



International
Naturephotography Competition

2027

GLANZLICHTER
DER NATURFOTOGRAFIE



29th International Nature Photo Competition „Glanzlichter of Naturephotography“ 2027

The 29th Glanzlichter competition starts on October 1st, 2026!

Glanzlichter is one of the greatest international nature photography competitions, which has been honoring fascinating, touching and spectacular photographs from around the world since 1999.

Nature photography is more than just capturing landscapes and animals - it is a way of understanding and appreciating our relationship with nature. Founded by Mara Fuhrmann, the competition has been putting emphasis on rewarding responsible and genuine nature photographs for many years. Capturing the beauty of nature and showing impressive moments. In an age in which is nature under increasing pressure, photography is a powerful medium to reflect and reinforce our responsibility towards the planet.

The award-winning images will be honored at the award ceremony at the start of the Naturephotography Days in Fürstenfeldbruck and shown in a high-class exhibition. The exhibition will tour throughout Germany and can be seen at over twenty locations.

THE MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

- Submission Deadline - **January 10th 2027**
- Entry Fee:
€ 30 for all participants aged 18 and over
€ 15 for all participants under 18 years
- Payment:
Bank Transfer | PayPal | Credit Card
- Maximum of 30 images
distribution across the categories is flexible
- Image Size: 1920 pixels, JPEG
(moderate sharpening is allowed)
- Please observe the rules of image editing
- Participation only online:
www.glanzlichter-competition.com

Competition categories

All Over Winner

The overall winner from all categories.

Category 1

Magnificent Wilderness | Landscapes

From atmospheric scenes to habitats to intimate landscape photography - ambience and mood invite to an immersive experience in the face of the majesty of nature.

Category 2

The Beauty of Plants and Fungi | Plants and Fungi

Detailed photos of the natural flora. The focus is on shapes, colors and structures of plants and fungi, whether in artistic compositions or classic photography.

Category 3

Nature as Art | Shapes, colors and abstractions

Nature as an artist - detached from the documentary purpose of a photograph, aesthetics, creativity and experimental approach can show completely new perspectives.

Category 4

Artists on Wings | Birds

In flight, looking for food or socializing. In this category, the artists of the air are to be depicted in their natural environment.

Category 5

The World of Mammals | Mammals

The life of mammals - from elephants to small shrews, whether in large herds or as individuals, quiet portraits or actionpacked situations, day or night.

Category 6

Diversity of all other Animals | Other animal species

The diversity of all other animal species ought not be missed. This category provides a space for inhabitants of planet Earth that cannot be assigned to the other categories.

Category 7

Moments in Nature | Special moments of nature

Nature photography shows the treasures of nature, unique encounters and small miracles. We are looking for these very special, impressive moments that have a lasting impact on us.

Category 8

Enduring the Cold | In the Realm of the Cold

Frozen landscapes, harsh climates, and resilient living beings tell a story of adaptation, survival, and the quiet beauty of icy regions.

Junior Award

Agegroups: up to 13 years and 14 - 17 years

Young photographers up to the age of 17 can take part in all categories. The Junior Award will be chosen from all of these submissions.

With the kind support of:



Prizes

In total there are prizes **worth over €28,000** to be won. Cash prizes totaling over €12,000 and additional non-cash prizes amounting to €16,000.

Categories 1 - 8

- € 500 for 1st place in the category
- Trophy
- Glanzlichter book

- € 50 for the nine highlights of the category
- Glanzlichter book

Junior Award

- € 750 for the Junior Award Winner
- Trophy
- Glanzlichter book
- DVF gold medal
- Own photo exhibition by CEWE

- € 50 for the two highlights in each age group
- Glanzlichter book

All Over Winner

- € 2.500
- Trophy
- Glanzlichter book
- DVF gold medal

All award-winning participants will be invited to the awards ceremony and the subsequent gala dinner.

Winners who attend the event will receive a photo book from CEWE featuring all award-winning images - with their own image on the cover.

All appointments at a glance

October 1st, 2026	Start of the competition
January 10th, 2027 - 12:00pm (CET)	Deadline
from January 27th, 2027	Request of the original files
February 7th, 2027	Deadline for submission of the original files
from February 9th, 2027	Notification of the winners and requesting detailed information about the image
February 15th, 2027 - 12:00pm (CET)	Deadline for the image informations
March 15th, 2027	Information and documentation about the competition for all participants
April 23th, 2027	Award ceremony at the Naturephotography Days in Fürstenfeldbruck

Conditions of Participation

SUBMISSION

Images can be submitted at www.glanzlichter.com/competition from **October 1st, 2026**. After registration you will be guided through the menu and upload tool. Participation in the competition is only possible online. In exceptional cases, if it is not possible to take part online, please contact the competition management.

Images taken with a digital camera or high-quality scans of slides and negatives are permitted.

A maximum of 30 images - these can be freely distributed among the categories.

Photos that have already been submitted can still be exchanged until the closing date.

