

RULES OF PARTICIPATION

VI INTERNATIONAL NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST **Naturcyl 2023**

1 - ORGANIZERS

NATURCYL will celebrate its sixth edition from **September 15 to 17, 2023** in the Natural Park "Montaña Palentina". This event will host the demand of entrepreneurs and fans of nature tourism in all its aspects, respectful of our environment.

The fair aims **to value the natural heritage of Castilla y León**, the Iberian Peninsula and also other international destinations. It is a forum for the exchange of ideas and business opportunities between professionals. But the amateur and nature lover will also find optical brands, clothing to go out to the countryside and the best places to observe fauna or the accommodations of their future photographic outings.

The fair is held in the town of **Ruesga (Cervera de Pisuerga, Palencia)**, a small town 3 km from Cervera de Pisuerga and less than 30 km from Aguilar de Campoo. A spectacular scenario, and unknown by many fans of rural tourism and nature. The peaks, ridges and valleys of the Montaña Palentina Natural Park will accompany us during these three days of the fair. Some enclaves are so isolated that it is even possible to discover in them the footprint of the **Brown Bear, the Iberian Wolf** or birds such as the Middle Spotted Woodpecker.

But Naturcyl wants to be a fair for everyone and that is why this year the nature photography contest opens its doors to all national and international photographers who want to participate with their great images taken throughout the planet.

In the context of the above, this international nature photography contest "Naturcyl" is developed.



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1 - PARTICIPANTS

All photographers, both amateurs and professionals of any nationality, can participate without any age limitation.

Organizers, sponsors or other companies linked, directly or indirectly, to the conduct of this contest may not participate in the contest.

The contest rules will be available on the website www.naturcyl.es in Spanish and English.

2 - CATEGORIES

Category 1 - LIVING THE LANDSCAPE

The photography of natural landscapes or any element of these in any area (mountain, sea, forests, deserts, etc ...), including underwater landscapes. Images submitted to this category must be dayscapes only.

Category 2 - THE WORLD OF WILDLIFE

Birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and marine fauna, at any stage of their life and in any natural context, including in aquatic or underwater environments. Photographs in which it is evidenced that their obtaining could have endangered the life of the photographed species and/or its offspring will not be accepted. Photographs of captive, domestic or farm specimens will not be accepted either.

The organization of this contest presumes that the photographer has the necessary permits from the competent authorities, for the practice of photography, especially of those species that are protected by law, being the sole responsible authors of the photographs.



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Category 3 - THE WORLD OF PLANTS

The plant world does not have as many followers as bird watching or the observation of bears, lynxes and wolves, but it is certainly also an exciting activity and often very close to us.

That is why we want to reward and value photographs that show us the incredible life of plants, their diversity, their varieties and their rarities. Studio photographs, cut or garden species will not be accepted.

Category 4 – LIVING THE NIGHT

Astronomy is the science that studies everything related to the universe, and today, it has also become an ecotourism activity with thousands of followers around the world. The search for dark and unpolluted skies directs this flow of skygazers to the most isolated and best preserved natural spaces.

That is why we want to reward and value photographs that show us the incredible dome Celestial anywhere in the world as well as night landscapes full of magic and mystery. The images presented in this category must be made from sunset to sunrise.

SPECIAL PRIZE - CASTILIAN LEON PHOTOGRAPHER

From among all the images submitted to the contest, one will be chosen as the winner of the special prize for the Castilian-Leonese photographer. To do this, said photographer must prove his registration in one of the localities that comprise the community. In the same way, you must validate the box provided for this purpose in the registration form.

3 - FORMAT OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

Only photos captured by digital cameras for which the RAW file is preserved are accepted.



The works must be presented in digital format (JPEG), with 1920 pixels on its side greater than 72 dpi, not exceeding 2MB in maximum size. Borders, watermarks, or signatures may not be included.

Digital manipulation or alteration of photographs is not permitted.

