



mont
Photo

inspirats per la natura

rules 2024^{ENG}



Welcome to MontPhoto's 2024 International Nature Photography Contest, open to amateurs and professional photographers from all over the world organised by the MontPhoto Association.

Our mission is to add value and help spread the art of photography in order to raise awareness and protect nature.

The contest rewards the photographic **excellence** of its participants. We seek **innovative** and **inspiring** images picturing original stories, unknown places, new perspectives, surprising behaviours or new interpretations of what is already known to us. We look for a glimpse that documents the diversity, the beauty, the mystery and the fragility of life on our planet.

MontPhoto is committed to respecting nature and that is why **the work presented to this contest must 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.**

The MontPhoto Association is a non-profit organisation, in accordance with Spanish law, and can therefore not benefit financially from its activities. Any budgetary variation will always be used in that regard.

Contest sections:

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHY

- A. MOUNTAIN ACTIVITY
- B1. MAMMALS
- B2. BIRDS
- B3. OTHER ANIMALS
- B4. PLANT LIFE
- B5. LANDSCAPE
- C. UNDERWATER WORLD
- D. ECOLOGICAL REPORT (Human effect on nature)
- E. ART IN NATURE
- F. NATURE PORTFOLIO

ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

CHANGING PLANET (under 25) (See competition rules)

AWARDS

GENERAL AWARDS

- **MontPhoto 2024 Award of Honour:** 2.000 € + diploma (including category prize)
- **First Prize in each category:** 500 € + diploma.
- **Second Prize in each category:** 300 € + diploma.
- **5 Honorary Mentions in each category:** Diploma.

SPECIAL AWARDS

- **Special Award "Nature in Catalunya":** 300 € + diploma
- **Special Award "Lloret de Mar:"** 300 € + diploma.
- **Special Award "Montphoto Community":** 300 € + diploma.

YOUTH AWARDS

- **3 Awards in the youth category (15-17 years old) and 3 Awards in children's category (up to 14 years old)**

PORTFOLIO AWARDS

- **First prize:** 1000 € + diploma.
- **5 Honorary Mentions:** Diploma.

Every awarded Portfolio will have access to a commented review at the Festival and are eligible to be published in a broadsheet magazine.

AEFONA AWARDS

- **2 awards in each category for the two best qualified AEFONA members.**

Every awarded participant - honorary mentions included - will receive a copy of the **book "Inspired by Nature 2024"**, **an invitation to the Awards Ceremony.**

REGISTRATION FEES

PARTICIPATING WILL BE FREE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE MONTPHOTO COMMUNITY (CHECK TERMS BEFORE REGISTERING!)

Payment will be made through **PayPal or credit card**, following the instructions on our website.

GENERAL: General registration fee is 25 €.

YOUTH: Registration for photographers under 18 years old is free in every case.

Each participant can enter the contest with up to 25 images freely distributed in the general categories of the contest, and one portfolio with 10 to 15 images.

Registration will be online through the web www.MontPhoto.com. **Closing date 30/04/2024.**

Participation in the Changing Planet contest is free.

Important information

Participation is exclusively online.

We highly recommend a thorough read of the competition rules.

The contest organizers will contact you from the following email address: info@MontPhoto.com. Please, include it in your list of contacts to avoid any blocking of messages by anti-spam.

COMPETITION RULES

The competition rules have been supervised in collaboration with AEFONA (Spanish Association of Nature Photographers) and the Catalan Nature Photographers' Society (SCFN), also considering the guidelines given by the CEF (Spanish Confederation for Photography) and the FCF (Catalan Federation of Photography)

PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORIES

- A. MOUNTAIN ACTIVITY
- B1. MAMMALS
- B2. BIRDS
- B3. OTHER ANIMALS
- B4. PLANT LIFE
- B5. LANDSCAPE
- C. UNDERWATER WORLD
- D. ECOLOGICAL REPORT
- E. ART IN NATURE

PORTFOLIO PHOTOGRAPHY

- F. NATURE PORTFOLIO

MOUNTAIN:

A - Mountain activity:

Photographs must 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, such as amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, etc.

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

B5 - Landscape: Landscapes with minimal human interference.

C - Underwater world: Pictures taken using underwater technique (fresh or salt water) of flora, fauna and habitats.

REPORT:

D - Ecological report: Pictures showing any element or activity caused by humans (or its consequences) which 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 should describe the reported activity. It is highly advisable to enclose supporting facts and data that reinforces it. The jury will have access to this information during the selection stages.

ART:

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

PORTFOLIO:

F- Nature Portfolio: An ordered collection of about 10 to 15 photographs with individual quality and combined narrative power. The portfolio must show coherence and harmony. The story can be inspiring, provocative or revealing about any area of the natural environment.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Special Award "Nature in Catalunya". Pictures eligible for this award are those presented in all general categories of the contest taken in the Catalunya.