Category 1 - Magnificent Wilderness | **Landscapes**

Category 2 - The Beauty of Plants and Fungi | **Plants & Fungi**

Category 3 - Nature as Art | **Shapes, colors and abstractions**

Category 4 - Artists on Wings | **Birds**

Category 5 - The World of Mammals | **Mammals**

Category 6 - Diversity of all other Animals | **Other animal species**

Category 7 - Moments in Nature | **Special moments of nature**

Category 8 - Enduring the Cold | **In the Realm of the Cold**

Note: The assignment of an image to a category can be changed by the jury.

The deadline for entries is January 10th, 2027 - 12:00pm (CET).

Submissions received after this deadline will no longer be considered!

In **exceptional** cases, the submission deadline may be extended at short notice.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to everyone. Employees of the competition team or the supporting organizations and sponsors as well as their relatives are excluded from participation.

Young photographers up to the age of 17 can take part in all categories. A Junior Award winner and two highlights per age group (up to 13 years | 14 - 17 years) will be chosen from all of these entries.

FEES

The entry fee is € 30.

The entry fee for photographers under 18 years old is only € 15.

Payment can be made via bank transfer, credit card, or PayPal.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Image size: 1920 pixels

Color space: Adobe RGB or sRGB

High resolution files: must be suitable for a large-format print (80 cm)

Please do not interpolate the file under any circumstances!

Conditions of Participation

IMAGE EDITING

When editing images, it is important to ensure that the image is reproduced as naturally as possible. The digital image sometimes requires corrections in tonal value, contrast, saturation and sharpening. These correction values can vary from image to image. Tone value correction, contrast and saturation adjustment, sharpening and image cropping are permitted image processing steps. HDR, focus stacking and panoramas stitched together from multiple images are permitted. Multiple exposures are only permitted if they are created internally in the camera. Only additive and average multiple exposures are permitted. The merged recordings must have been taken at the same place and in close proximity. Further processing steps, digital image manipulation and the use of artificial intelligence are not permitted and will lead to disqualification.

Note for underwater photography: Spot removal of floating particles is not permitted.

If digital techniques are applied, they must be indicated in the upload tool.

After the first pre-selection, the authenticity of the images is examined based on the original RAW image file. These must be submitted following a request from the competition management. RAW files of all formats are permitted as original image files. Only files that originate directly from the camera are considered original JPGs. For scanned slides or negatives, the evaluation is based on the analog originals.

In cases of doubt, the jury will decide whether the image should be excluded.

OTHER RULES

Photographs of domestic and farm animals are excluded from the competition. If the photo shows an animal in captivity (zoo, enclosure, game farm) or was taken under controlled conditions, the image must be marked C (= captive).

It goes without saying that applicable nature and animal protection laws and regulations must be adhered to when creating the images. If images are taken using on-site manipulation and/or a lasting negative impact on the environment or questionable practices, they will be excluded from the competition.

JURY

The jury is replaced every year. Experienced nature photographers, animal and nature conservationists, biologists and personalities from the photography industry will be looking at the submitted images with their trained eyes and their understanding of photography, nature and the animal world.

First, a pre-selection takes place independently of each other in a digital process by the individual jurors. The jury then comes together to select the final image and discusses it in a direct, personal exchange over a total of three days.

We will introduce the members of the jury shortly.

The jury's verdict is final and not subject to appeal.

COPYRIGHT AND RIGHT TO YOUR OWN IMAGE

Only your own works will be accepted. The image must not infringe any third party copyrights or personal rights. All rights to the photo must belong to the photographer. The photo must not be blocked by agencies or publishers. When photographing people, approval must be obtained from the person depicted. The competition management assumes no liability for claims from third parties.

Conditions of Participation

RIGHTS OF USE

The participants retain the copyright to their images. By participating, participants grant the non-exclusive right to publish and exhibit the award-winning photos as part of the competition and to pass them on to third parties for application purposes (e.g. on social media, on the website, in print media, for press work). No claim to a usage fee can be made for use.

PRIVACY

Participants' personal data will only be used to carry out the competition and will not be passed on to third parties.

When images are published by third parties, the photographer's name and country of origin will be provided for copyright purposes.

LIABILITY

The competition management assumes no liability for technical problems that occur during upload or submission. The competition management assumes no liability for loss or damage to negatives or slides that are sent in the original. The participants bear the risk.

FINAL PROVISIONS

By participating in the competition, participants agree to these conditions. The competition management reserves the right to cancel or change the competition at any time.

THE ORGANIZERS

Lisa Marie & Florian Smit
Appelner Straße 3
Germany - 27432 Volkmarst

service@glanzlichter.com

We will contact you as the competition continues using the above email addresses. Please make sure that emails from these addresses do not end up in the spam folder, e.g. by adding them to the address book.

Inquiries can be made at any time in writing to the email addresses listed above.

Please understand that telephone inquiries cannot be answered.



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Glanzlichter Competition

We look forward to the Glanzlichter of nature photography in 2027!

The competition team