

NATURE'S BEST NATIONAL PARKS

2020 PHOTO CONTEST GUIDELINES

START AN ENTRY! UPLOAD PHOTOS BY DEC. 26, 2020

The editors of *Nature's Best Photography* magazine invite photographers at all levels of experience to enter the inaugural NATURE'S BEST NATIONAL PARKS PHOTO CONTEST. Whether you are based in the U.S. or any country around the world—if you have traveled to a U.S. National Park and have favorite images and adventures to share, please join us in assembling a public record of this diverse ecosystem. There is no date restriction on when your photos were taken as all entries, past and present, are welcome. Entries are judged by a panel of experts in photography, publishing, education, and conservation. The winning images are selected on overall appeal, technical quality, originality, and artistic merit. Our goal is to commemorate and support the national park system through the art of photography and storytelling.

***IMPORTANT: ALL PHOTOS AND VIDEOS MUST BE TAKEN WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF ONE OF THE 62 U.S. NATIONAL PARKS. (See list on page 4)**

PRIZES

THERE WILL BE ONE WINNER IN EACH EXPERTISE LEVEL (*see definitions on page 2*) AND A SPECIAL VIDEO AWARD:

PRO WINNER: Win \$500 USD cash, plus special Award plaque, publication in *Nature's Best Photography*, 1-year NBP magazine subscription (or renewal or gift), display in NBP presentations, including social media, and web galleries.

AMATEUR WINNER: Win \$500 USD cash, plus special Award plaque, publication in *Nature's Best Photography*, 1-year NBP magazine subscription (or renewal or gift), display in NBP presentations, social media, and web galleries.

VIDEO WINNER: Win \$500 USD cash, plus special Award plaque, publication in *Nature's Best Photography*, 1-year NBP magazine subscription (or renewal or gift), display in NBP Vimeos, presentations, social media, and web galleries.

YOUTH WINNER: Win camera accessory gear, plus special Award plaque, publication in *Nature's Best Photography*, 1-year NBP magazine subscription (or renewal or gift), display in NBP presentations, social media, and web galleries.

HIGHLY HONORED FINALISTS: Awards Certificate, publication in *Nature's Best Photography*, display in NBP presentations, social media, and web galleries.

OUTDOOR EXHIBITION AT NYC BIG SCREEN PLAZA

Selected finalists will be displayed on a 30-foot screen in Manhattan, New York City, NY, USA

EXPERTISE LEVELS

PROFESSIONALS: Earn more than \$5,000 of income per year from photography.

AMATEURS: Earn less than \$5,000 of income per year from photography.

YOUTH: 18 and under, as of December 26, 2020.

PHOTO SUBJECTS

WILDLIFE: Enter photos of wild animals (mammals, birds, fish, etc.) including portraits, behavior, wildlife within their environment, predation, adults with young, animal interaction, close-ups, etc.

**IMPORTANT: 1) Photos of captive, lured, or baited animals ARE NOT accepted.*

2) Images must not involve the harassment of wildlife and must be taken in strict adherence to the regulations of the National Park Service. (See link below)

LANDSCAPES: Enter park photos and videos of expansive views, wide-open vistas, powerful waterfalls, natural features such as erupting geysers, plant life (flowers, trees, other flora) close-ups, dramatic weather, sunsets, and sunrises.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE: Enter scenes of park visitor experiences, such as camping, hiking, rafting, backpacking, horseback riding, skiing, families, groups, photographers, and rangers.

**IMPORTANT: If faces are recognizable, we will need permission from the individuals featured.*

VIDEOS: Whether your entry is a video clip from your phone or a high definition produced documentary, we are interested in wildlife behavior and natural subjects observed in U.S. national parks. Time-lapse and aerial videos are welcome. Provide the link (and password, if needed) to your entry on YouTube, Vimeo, or other viewing platforms. You will need to submit a still photo (saved as a JPEG for online entry) to represent your video.

PARK SAFETY

Do not approach wildlife! Always read and obey the laws of the park.

See safety tips online: nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety

ENTRY FEES

PRO and AMATEUR: \$30 USD for up to 25 images for each paid entry.

YOUTH: FREE ENTRY (age 18 and under, as of December 26, 2020).