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.

Special Award "Montphoto Community". Pictures eligible for this award are those presented in all general categories of the contest taken by any member photographer of Montphoto Community. The prize will go to the artist with the best valued photographs by the jury.

To opt to the Special Awards Catalunya and Lloret de Mar, you must tick on the desired option while registering.

AEFONA ADDITIONAL AWARDS

2 awards in each category for the two best qualified members from AEFONA.

2. REGISTRATION AND FORMATS

CHECK THE POSSIBILITY OF BECOMING A MEMBER OF MONTPHOTO. BEING A MEMBER OF THE MONTPHOTO COMMUNITY BRING MANY ADVANTAGES AND FREE REGISTRATION.

The competition is open to all amateur and professional nature photographers worldwide. None of the organizers of MontPhoto, volunteers, sponsors, members of the jury or members of their families will be allowed to take part in the competition.

Each participant can register only once with up to **25 photographs** distributed across the general categories of the contest.

Payment will be made through Paypal or by credit card, following the instructions on the web.

GENERAL: General registration is 25 €.

YOUTH: Registration for participants under 18 years old is free.

Exclusive ONLINE process:

- The first step is your **online registration** at **www.montphoto.com**
- Once registered, you will have to fill in a formal application.
- Pictures can only be uploaded once the participation rights' payment is done.
- The uploaded images **can be modified at any time** until the deadline is due. Registration closes on April 30th at 23:59.

The picture format must be **JPEG**. The **size of the file** must be 1920 pixels on its longest side.

Organizers will request the RAW files of ALL the photographs that reach the final phase of the contest on June 11th, 2024. 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 necessary, RAW files might be demanded at any other previous stage of the contest. Should the RAW files not be presented on time, then the image would be disqualified.

Images that do not comply with the required format standards will be rejected.

Photographs needed for the exhibition will be handed over in the biggest possible size and quality in JPEG format.

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Cropped images will be accepted as long as the crop is not excessive and the resulting image has a size of over 10 MP without interpolation.

Photographs consisting of multiple exposures on camera are allowed, provided they have been taken in the same sequence, place and time checking for that purpose the image metadata tags.

All checking, verification and accreditation of authenticity of the photographs submitted to the contest will be carried out by comparing the JPEG edited image to its original RAW and carrying out a complete diagnosis of the editing / development actions on the original, both globally and by zones.

Photographs won't be accepted if we detect the following:

- Modifications not allowed on the original photograph, such as distortion on dimensions or perspective transformation.
- Excessive global or partial processing values.
- Alteration or modification of pixels in specific areas of the image (deletion, suppression, cloning or manipulation) that clearly modify the originality of the image may it be manually or with the use of AI.
- RAW obtaining options not allowed as "Overlay" or "Multiple Non-Sequential Exposure".

Should MontPhoto detect a will on part of the participant to mislead the public in a malicious manner, all of the participant's images submitted to the contest could be disqualified.

4. GENERAL RULES

- Pictures of domestic and farm animals, as well as cultivated plants, are **not allowed** - except for category D (Ecological report) and F (Portfolio).
- **It is mandatory** to specify whether the animal lives in captivity, has been trained or if any action has been used to induce a specific behaviour when the picture was taken.
- Photographs **must have been taken recently** in order to show its content in a fashion as close to current reality as possible.
- The contest rewards the originality of the work. Therefore, submitting images awarded in other contests is not recommended.
- We recommend participants to avoid submitting similar images in different categories.
- Photographs **must not have** frames, edges, water marks nor captions.

We recommend participants to include a caption when submitting an image in order to help the jury appreciate all the details and the possible background of the picture. Captions will be mandatory once the RAW files are demanded from the participants and, for that reason, special access will be granted for editing purposes.

Please, learn more about the values of MontPhoto and AEFONA's decalogue of actions. We highly recommend all participants to read and apply to these guidelines.

5. AWARDS

MontPhoto 2024 Award of Honour: 2.000 € + diploma.

First Prize in each category: 500 € + diploma.

Second Prize in each category: 300 € + diploma.

5 Honorary mentions in each category: Diploma.

Special Award "Nature in Catalunya": 300 € + diploma

Special Award "Lloret de Mar:": 300 € + diploma.

Special Award "Montphoto Community": 300 € + diploma.

3 Awards in the youth category (15-17 years old)

3 Awards in the children's category (up to 14 years old)

First prize PORTFOLIO: 1000 € + diploma.

5 Honorary mentions: Diploma

Every awarded participant - honorary mentions included - will receive a copy of the book **"Inspired by Nature 2024", an invitation to the Awards Ceremony**. In the event that you are unable to attend the Awards Ceremony, you can appoint someone else to collect your prize on your name. Outside inland Spain, only cash awards will be sent.

