



FESTIVAL
INTERNATIONAL
NATURE
NAMUR

32d Festival International Nature Namur

From 10th to 18th October 2026

Festival International Nature Namur Photo Contest

Organisation

The 32d edition of the “Festival International Nature Namur” will take place from 10th to 18th October 2026, and during this period the results of the competition will be exhibited during the 9 days in a place of meetings and exchanges, particularly highlighted for the occasion.

The awards will be presented on Friday, 17th October 2026, with photographers and jury members attending. This Award Ceremony will be conducted by professional hosts. The awarded photographers will be invited to talk about their image.

Goals

- To raise the large public's awareness to the knowledge of nature and wildlife's respect.
- To boost the diversity of images dedicated to Wildlife and Environment by granting awards within the frame of a 9-days competition and exhibition for a very wide audience.
- To favour contacts between professionals and amateurs at the award ceremony.

Competition Rules

Article 1: General rules of participation

The competition is open to **all photographers**, individual or in duo, amateurs or professionals, of all ages and from all countries, **no matter the used photo gear**.

Are excluded: the organisers of the “Festival International Nature Namur” and the members of the jury.

By participating, the photographer:

- certifies he/she is the author of the photographs he submits and the holder of the rights related to the concerned pictures.
- declares he/she possesses the authorisation of the identifiable persons appearing in the pictures.
- reveals his/her interest in environment by respecting the rules in force in his/her country regarding the conservation of the natural environment and of wildlife.



The originality and the seduction created by the shot are considered but classic photography criteria (framing, difficulties to take the picture, technical mastery...) and environmental criteria (no destruction or disturbance caused by the shooting, respect for environment...) are also considered for the selection. As a rule, domestic animals and plants, are excluded as well as any human intervention involving captivity, nature disturbance, except if the picture carries a proper message about the relation between man and nature. The natural behaviours and attitudes are privileged.

Article 2: Photos preparation

The image has to correspond to the original shot, without suppression or addition of any element absent from the picture setting, without modification of the blur, without retouching or any other technique that could give the spectator a wrong vision of the natural environment. Editing must be limited to removing dust and to improving the general quality of the picture (levels, white balance...). Saturation enhancing and heightening must be moderate. HDR, focus stacking and image overlay are not authorised.

Black and white photos are allowed. If the 3/2 format is most often used, square and panorama formats are also accepted. However, it is requested that the same format be kept for images belonging to the same mini-series (see article 3). FINN will take care to keep these proportions when printing.

Article 3: Categories

The following 3 categories are submitting pictures shot in the wild nature and with a minimal human intervention.

- **Wild eyes:** this category concerns the whole animal kingdom. It is the look that matters, it should induce emotion in the viewer.
- **Motion:** again, it is about the whole animal and plant kingdoms and includes landscapes. The expression of movement or action must clearly be seen.
- **Light:** this category relates to the whole animal and plant kingdoms, including landscapes
- **Camera trap:** Category dedicated to images captured using camera traps, highlighting expertise, preparation, ethics, and patience, as well as knowledge of species and their natural behaviours.

Note: if a picture can belong to several categories, the photographer is free to choose the category into which he/she registers it. The jury keeps however the right to modify the latter's choice if this is to his or her advantage.

Article 4: Paid registration and sending the pictures

Registrations are open as from 1st November 2025 and close on May 1st 2026.

The registration cost begins at € 10 and must be done online on the site www.festivalnaturenamur.be.

The application will only be considered if all sections of the online form are filled in correctly and if the payment of € 10 is made. The registration includes 10 to 30 pictures that you can dispatch as you want in



the 3 categories of the FINN photo contest.

Registration is free for people under 18 years (photographers born after 30th April 2008). The “young” category has been replaced by the Festival’s Young Scholarship.

The fees will be used to fund the awards and to cover the administration costs. Registration fees are not refundable.

Note: as the FINN gives priority to novelty, it advises the applicants not to submit an image which has already been selected or granted an award during a previous edition of the “Festival International Nature Namur.”

If the applicant wishes to modify his or her application, he or she is invited to send an email to the address info@festivalnaturenamur.be.

When registering, the photographer is notably asked to fill in his/her contact information; check them well because it is our only way to communicate with you.

