

International Polaris Photo Contest 2011

Rules

ORGANIZERS

The contest is organized by the Casa Editrice Polaris, Via XX Settembre 10, 48018 Faenza (legal seat) and Via G. Di Vittorio 14/16, 50039 Vicchio del Mugello, Florence province, (Head Office).

Polaris Publishing House publish travel guides and photobooks and, in the course of recent years, they have achieved a remarkable position in the field of the edition of works connected with voyages.

PARTICIPANTS

All the Italian and foreign photographers, both professional and not, without any sort of discrimination concerning race, religion, nationality or ethnic group, can take part in the Contest. The members of the jury, the members of their families and the employees of the organizers are not allowed to take part in it.

CATEGORIES

The Contest is divided into two categories:

Wildlife Shots

The photos where nature, in all its aspects, plays the key role: flora, fauna and uncontaminated environments.

Only colour photos are admitted.

Lands and travelling people

This category includes all the photos whose protagonist is the man in his environment as well as peoples and groups. The photos must be taken according to the style of a report. Also portraits are allowed, but not taken in a studio. Both black-and-white and colour photos are admitted.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

All the Italian and foreign photographers, both professional and not, without any sort of discrimination concerning race, religion, nationality or ethnic group, can take part in the Contest. The members of the jury, the members of their families and the employees of the organizers are not allowed to take part in it.

To take part in the Contest, one must send, exclusively through the site www.polarisphotocontest.it and **within next October 15th 2011**, 4 (four) images all belonging to the same category, maximum 1800x1200 pixel and not less than 900 pixel/longest side, exclusively saved in JPG at 12 (top quality).

The images must be anonymous and should not include graphic elements not belonging to the image itself. Images considered ineligible, may be disqualified at jury's discretion. All of them must have been taken during the last three years (that is 2009 to 2011).

Photographs may not previously have won an award in other contests (even only mentioned) or have been presented at first edition of Polaris Photo Contest.

They can be either digital or on a film. In this case, they must be digitalized before being sent. No kind of print will be accepted, and all the material that has reached the editorial office through a different site will be discarded.

The participants must stand surety, on their own responsibility, that the whole stages of production and post-production have been carried out by them directly or under their supervision, and that the photos have been taken within the time requested.

SENDING IMAGES

The images must be uploaded directly on the site www.polarisphotocontest.it at the time of entry. Only four photos for each category can be sent. The same author can take part in more than one category (but with different images), always sending not more than four photos for each category.

Money contribution for the participation

- one category: 40 Euros
- two categories: 70 Euros

The money can be remitted as follows:

- by bank transfer in the favour of: Polaris srl. - Bank data: BANCA CR FIRENZE AG. FIESOLE (FI) – IBAN: IT 12 I 06160 37840 000005642C00 – SWIFT (BIC): CR FI IT 3F. Reason for payment: Contest 2011. Name and Surname.
- by credit card or PayPal on line on the page dedicated on the site www.polarisphotocontest.it

RIGHTS AND LIABILITY

All the rights on the images taking part in the Contest belong to the participants.

Each participant may be required to transfer the right on the image in case of use on works published by the organizers or by the sponsors by mentioning the author's name and, if desired, also the price received. In case such use is not granted and should the image be one of the winning ones, said image cannot be used by all the operations – publication on sponsors' catalogues, covers of guides – connected with the prizes offered. In this case, the image awarded the highest prize and whose rights have been transferred will be used.

However, the Organizers of the Contest reserve the right to reproduce the images only for the promotional purposes of the Contest itself or for similar purposes such as exhibitions, catalogues, events, magazines or newspapers both in Italy and abroad.

The candidates are responsible for the issue of all the required authorizations concerning the photos, including the acquittance relating to the subjects of the images as well as the authorization of the owners of the reproduction rights (when not belonging to the photographer himself) in view of the participation in the Contest and of any publication, always within the limits of what stated by the section above.

The Organizers of the Contest and the chairman of the jury will see these rules are applied correctly and will take the right decisions on any matter that has not been carefully taken into account by the rules. The verdicts of the jury are irrevocable.

To respect the national and international rules on privacy, the personal data of the participants will be used, by authority received, only for the promotional and informative purposes of the organizers of the Contest itself.

All participants will be informed by e-mail on the official results of the Contest.

HOW THE CONTEST IS CARRIED OUT

PRE-SELECTION OF THE PHOTOS

All the images will undergo a pre-selection by the staff of the organization under the chairman of the jury. The purpose of this stage is that of discarding all the images that clearly do not belong to any Category (as described before) or that are not consistent with the "Condition of Participation". This judgment is final.

SELECTIONS OF THE PHOTOS

All the authors of images admitted to the final selection will be informed by e-mail.

The images will be published anonymous and with a random selection by the special section of the site www.polarisphotocontest.it. The national jury, made up of professional photographers and experts chosen by the chairman of the jury, will be enabled to see and weight the images according to the primary parameters of visual impact, originality and technique, with a score expressed in twentieth. The average of the three scores will be the final score of each member of the jury on each individual image. The sum of the final scores of each member of the jury will be drawn up the list of the winners.

A WINNER EACH CATEGORY

Photography, and therefore the author who has obtained the highest total score by summing the final scores issued by all jurymen will be declared winner of his category. In case of equal score (just for the first three positions per category), the members of the jury will examine the photos once again and another voting will take place. The winner will be awarded the first prize in his category. The scores obtained by the photos ranking from the second to the tenth place will follow the same principle used for the winning ones. The names of the winners and their photos will be published on the site www.polarisphotocontest.it. They might be published by the sponsors' sites too.

FINALISTS' EXHIBITION

All the 60 images (30 per category) selected for the final voting will be published on the Contest official site and might be shown by travelling exhibition all over Italy. If required, the authors undertake to supply the digital files in a resolution suitable for prints up to 50 x 70 cm.

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL JURY

The board of judges is made up of a suitable number of professional photographers and of experts of voyage reports, voyages as well as of publications of such sectors, chosen by the Chairman of

the Jury. The Chairman asks the five members of the jury to vote by twentieth. In this stage, the Chairman has right to vote like the other members of the jury.

Chairman of the Jury

Edoardo Agresti

Members of the Jury

Salvatore Esposito

Gianni Maitan

Marcello Libra

Ernesto Bazan

Riccardo Venturi

SPONSORS

The contest has been supported by the following sponsors:

- NIKON
- NIKON SCHOOL TRAVEL
- POLARIS Casa Editrice – Books for travellers
- CENTRICA software
- MARCOPOLO monthly magazine Travel & Leisure
- LIVINGSTONE, Airlines
- AFRICA WILDTRUCK Tour Operator
- TENBA, photo bags
- WAYFARER THE BRIDGE travel bags
- ALINARI FIRENZE

Technical sponsor

- Mistral Quality Group Tour Operator

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Some prizes have not been defined yet, however their total value corresponds to about 8.000 Euro.

They are the following ones:

- Flight for two people by Livingstone (probably to Africa)
- Camera body Nikon D5000
- Camera Nikon Coolpix
- Software Nikon
- Photo Bag Tenba
- Workshop Nikon School Travel by Africa Wildtruck (without flight)
- Travel bag Wayfarer by The Bridge
- One year subscription to the magazine “Marcopolo”
- Guides and Photo books by Polaris

- Photo books

The prize-winning photos, if approved the temporary transfer of the rights, can be used as covers of the promotional catalogues of Mistral Tour, Turin, having a run of some ten thousands of copies. They might also be used as covers of guides or as inserts, of course mentioning the author's name and the prize he might have won.