Young photographers can enter the youth category if they are under the age of 18 up till the contest registration deadline. It is mandatory to provide the relevant info of the legal guardians, as supporting documentation will be requested to the winners.

AEFONA awards given to the best photographs of its members in all contest categories.

Acceptances to all award-winning members of the CEF and FCF, according to their own regulations.

Membership ID of these associations is essential to opt for the awards or special awards offered by them.

6. JURY and VERDICT

The MontPhoto Jury for 2024 will be formed by 5 experts who are currently in the process of being selected.

The jury's decisions will be final, so no claims or appeals will be accepted against them. None of the awards will be declared null and void.

The jury reserves the right to move entries from one category to another when applicable or appropriate.

Members of the Jury can be replaced in case of necessity.

7. CALENDAR

Closing date of the inscription to the competition: April 30th 2024 at 23:59.

Request of RAW files: June 11th, 2024

RAW files admission: June 11th – June 18th, 2024.

Contact with finalists: July 2nd, 2024.

Presentation and prize awards in Lloret de Mar: October 5th, 2024

Awarded and runner-up photographs exhibit: October 4th – 31st, 2024.

The Award Ceremony will take place on October 5th, 2024 in **Lloret de Mar**.

MontPhoto organization will get in touch with all the finalists in strict confidence **to confirm their assistance at the Awards Ceremony in Lloret de Mar, where the winners will be announced.**

8. 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 4th– 31st, 2024. The organization will work to make the exhibition itinerant at a national and international level.

The organization will edit a high-quality book with all the selected images named **"Inspired by Nature 2024"** which will be distributed to all participants who have previously booked it. The cost of the book is exclusively destined to fund it and fund its distribution.

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

Members of the MontPhoto Community will get a free copy of the book.

9. LEGAL ASPECTS

Entrants must declare they are the authors of every image they submit and have all the rights to dispose of them.

Pictures where a recognisable or identifiable person appears (categories in which the presence of people is allowed), must include a consent form signed by that person and a Model Release Form attached to it. MontPhoto shall not be liable for possible claims against the authors, which may be a reason to disqualify the photograph.

Awarded and runner-up works can be printed 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 and advertise MontPhoto.

MontPhoto may also use them for **training and educational projects** organized by the entity itself.

The name of the author will always be mentioned and the author will grant the reproduction rights to the organisation of the contest for this purpose. This **release is non-exclusive** but it is extended to any future edition. **The use of these pictures cannot be used with lucrative purposes.**

The organization will compensate the authors of their reproduced work with a copy of the book. **(International shipment not included).**

Liability and data protection

Taking part in the MontPhoto 2024 edition implies accepting each and everyone of these statements. The organisation will resolve any situation not foreseen in this document.

A proof of electronic submission will not be considered proof of receipt by the organisation.

All personal data will be treated with confidentiality by the organisation according to the Spanish law on data protection from 03/2018 (LOPD-GDD).

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

SCORING CONTEST FOR THE SELECTION OF THE BEST NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER IN SPAIN CEF

Acknowledge by the SPANISH CONFEDERATION OF PHOTOGRAPHY with the number **I/2024/07**

Acknowledge by the CATALAN PHOTOGRAPHY FEDERATION with the number **2024-25**

Recommended by the SPANISH ASSOCIATION OF NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS (AEFONA)

Recommended by the SOCIETAT CATALANA OF NATURE PHOTOGRAPHS (SCFN/ICHN)

It is essential to identify yourself as a member of the aforementioned entities to be eligible for the prizes.



ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS

CHANGING PLANET 2024 (under 25 years old)

Changing planet 2024

HELP US CHANGE THE PLANET

This is an invitation to show the changes of the world we live in: a broadening climate crisis, an increasing environmental pollution, the loss of biodiversity...Take part and show how all of these changes not only happen far away in remote places but also very close to home.

CHANGING PLANET CONTEST

A new contest at MontPhoto aimed at young photographers under 25 who will be entitled to submit up to 5 pictures showing the relationship between people and the environment around them.

COMPETITION RULES

This is a FREE contest that benefits from the MontPhoto structure and develops parallel to the main contest in terms of calendar, registration and format.

The awarded images will be included in the MontPhoto 2024 exhibition and shown at the Awards Ceremony during the MontPhoto Festival as well as in regular catalogues and communication programs.

Thanks to the joint venture between MontPhoto and the Berlin-based international platform "Changing Planet: Network for Young Photographers", the awarded images will be a part of an itinerant exhibition led by this platform.

Three images will be chosen among all participants under 18 years old and three images will be chosen among participants between 18 and 25 years old.

NOTE: All legal aspects not specified in these brief rules will follow the MontPhoto 2024 competition rules.



Concurs internacional de fotografia de natura i muntanya

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CONCURSO RECONOCIDO POR :



CONCURSO RECOMENDADO POR :

