

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Eligibility

“What age do I need to be to enter the competition?”

- Between the ages of 13 and 18 at the time of competition close (23:59 pm 20th June 2025)

“Who can enter?”

- Any young person aged 13 – 18, and be a UK resident. Experience level doesn't matter!

“Can I enter my photo that was taken outside the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and features a non-UK species/environment?”

- No. We'd like all entries to have been photographed in the areas above.

“Does it matter when a photo was taken?”

- Yes. In order to be eligible for the Wildscreen ARK Youth Nature Photo Competition, the photo must have been taken between 1st September 2024 and 20th June 2025.

“If I've submitted my photography to another competition, can I also enter the Wildscreen ARK Youth Nature Photo Competition?”

- Yes, we do not request exclusivity, however if the terms of another competition requires exclusivity or limits your rights to give Wildscreen ARK licence to display your entry, we cannot shortlist your entry.

“Do I need to obtain permission if my photo includes people under the age of 18?”

- No, because we ask that no humans be included in photos submitted to the competition.



“Can I submit photography of pets or captive animals?”

- No, we ask that all wildlife subjects of the photography are wild-living species. This means that images of pets and captive animals (e.g. Zoos, Aquariums) cannot be shortlisted.

“What guidance is there for animal welfare?”

- No wildlife or habitats should be harmed or unduly disturbed in the process of taking photographs.
- The entries must not:
 - portray subjects that have been captured using live bait
 - portray subjects that are captive, models, restrained, domesticated, or being exploited for profit, except if done so for the purposes of reporting on the exploitation of animal(s) by a third party, a welfare issue or the impacts of domesticated animals on wildlife.

Submission process**“Do I have to pay to enter?”**

- No. Entry is free!

“What is the entry deadline?”

- 23:59 pm 20th June 2025.

“Are there different categories?”

- No, all entries are judged against each other in one category.

“How do I enter my photos?”

- You should upload your a low-resolution version of your photo through the competition submission form. You will be asked to provide your contact details and a short description to give context to your entry. Please keep your original high-resolution photo as we will ask for this if you are shortlisted.

“How do I name my photo file?”

- Please rename your files with the image or film title as follows: “01_ImageTitle.jpeg”. Please do not put your name in the filename. This helps us keep the judging anonymous.

“What file types are acceptable?”

- In the interest of reducing data storage, please submit a high-resolution .jpeg of the photo taken.



“What forms of digital adjustments are NOT acceptable?”

- Adding or removing objects (e.g. animals, animal parts, plants or people) is not permitted.

“What forms of digital adjustments are acceptable?”

- Digital adjustments including tone and contrast, burning, dodging, cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, minor cleaning work, HDR, stitched panoramas, focus stacking, using multiple exposures taken at the same location at the same time, are permitted – any kind of adjustment that a smartphone can do is fine, as long as it does not misrepresent nature.

Judging

“What is the judging process?”

- There will be two rounds of judging:
 - **Round One:** All submissions received by the entry deadline will be reviewed by members of the Wildscreen ARK Team using the judging criteria. The best photos will be shortlisted and put forward for consideration by the Judging Panel.
 - **Round Two:** All shortlisted photos will be reviewed by the Judging Panel which scores the winners based on story, edit, composition and originality.
 - **Round Three:** The highest score of all submissions shortlisted will be the overall winner of the competition. Those in 2nd - 5th place will receive runner-up prizes and the top 12 will receive commendations.

“When will I find out the results of the competition?”

- Finalists and winners will be notified by 14th July 2025

“Can I get feedback on my submission(s)?”

- Due to the large number of submissions, we are not able to offer individual feedback.

“Who do I contact if I still have a question?”

- Please contact us at ark@wildscreen.org.uk - we're happy to help!