Questions? Email: awards@naturesbestphotography.com

You may submit as few as one or up to 25 images per paid entry. Multiple entries are allowed! Payment is accepted during the secure online entry process via credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express) or by check (*no foreign checks*) made payable to Nature's Best Photography or pay by phone toll-free at 1-888-884-5999 within the USA or 703-467-9783, from 9:00am to 5:00pm Eastern time Monday through Friday. If a duplicate purchase occurs online, we will credit a contest entry for the current or a future contest.

RULES

All photographs must accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the viewfinder. Nothing should be added to an image at a later date, and aside from in-camera dust spots, nothing should be taken away. Normal processing of RAW image files and minor adjustments to color and contrast are acceptable, as is cropping. Black and white images are accepted. Entrants must not infringe on the rights of any other photographer or person, or submit images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife or damage to the environment by the photographer. Obscene, provocative, or otherwise objectionable content will not be considered and such determination is solely at the discretion of the judges.

****IMPORTANT NOTE:** Images that do not comply with all of the contest rules will be eliminated from the competition. Nature's Best Photography reserves the right to select materials to be used in exhibitions, publications, multimedia presentations, and online galleries. We make every effort to protect photographers' copyrights.*

TO SUBMIT PHOTOS ONLINE

PREPARE YOUR PHOTOS: Digital images should be taken with your camera set for highest resolution. CREATE LOW RESOLUTION COPIES of each photo saved as an RGB JPEG at about 1000-1800 pixels on the long side and no larger than 5 MB. Label each low-res file with your FirstnameLastname underscore Subject and saved as a JPEG (.jpg). **Example: JohnDoe_Elk.jpg** with no extra spaces. DO NOT ADD watermarks on your photos, as images are judged without seeing entrants' names. Follow the directions to start a Contest Account and upload images and enter information about each shot in the Entry Form found online here:

naturesbestphotography.com/enter

HIGH RESOLUTION FOR JUDGING: Photographers with images that pass into the semi-final round of judging will be required to supply 300 ppi hi-res TIFF and RAW (*if available*) files and a detailed caption about the shot before the final round of judging. Failure to supply requested materials and information within our time limits may lead to disqualification. ****NOTE: Instructions on how to send us your high resolution files and the details we need for captions will be emailed to you if your images reach the semi-final round.****

TO SUBMIT PHOTOS BY MAIL

IF YOU MUST ENTER BY MAIL: Be sure to include BOTH your low and high resolution photo files along with the Entry Fee of \$30 for Pro and Amateur (Free for Youth) by check (*no foreign checks*) and the completed Entry Form (*see page 4*) with ALL information clearly filled out. MAIL your submission to:

NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY 2020 NATIONAL PARKS
1544 SPRING HILL ROAD, PO BOX 9591, MCLEAN, VA 22102 USA **PH:** 703-467-9783

PREPARING DIGITAL IMAGES TO MAIL: Images should be taken with your camera set for the highest resolution. COPIES of each photo should be named with your FirstnameLastname underscore Subject and saved as an RGB TIFF at the largest size, then saved to low-res JPEG (**Example: JohnDoe_Elk.jpg** with no extra spaces). Do not add borders or watermarks to your images. Each USB drive must be labeled with your first and last name.

****Keep your own copy of your submission—they will NOT be returned after the contest.****

WHEN MAILING, SEND BOTH low and high resolution images with your submission:

- Low Resolution RGB JPEG copies of your images, approximately 1000-1800 pixels on the longest side, must be saved on a USB drive and labeled 'LOW-RES' for preliminary judging.
- High Resolution (300 ppi) RGB TIFF and RAW or original images, largest file available, saved on USB drive for the final round of judging, each labeled 'HI-RES.' Tiff files, or files created from the original RAW files, will be used for presentations and publication if selected as a winner.

