs 20€. Payment is through PayPal or credit card, following the instructions on our website. The registration **is free for photographers under 18 years old.**

Deadline: 30/04/2019

You can upload your pictures for the contest on the website: www.montphoto.com until closing date, April 30, 2019 at 23.59(CET).

Jury members 2019

Jury members 2019

Important information

Participation is exclusively online. We only accept pictures taken with digital cameras (raw file is compulsory). To participate, you will need a valid email address and a PayPal account or a credit card.

The contest organizers will contact you from one of the following email address: info@montphoto.com. Please, include them in your email agenda to avoid blocked communications by the security and antispam systems.

CONTEST RULES

Rules of procedure have been supervised by AEFONA (Asociación Española de Fotógrafos de Naturaleza) and the Catalan Nature Photographers' Society (Societat Catalana de Fotògrafs de Natura SCFN), and recommendations coming from the IFWP, the CEF and the FCF have also been taken into consideration.

1. Contest Categories

Mountain:

A1 - Mountain: Photographs which clearly reflect a high-lying mountain scenery or any other element of this natural environment.

A2 - Mountain activity: Photographs that show sportive mountain activities such as alpinism, climbing, skiing, canyoning, white waters, caving or any other activity related to mountaineering.

Nature:

B1 - Mammals: Mammals at any stage in life.

B2 - Birds: Birds at any stage in life.

B3 - Other animals: Animals not included in categories B1 and B2 at any stage in life, like amphibious, reptiles, etc.

We will value the documentation of animal behaviour in portraits, habitats or action scenes in those pictures from categories B1, B2 and B3.

B4 - Plant Life: Plant species in their original habitat, including fungus.

B5 - Landscape: Non-harmed nature landscapes, **excluding those in category A1.**

The images of the categories B1, B2 and B3 have to show the behavior of the animals through portraits, habitats or scenes of action.

Technique:

B6 - Underwater world: Pictures taken underwater (fresh or salt water) of flora and fauna and habitat.

B7 - Macro: Pictures taken with close-up technique, showing tiny elements or details in nature.

Ecological report:

D - Ecological report: Pictures showing any element or activity caused by humans (or its consequences) that has a negative effect on natural areas (wild fauna and flora, land, water, air, climate or natural scenery).

Pictures must clearly and unequivocally show the reported activity or element as the main element. Originality will be especially valued as well as the message delivered with the picture and the elements provided to trigger an environmental wake-up call.

The author has to explain the reported activity and enclosing supporting facts and data that reinforces it is highly recommended. The jury will have access to this information during the selection phases.

Art:

B8 - Art in nature: Creative compositions or abstractions based on natural environment.

2. SPECIAL AWARDS

- **Special Award for the region of Girona.** Pictures eligible for this award are those presented in all general categories of the contest taken in the region of Girona. (Catalonia, Spain).
- **Special Award Lloret de Mar.** Pictures eligible for this award are those presented in all general categories of the contest taken in Lloret de Mar. (Catalonia, Spain).

To apply for the Special Awards you have to select the option “Girona and/or Lloret de Mar” when registering.

3. MONTPHOTO-WWF GRANT 2018-2019

- All information is provided online: www.montphoto.com

4. REGISTRATION AND FORMAT

The Competition is open to amateur and professional nature photographers worldwide. None of the organizers of MontPhoto, volunteers, sponsors, members of the jury nor members of their families will be allowed to take part in the competition.

Each author can participate with a maximum of 25 photographs that can be distributed across the different categories of the contest.

- The first step is online registration: www.montphoto.com
- Once registered, a formal application is needed.
- Pictures can only be uploaded once the payment of the participation rights is done.
- The uploaded images can be modified at any time until the deadline is due. Registration will be automatically closed on April 30, 2019, at 23:59.

The picture format must be JPEG, converted to colour space sRGB with embedded profile. The file size must be 1,920 pixels on its bigger side.

The organization will request the raw files of ALL the photographs that reach the final phase of the contest on June 11, 2019. From this date, participants will have eight days to upload their RAW files. If your pictures reach the last stage of the competition and you know in advance that you will be out of reach within those days, please contact the organization in advance.

If convenient, the raw files can be requested at any other previous phase of the contest. Should the raw file not be presented, then the picture will be disqualified.

Images not matching the required format standards will be rejected. Should the picture be bigger than allowed, then it will be reduced automatically to the specified size. The organization will not be responsible for the result.

Photographs selected for print will have to exceed 10MP (megapixels). All participants need to have the original raw files, as well as copies in JPEG or TIFF format for printing in case it is demanded by the organization.

5. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Manipulation or digital treatment of the pictures is not permitted. Only adjustments that affect the following terms will be accepted:

- A. Global corrections of tone, white balance, brightness, contrast, saturation, and moderate adjustment of shadows and highlights.
- B. Picture conversion from colour to black and white.
- C. Moderate sharpening and selective reduction of digital noise.
- D. Eliminating vignetting, cleaning dust and scratches and correcting optical distortion and aberrations.
- E. Cropping is admitted if the final size of the image exceeds 10MP.
- F. Pictures taken with multiple exposure in the same sequence (HDR, panoramic pictures and focus stacking...) are also admitted. Editing treatment must be indicated when registering the picture. Pictures aiming at misleading the audience or showing nature improperly will not be admitted.

