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European Wildlife Photographer Of The Year 2025

Category: Photography
Deadline: March 1, 2025

Website: graphiccompetitions.com



The European Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2025 is an international photography competition celebrating the beauty, diversity, and fragility of the natural world. Organised by the German Society for Nature Photography (GDT), the contest marks its 25th anniversary in 2025, solidifying its reputation as one of the most significant nature photography awards in Europe. Each year, professional and amateur photographers from across the continent submit their most breathtaking wildlife images, capturing the raw essence of the animal kingdom, landscapes, and human interactions with nature. The competition is designed to promote conservation awareness, inspire a deeper appreciation for the environment, and showcase the artistic excellence of nature photographers.

The competition is divided into 11 distinct categories, catering to a broad spectrum of wildlife and nature photography. These include Birds, Mammals, Other Animals, Plants & Fungi, Landscapes, The Underwater World, Humans and Nature, and Nature's Studio, allowing for a diverse range of photographic styles and perspectives. In addition, the Rewilding Europe Award celebrates imagery that highlights successful rewilding efforts across the continent, while the Fritz Pölking Prize and Fritz Pölking Junior Prize honour exceptional storytelling and portfolio work. The contest also encourages young talent through the Young Photographers category, which is free to enter. Participants can submit up to 25 images across categories 1-8, with a maximum of 40 entries in total.

Winning images will receive global recognition, with an exclusive exhibition touring Germany and Europe for three years following the awards ceremony at the International Nature Photography Festival in Lünen, Germany. The competition not only offers substantial cash prizes, but also provides photographers with unparalleled exposure, as their work is displayed in exhibitions, featured in media publications, and admired by nature enthusiasts worldwide. As one of Europe's most esteemed wildlife photography contests, the European Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2025 continues to inspire conservation, creativity, and a passion for the natural world.

Entry fee: 35€; free for Young Photographers category.

Eligibility

Open to photographers residing in Europe and GDT members.

Prize

The European Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2025 offers substantial cash prizes and prestigious recognition. The overall winner will be awarded €3,000, while the Fritz Pölking Prize comes with €2,000, and the Fritz Pölking Junior Prize includes €1,500 along with a €500 merchandise voucher. The Rewilding Europe Award winner will receive €1,000. In the main competition, first-place winners in categories 1-8 will receive €800, while second-place winners will get €500. The Young Photographers category awards €200 for first place and €100 for second place. Additionally, all winning images will be featured in a touring exhibition premiering at the International Nature Photography Festival in October and will be showcased across Germany and Europe for three years.