NATURE'S BEST NATIONAL PARKS

LIST OF U.S. NATIONAL PARKS AS OF OCTOBER 2020

WHEN ENTERING PHOTOS ONLINE, USE THE DROPDOWN MENU
AND SELECT FROM THESE PARKS AS YOUR CATEGORY:

ALASKA:

Denali National Park & Preserve
Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve
Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
Katmai National Park & Preserve
Kenai Fjords National Park
Kobuk Valley National Park
Lake Clark National Park & Preserve
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve

AMERICAN SAMOA:

National Park of American Samoa

ARIZONA:

Grand Canyon National Park
Petrified Forest National Park
Saguaro National Park

ARKANSAS:

Hot Springs National Park

CALIFORNIA:

Channel Islands National Park
Joshua Tree National Park
Kings Canyon National Park
Lassen Volcanic National Park
Pinnacles National Park
Redwood National and State Parks
Sequoia National Park
Yosemite National Park

CALIFORNIA & NEVADA:

Death Valley National Park

COLORADO:

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park
Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve
Mesa Verde National Park
Rocky Mountain National Park

FLORIDA:

Biscayne National Park
Dry Tortugas National Park
Everglades National Park

HAWAII:

Haleakala National Park
Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

IDAHO, MONTANA, & WYOMING:

Yellowstone National Park

ILLINOIS & MISSOURI:

Gateway Arch National Park

INDIANA:

Indiana Dunes National Park

KENTUCKY:

Mammoth Cave National Park

MAINE:

Acadia National Park

MICHIGAN:

Isle Royale National Park

MINNESOTA:

Voyageurs National Park

MONTANA:

Glacier National Park

NEVADA:

Great Basin National Park

NEW MEXICO:

Carlsbad Caverns National Park
White Sands National Park

NORTH CAROLINA

& TENNESSEE:

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

NORTH DAKOTA:

Theodore Roosevelt National Park

OHIO:

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

OREGON:

Crater Lake National Park

SOUTH CAROLINA:

Congaree National Park

SOUTH DAKOTA:

Badlands National Park
Wind Cave National Park

TEXAS:

Big Bend National Park
Guadalupe Mountains National Park

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS:

Virgin Islands National Park

UTAH:

Arches National Park
Bryce Canyon National Park
Canyonlands National Park
Capitol Reef National Park
Zion National Park

VIRGINIA:

Shenandoah National Park

WASHINGTON:

Mount Rainier National Park
North Cascades National Park
Olympic National Park

WYOMING:

Grand Teton National Park

NATURE'S BEST NATIONAL PARKS

2020 PHOTO CONTEST MAIL ENTRY FORM

WHEN ENTERING BY MAIL, PLEASE USE THIS FORM

FIRST NAME / MIDDLE INITIAL / LAST NAME _____ DATE _____

BUSINESS NAME _____ PROFESSIONAL AMATEUR YOUTH (18 AND UNDER) / BIRTH DATE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ APARTMENT NO. _____

CITY _____ STATE / PROVINCE _____ ZIP / POSTAL CODE _____ COUNTRY _____

DAYTIME PHONE CELL HOME OFFICE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS / WEBSITE _____

PLEASE SEND US A SHEET OF BRIEF CAPTIONS FOR EACH IMAGE. CHOOSE YOUR PARK FROM THE LIST ON PAGE 4.

ENTRY FEE: PRO/AM \$30 US (YOUTH FREE)

METHOD OF PAYMENT: CHECK CREDIT CARD CALL TO CHARGE BY PHONE: 703-467-9783

CREDIT CARD NUMBER VISA MASTERCARD AMEX _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____ SECURITY CODE (3 OR 4 DIGITS ON BACK OF CARD) _____

PRINTED NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR CARD: _____

CHECK NUMBER US BANK ONLY (NO FOREIGN CHECKS! DO NOT STAPLE CHECK TO ENTRY FORM)

NUMBER OF IMAGES IN ENTRY (FOR EACH SUBMISSION YOU MAY ENTER UP TO 25 IMAGES)

_____ TOTAL NUMBER OF IMAGES ON USB DRIVE (SAVE YOUR IMAGES WITH FIRST AND LAST NAME IN TITLE)

I UNDERSTAND THAT CONTENT IN MY USB DRIVE(S) WILL NOT BE RETURNED AT THE END OF THE COMPETITION.