Only moderate adjustments that affect:

- Global corrections for hue, white balance, brightness, contrast, color saturation, and adjustment of shadows and highlights.
- Conversion of the image to black and white.
- Moderate focus and selective reduction of digital noise and grain.
- Vignetting removal, particle cleaning, as well as correction of optical distortions and aberrations.
- Reframing of the image, not exceeding in any case 30% of the surface of the original image.
- Photographs taken with special techniques such as high-speed photography or composite images of multiple in-camera exposures, panoramic images, HDR and focus-stacking will be accepted provided that the technique used is indicated in the description/comments section. In any case, the principles of authenticity of the contest must be complied with, so that they do not constitute an attempt to deceive the public or to unduly present the reality of nature. The images made with these techniques must generate a RAW file and must have been made in the same location and at approximately the same time. The jury reserves the option of being able to request, if necessary, the sequence of images that make up the shot.
- You cannot add or remove elements from the image.
- Images obtained using image overlay modes will not be accepted.
- It is not allowed to submit the same or a very similar photograph in different categories.



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- Photographs must not have frames, borders, watermarks, signatures or captions.

The authors of the photographs that reach the final phase of the jury's deliberations may be requested, if necessary, by any means, for clarifications on the image that the jury considers relevant. The technical direction of the contest may reject photographs that do not conform to these rules, themes and categories.

It should be noted that the **RAW** file and high resolution file corresponding to the photographs selected for the final phase **will be requested**. High resolution images must be sent in **JPG or Tif format and at a resolution of 300 dpi**. The non-presentation of the RAW file will result in the disqualification of the photograph.

If the jury detects an evident intention on the part of the author to deceive the public, it reserves the right to disqualify all its images submitted to the contest.

The organization of this contest reserves the right not to admit those photographs that do not comply with the format reviewed.

4 - WORKS

Each author may submit a **maximum of 20 images** that may be distributed at their choice among all categories of the contest.

Participation in the contest has the cost of **€ 2** (+VAT where applicable) **per image submitted**.

The deadline for admission of photographs will begin on May 22, 2023 and will remain open until **11:59 p.m. on July 31, 2023**.

The sending of the participating photographs will be through a form enabled on the website **www.naturcyl.es**.



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It will be necessary to provide the following data for each image:

Name and surname of the author, email, contact telephone number and title of the photograph.

All photographers, residents or registered in the autonomous community of Castilla y León (Spain) who want to opt for the special prize "Castilian-Leonese Photographer" must activate this option in the field enabled within the registration form.

The photographs submitted must preferably be unpublished and may not have been awarded any prize or mention in any other international contest upon publication of these rules. The images that are detected in this regard, will be disqualified, even after having awarded them a prize, in which case the participant must return it.

5 - PRIZES AND JUDGMENT

From the works received correctly and within the established period, the jury will select the finalist images, honorable mentions and winners, as well as the absolute winner of the contest, carrying out an award ceremony on the days in which Naturcyl 2023 is celebrated. The finalists will be personally informed of the result of the jury, by telephone and/or email, as well as the date and time of the awards ceremony.

The jury's decision will be final and will be made public at the awards ceremony.

To be the beneficiary of any award, it will be an essential condition to be present at the awards ceremony.

All prizes will be paid through deposit in bank account.

The amount of the prizes will be subject to the tax withholdings established by current legislation.

The winners who cannot attend the awards ceremony, undertake to record and send a video commenting on their work to project it at the gala, being essential its reception in a timely manner.



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The organization of Naturcyl 2023 will contact via email with all those participants with winning images if necessary, to provide them with detailed instructions on this action.

6 prizes will be awarded in total:

- First prize "Absolute winner"
- Four category winners
- A special award to the Castilian-Leonese photographer

There will also be 12 honorable mentions (3 per category)

The absolute winning image of the contest will be the best valued by the jury among the four category winners. The economic prize of the absolute winner includes that of her category.

The jury will choose from among all the finalist images a selection of images that together with the winners and the honorable mentions will make up the **Naturcyl 2023 exhibition**.

1st absolute Prize Naturcyl endowed with:

- A cheque for €1,000
- Bresser optical observation equipment.
- A 2-day BB stay for 2 people in a double room in the Posadas Reales Network of Castilla y León.
- Castilla y León Wine Routes Prize.
- Diploma.