6. GENERAL RULES

- **Domestic and farm animals, as well as cultivated plants, are not admitted.**
- It is **mandatory** to specify whether the **animal is captive, has been trained or any actions have been used to induce a specific behaviour** the moment the picture was taken.
- **Photographs must have been taken during the last four years** (after 01 January 2015)
- It's **not permitted** to submit the **same photography or a very similar one in more than one category.**
- The contest rewards the originality of the work. Therefore, participation with images awarded in other competitions is not recommended.
- Photographs **cannot have frames, edges, water marks nor captions.**

Every image must include a caption with the following information:

- **Description** of the image with the observed behaviour. The exact place and country and any circumstances associated and relevant to the place where the photograph has been taken.
- **Technical information** (i.e. camera, lens, exposure –aperture and speed, ISO value, any specialized equipment, etc.).
- **Any editing treatment used, described in Section F** under technical requirements.

MontPhoto's ethics code is based in the AEFONA's decalogue of actions and the SCFN's "Precautions and good photographic performance in nature" rulings. It is highly recommended to all participants to read and apply these guidelines.

7. AWARDS

- **MontPhoto - WWF Grant 2019:** 6000€ and exhibition production for the winning project.
- MontPhoto 2019 Award of Honour: 2,000€ and diploma.
- First prize for the best photograph in each category: 300€ and diploma.
- Popular Vote Award in each category: Photographic equipment and diploma.
- 8 Honorary Mentions in each category: Diploma.
- Special Award for the region of Girona: 300€ and diploma.
- Special Award Lloret de Mar: 300€ and diploma.
- 6 child participation awards (until the age of 14): A photographic experience with Photo Logistics and diploma.
- 4 youth participation awards (age between 15-17): A photographic experience with Photo Logistics and diploma.

All awarded participants will have a copy of the **book 'Inspired by Nature 2019'** available at the Festival MontPhoto FEST, an **invitation for the awards ceremony**, and **accommodation for one night** in Lloret de Mar to attend the Gala on Saturday, October 7, 2018 (non-transferable). In case you are unable to attend the Festival in Lloret de Mar (Spain), you can appoint someone else to pick up your prize. Outside Spain, only cash awards will be sent.

Participants under 18 - before contest deadline - can apply for any of the awards, including the special ones for under age participants. It is mandatory to present personal details of their legal tutors as the participants will be asked for supporting documents.

AEFONA awards given to the best photographs of its members in all contest categories.
Medals to all CEF, FCF and FAF awarded members.
Membership ID is essential to aim for the awards or special awards offered.

8. JURY

The MontPhoto Jury 2019 will include 9 members who are currently being selected.

The Jury's decisions will be final, so no claims will be accepted. None of the awards will be declared null and void.

The Jury reserves its right to move entries from one category to another when applicable or appropriate.

The members of the Jury can be replaced during a short time in case of necessity.

10. CALENDAR

- **Closing date of the competition: 30 April 2019 at 23.59 (CET)**
- **Raw files requirement: 11 June 2019**
- **Raw files admission: 11 June - 18 June**
- **Contact with finalists: 1 July**

- **Presentation and prize awards in Lloret de Mar: October 5, 2019**
- **Awarded and runner-up photographs exhibition: from 4 October until 3 November 2019**

The presentation Gala and the prize awards will take place on October 5, 2019, in Lloret de Mar at the Local Theatre. The event will coincide with the MontPhoto FEST 2019 and can be followed through the website and through social network.

The MontPhoto organization will get in touch with the runner-ups in strict confidence to confirm their assistance at the awards ceremony on October 5 in Lloret de Mar, where the winners will be announced.

11. EXHIBITION AND CATALOGUE

The awarded and runner-up photographs will be exhibited at the **Local Exhibition Room in Lloret de Mar's Culture House** between October 4 and November 3, 2019. The organization will work to make the exhibition itinerant at a national and international level.

The organization will edit a high quality book named "Inspired by Nature 2019", including all selected works which will be distributed to all participants who have previously reserved it. The cost of the book is exclusively destined to finance and distribute it.

Participants can reserve a copy at a special price of 20€ (shipping costs not included) when registering.

12. LEGAL ASPECTS

Participants must declare they are the authors of each of their works and have all the rights to dispose of them.

Pictures where a recognizable or identifiable person appears (categories in which the presence of people is admitted), must include a consent form signed by that person and a Copyright Release Form attached to it. MontPhoto will not take any responsibility of any claims to the author, but it could consider it a reason to disqualify the photograph.

Awarded and runner-up works can be reproduced in books, catalogues, posters or any other printed or digital platform, as well as distributing it to press and/or magazines in order to promote MontPhoto, always providing the author's name. The authors will transfer all reproduction rights to the organization of the contest for this edition. This transfer is of a non-exclusive nature but can be extended to any re-edition. The use of these pictures cannot be used with lucrative purposes.

MontPhoto is also entitled to use the pictures for education projects organized by MontPhoto itself.

The organization will compensate the authors for the reproduced works with a copy of each published book (*International shipment not included*).

Taking part in MontPhoto 2019 implies accepting all and each of these statements from this document.

All personal data belonging to participants will be treated with confidentiality by the organization according to Spanish law on data protection (LOPD) 15/1999.

Participants can contact the organization at any time to update their data and/or preferences related to the authorised use of their personal data.

Associació MontPhoto

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Recognised by CONFEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE FOTOGRAFÍA with number E/2019/08

Recognised by FEDERACIÓ CATALANA DE FOTOGRAFÍA with number 2019-29

Recognised by FEDERACIÓN ANDALUZA DE FOTOGRAFÍA with number I-2019-08

Recommended by FEDERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE FOTOGRAFÍA DE LA NATURALEZA (IFWP)

Recommended by ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE FOTÓGRAFOS DE NATURALEZA (AEFONA)

Recommended by SOCIETAT CATALANA DE FOTÒGRAFS DE NATURA (SCFN/ICHN)

The identification as a member of the already stated entities is indispensable to opt to the awards or honours which are offered by them.