DEADLINE: POSTMARK NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 26, 2020

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE AND IMAGES VIA USPS OR COURIER:

NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY

2020 NATIONAL PARKS

1544 SPRING HILL ROAD, PO BOX 9591, MCLEAN, VA 22102 USA

OFFICE PHONE *for* COURIER: 703-467-9783

Questions? E-mail awards@naturesbestphotography.com or call 703-467-9783

FOR NBP OFFICE USE

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NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY NATIONAL PARKS PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION USE AND RIGHTS

Nature's Best Photography: A publishing group that produces Nature's Best Photography magazine with its main focus in photography awards development, management, multimedia exhibitions, and international alliances with its principal place of business located at 1544 Spring Hill Road, PO Box 9591, McLean, Virginia 22102, USA (herein referred to as NBP or Nature's Best).

By entering the Contest, you hereby grant to each Party a nonexclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license to publically display, reproduce, distribute, modify, transmit, and sublicense the photographs submitted for the Contest in any manner related to the Contest, including all associated reproduction, distribution, derivative works and commercial and non-commercial use in all media including, but not limited to: NBP websites, social media channels, print and digital presentations, brochures, newsletters, articles, calendars, and other printed or digital publications; Nature's Best publications and all Nature's Best works related to the Contest; solicitations by Nature's Best for the Contest; promotions and ongoing communications in connection with the Contest; and physical and digital galleries and photo exhibitions of all submissions for, and winners of, the Contest, including, but not limited to; exhibitions of Contest submissions and/or winners displayed at museums and galleries, government centers, conferences, trade shows, and Contest sponsor offices. This license shall remain in place for a term of 2 years (2022) without further compensation, notification, or permission unless prohibited by law. Furthermore, you represent and warrant that no part of your photograph infringes upon or violates any copyright, trademark, or any other proprietary right of any third party, and you indemnify and hold harmless each of Nature's Best, and Nature's Best partners against any claims brought by any third party claiming ownership of such rights.

The Nature's Best Photography National Parks photo competition is open to ALL photographers except employees of Nature's Best and partners. Your entry to this contest constitutes your agreement to allow your photographs, your name, occupation, city, and state of residence to be published as a selected award winner ****ENTRANTS RETAIN OWNERSHIP OF THEIR PHOTOGRAPHS.**** Nature's Best and partners shall have the right to verify, in their sole judgment, winner eligibility.

LEGAL CONDITIONS: By entering this NBP National Parks photo competition, you agree to certain legal conditions. By entering, participants release and hold harmless Nature's Best and partners, its respective subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents, and representatives from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, claim, action, demand, or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with the NBP National Parks photo competition.

Participant agrees that any and all disputes that cannot be resolved with Nature's Best, and causes of action arising out of or connected with the NBP National Parks campaign, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, before a court of competent jurisdiction located in Virginia, which court shall apply the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia without regard for rules of conflicts of law. In any such dispute, participant shall, under no circumstances, be entitled to claim punitive, incidental or consequential damages, or any other damages, including attorneys' fees, other than participant's actual out-of-pocket expenses (if any) associated with participating in the NBP National Parks photo competition. Participant hereby waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased. Any attempt by an entrant or other individual to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the NBP National Parks photo competition is a violation of criminal and civil laws, and should such an attempt be made, Nature's Best reserves the right to seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law.

NBP is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by website users or by any equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the NBP National Parks campaign, or by any technical or human error that may occur in the processing of submissions to the NBP National Parks competition, including but not limited to any misprints or typographical errors. NBP assumes no responsibility for any error, omission, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries. NBP is not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer equipment, servers, providers, computer on-line systems, software, or failure of email on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet, including injury or damage to participant's or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating or uploading images or information in the NBP National Parks campaign.

In no event will NBP, their subsidiaries, affiliates and related companies, their advertising and promotional agencies, or their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives be responsible or liable for any damages or losses of any kind, including direct indirect, incidental, consequential or punitive damages arising out of participant's access to and use of NBP's website or the downloading or uploading and/or printing of material from said site. Without limiting the foregoing, everything on the NBP site is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied. Some jurisdictions may not allow the limitation or exclusion of liability for incidental or consequential damages, so some of the foregoing limitations or exclusions may not apply to you.

****Check your local laws for any restrictions or limitations regarding these limitations or exclusions before entering NBP NATIONAL PARKS contest.**

VOID WHERE PROHIBITED