Prize category: "LIVING THE LANDSCAPE" endowed with:

- A cheque for €250
- Bresser optical observation equipment.
- A 2-day BB stay for 2 people in a double room in the Posadas Reales Network of Castilla y León.
- Castilla y León Wine Routes Prize.
- Diploma.



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Prize category: "THE WORLD OF WILDLIFE" endowed with:

- A cheque for €250
- A session for two people in one of Náyade Nature's photographic wildlife hides.
- A 2-day BB stay for 2 people in a double room in the Posadas Reales Network of Castilla y León.
- Castilla y León Wine Routes Prize.
- Diploma.

Prize category: "THE WORLD OF PLANTS" endowed with:

- A cheque for €250
- Bresser optical observation equipment.
- A 2-day BB stay for 2 people in a double room in the Posadas Reales Network of Castilla y León.
- Castilla y León Wine Routes Prize.
- Diploma.

Prize category: "LIVING THE NIGHT" endowed with:

- A cheque for €250
- Bresser optical observation equipment.
- A 2-day BB stay for 2 people in a double room in the Posadas Reales Network of Castilla y León.
- Castilla y León Wine Routes Prize.
- Diploma.

Special Prize - CASTILIAN LEON PHOTOGRAPHER:

- A session for two people in one of Náyade Nature's photographic wildlife hides.
- Bresser optical observation equipment.
- A 2-day BB stay for 2 people in a double room in the Posadas Reales Network of Castilla y León.
- Book: "Photographing Wild Birds" by Chris Gomesall.
- Castilla y León Wine Routes Prize.
- Diploma.

Honorable mentions:

- Diploma.



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6 - COPYRIGHT AND DATA PROTECTION

Participants must be the sole copyright holders of the photographs they submit. They will be responsible for the fact that there are no rights of third parties in the works sent, as well as for any claim for image rights. Of the finalist photographs, the organization reserves the right to use these images for the promotion, communication and dissemination of this photography contest, always indicating the name of the author. For other possible uses, related only to the activities of Naturcyl, express permission would be requested from the author. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the authors of the photographs will continue to be the owners of the exploitation rights thereof for any future use. The organization of the contest will reject any request from third parties that could be made with commercial interests such as the assignment, loan, exploitation, sale, etc. of the images submitted to the contest or the personal data of their authors. The digital files sent will not be returned since at the end of the contest they will be deleted.

The personal data provided by the contestants will be treated in accordance with the provisions of Organic Law 15/1999, of December 13, on the Protection of Data of

Personal Character, being able to exercise their rights of access, rectification and cancellation.

7 - INSTRUCTIONS AND ADVICE

Read the rules carefully.

Choose original photographs that represent well the values of the contest and correspond to any of the proposed categories.

Prepare the digital files according to the requirements, making moderate use of the allowed retouching tools so that the photographs are faithful to reality. It preserves the native file of the camera (RAW) since it will be required by the technical direction to compare it with the file sent to the contest. Please provide a valid email address when filling out the form as all notifications will be made by that means. Do not rush the deadlines, remember that you can send your photos from **May 22 to July 31, 2023** inclusive.



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Try to reflect in your photographs the enormous natural wealth, so that it evokes in the viewers the emotion of discovery, a feeling of admiration and the desire to know and preserve.

If you want **more information** send an email to **info@naturcyl.es**

8 - CALENDAR

The following calendar is established for the development of the contest:

- Image presentation: from May 22, 2023 to July 31, 2023 at 23:59 CET
- Online deliberation of the jury to evaluate the images and request for the RAW and high resolution files: From August 1 to August 31, 2023.
- Communication via e-mail to the winners and finalists: from September 1, 2023.
- Naturcyl Awards Ceremony 2023: September 16, 2023.

All participants will have to be attentive to their emails during the period of request for RAW and high resolution files since the non-receipt of these within the established deadlines will be subject to disqualification.

9 - ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES.

Participation in this photo contest implies acceptance of these rules.



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