For each photography the photographer should also fill in the following sections:

- Category*
- Title of the work*
- Place of image capture* (as precise as possible, i.e. place name or locality, region, country...)
- ■ Name of the species in English* when it is identifiable or identified
- Name of the species in Latin
- Useful comments about the conditions of shooting*

***Mandatory**

The uploaded photos are:

- in **1920 pixels long** (for the longest side)
- in lightly compressed **JPEG** quality
- **without margin, text or signature**
- **CAUTION : Please rename the photos as follows:**

Category_SURNAME_Name_Photo title

(Remark: avoid accents and punctuation signs in the nomenclature!)

Examples:

- Mammals_SMITH_Elmy_When_lama_is_angry
- Lily_JONES_Miniserie_Photo3_So_do_the_mushrooms

Any participation which has been correctly registered will be confirmed by email as well as by a copy of the form (please think about checking the spams!).

Article 5: Jury and Prize

The jury of the Photo competition is composed of representatives of the photography, image and wildlife worlds. They meet and choose a large selection of photos to elaborate the exhibition of the Photo Contest.



To determine the awards, the jury examines original pictures that have been sent for the selection whereas the public examines the exhibited enlarged pictures (Audience Award). The organisers take care of respecting the initial photograph as faithfully as possible.

In total, **five awards** are granted: one per category, plus the “Grand Prize” and the “Audience Award”.

The awards cannot be cumulated except for the “Audience Award”.

The fees collected will form a fund used to pay the awards.

The **Grand Prize** will be awarded 50 % of the fund, the **Audience Award** will get 20 % of the fund, and **the winners of each category** will receive 10 % of the fund.

The jury reserves itself the right not to grant one or several awards, to modify the title of an award and to deliver one or several special mentions. The decisions of the jury are irrevocable.

In addition to these awards, the **Audience Award** is issued to the photo which has received the most votes from the public.

The organizing committee of the FINN reserves itself the right to allocate the winners an equivalent price in terms of value.

Article 6: Selection

The participants to the contest will be informed personally about their selection by email by **mid-June**. If so, it is imperative to supply the following data and pieces of information for **the end of June**:

- The equivalent file (framing, retouching...) but in high resolution (used for the enlarged copies);
- The corresponding RAW or JPEG file.
- The metadata or Exif (model of the camera box, of the lens, focal length, shutter speed, aperture, ISO sensitivity...). (e.g. Nikon D60+ VR 70-300 mm, f/4.5-5.6 G, 70 mm, 1/80 sec, f/4.5, 400 ISO
- Contact (mail, blog, Facebook page...) and the nationality.

The jury reserves itself the right to disqualify a photo if this does not correspond to the ethics of the present rules.

You will get an e-mail by the end of July to inform you that your photos have unfortunately not been selected.



Article 7: Copyright and use of the works

By participating in this contest, the author of the selected photos authorises the “Festival International Nature Namur” and his partners to copy and to distribute his or her work within the frame of the exhibition related to the competition and the publication of the portfolio. He or she also authorizes the use of the picture within the frame of the promotion of the competition and/or the Festival on the web, in the media and in the publications made by the Festival. The pictures will always be accompanied by the author’s name.

The exhibition linked to the competition is presented during the “Festival International Nature Namur” from 10th to 18th October 2026 as well as within the frame of the “Stopovers” we organise all year long. The decentralised exhibitions of the Festival are organised in municipalities in Belgium and abroad to allow the public who could not attend the Festival to discover the photos that were exhibited during that Festival.

Article 8: Personal Data

The data communicated by the contestants can be used within the frame of the Photo competition of the FINN. In all cases, we remind that in pursuance of the European rules and guidelines in force and of the European rules that have come into force on 25 May 2018, related to computer data, files and freedoms, to the protection of personal data and the free movement of these data, the contestants have a right of opposition, access and rectification.

As a consequence, any participant benefits with the Festival of a right of access, questioning, opposition, rectification or suppression regarding data that concern him or her upon simple request sent to the following address: info@festivalnaturenamur.be.

No communicated piece of information can be used for commercial purposes.

Article 9: Application of the rules

Any application and participation in the Festival involves the acceptance of the present rules and their possible modifications about organization and functioning.

In case of litigation about the meaning and the provisions of the present rules, only the French version of the text will be valid.

The present rules are also available on the website of the “Festival International Nature Namur”: www.festivalnaturenamur.be.

Article 10: Liability

Since the participation to the competition is being realised through the internet, it involves the knowledge and the acceptance of the limits of internet, especially as far as the technical performances, the variable flow speed or the uploading time are concerned. As a consequence, the Festival cannot be held responsible for these.



For any extra information:

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