

# Conditions of participation SNAPSHOT photo competition

Basel, September 2024

The SNAPSHOT photo competition is organised by the Natural History Museum Basel as part of the special exhibition "Wildlife Photographer of the Year" in cooperation with IWB and Fotohaus Basel. The aim is to give amateur photographers the opportunity to show their best nature photography to a broad public. All submitted images that comply with the rules will be exhibited in digital form in the museum for the entire duration of the competition.

The idea behind the competition is to put a focus on nature and its significance and to stand up for its protection.

## 1. Categories

- Category 1 (K1): Children see nature (for 5-12 year olds)  
Children have a special eye for nature, animals, plants and landscapes. All conceivable motifs from nature are welcome. Zoo and farm animals are allowed in this category. Excluded are pets and mounted animals.
- Category 2 (K2): Animal portraits / Animals in their habitat / Animal behaviour  
Farm animals are allowed. Excluded are pets, mounted animals and zoo animals.
- Category 3 (K3): Plants, landscapes and other natural phenomena

## 2. Participation

- The photo competition of the Natural History Museum Basel is aimed **exclusively** at amateur photographers. The minimum age for participating is five.
- Persons who work as professional photographers and earn their living from photography are excluded from the competition. Employees of the Natural History Museum Basel, their relatives, members of the jury and their relatives are also not eligible to take part.
- The pictures must comply with the technical requirements and digital guidelines, as well as be submitted with the prescribed file name and complete personal details. Only pictures in **digital** form will be accepted.
- A participation is only valid if the registration is complete and the conditions of participation have been accepted.
- Only **one picture** per person may be submitted. Further pictures in other categories will **not** be considered.
- We value pictures that are as authentic as possible.

## 3. Schedule

- Start of the competition: Monday 14 October 2024
- Closing date for entries: Sunday, 23 February 2025. Later submissions will not be considered.
- Online voting for the Audience Prize: Monday, 24 February – Sunday 7 March 2025
- Judging: 13 March 2025
- Award ceremony and opening of the exhibition: Thursday, 27 March 2025

After the judging, the photographers of the ten best pictures in the three categories, the winner of the Audience Prize and the IWB-Biodiversity Prize will be contacted.

#### 4. IWB Biodiversity-Prize

All submitted pictures are automatically nominated for the IWB Biodiversity Prize. After a pre-selection by the expert SNAPSHOT jury, IWB selects three to five pictures for its biodiversity campaign and awards the IWB Biodiversity Prize.

#### 5. Audience Prize

All submitted images will be entered for the Audience Prize. After the closing date they will be published online on the website of the Natural History Museum Basel. The public's favourite will then be crowned by an online vote. The picture with the most clicks wins the prize. This prize is also sponsored by IWB.

#### 6. Technical requirements and digital guidelines

- File format: JPG/JPEG photos in highest quality level max. 10 MB
- Formats: 4:3 / 3:2 / 16:9
- Portrait or landscape format
- Colour or black/white

Regarding digital image processing, we allow:

- Changes in tonal value, contrast, sharpness, colour temperature, white balance, colour balance
- Removal of noise and minor cleaning operations (sensor spots) if these do not change the image's message.
- Composite panorama images and HDR images are permitted.

The jury pays attention to natural colour reproduction.

The following is not allowed: AI-generated images. Addition and removal of picture elements such as animals, plants or humans and the use of digital color or art filters. Digital collages are also not permitted. **Please do not insert any texts (names etc.) into the image itself.**

#### 7. Image right

The participants agree that the Natural History Museum Basel, IWB and the Fotohaus have the right to use all pictures submitted to the competition for the promotion of it without any time restrictions and without compensation for publications in all media (print/internet/social media) and for media work (online and print media). Participants retain the right to use the photographs for commercial purposes, with the exception of the five images honoured by IWB.

Competition entries that do not relate to the above categories, violate applicable law, raise doubts about the author or have been found inappropriate or offensive by the preliminary review panel may be excluded from the competition without justification.

The submitted images will be deleted after the end of the competition and the post-competition reporting, unless the organiser has further use for them. The ten best images from each category, the winning image of the Audience Prize and the images selected by IWB for the IWB Biodiversity Prize are excluded. The organiser and the above-mentioned sponsors reserve the right to use these images for future promotion of the competition.

The IWB Biodiversity campaign will include both print and digital products and is open-ended. The photographers will receive a fee for their work.

The judgement of the jury is not contestable. Individual members of the jury may be replaced by other suitable persons at short notice.