

BBOWT Photography Competition 2025

Terms and conditions

This competition is run and managed by the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT). By entering the competition, you agree to abide by these terms and conditions.

1. Categories

1.1 Images taken anywhere in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire or Oxfordshire:

- Children & teens – all images of nature
- Nature on your doorstep – garden/urban/local wildlife

1.2 Images taken on a BBOWT nature reserve:

- BBOWT reserves: landscapes & people – views, visitors and volunteers
- Mammals & other animals – from hares and hedgehogs to lizards and frogs
- Birds – including portraits, action shots and birds in flight
- Butterflies & other insects – beautiful butterflies and insect life
- Flowers & fungi – colourful blooms and fantastic fungi
- Mobile phone photography – landscape views and wildlife photos

1.3 No image can be entered into more than one category.

1.4 The People's Choice Award will feature a selection of images shortlisted by BBOWT. These will be promoted via social media for a public vote after the closing date.

2. Dates

2.1 Launch date: 01 May 2025

2.2 Closing date: 31 August 2025

2.3 Winning photographers will be notified in the first two weeks of October. Entrants must provide an email address and telephone number when submitting images for this purpose. In the event that a winner is non-contactable, their entry will be forfeited and another chosen.

2.4 Winners will be announced at the BBOWT AGM on 25 October 2025. Results will then be made public.

3. Eligibility

3.1 The competition is free of charge and open to all photographers, but excludes anyone associated with the competition administration and organisation. This includes BBOWT employees and competition judges (and their partners and family), sponsors, and trustees.

3.2 The entrant must be the creator of the image(s) submitted, and the sole owner of the copyright (see 'Image rights and use of images' section, below).

3.3 Photographers will be asked to declare that the images they are submitting comply with the competition rules and that the information accompanying the image they provide is complete, true and accurate.

3.4 Images that do not comply with all terms and conditions and image specifications will not be considered by the judges.

4. Image subjects

- 4.1 Photographers must ensure that they have the permission of anyone pictured in the image (or, where the image shows any persons under 18, the consent of their parent/guardian). BBOWT is not responsible for seeking this permission.
- 4.2 Photographers must take all reasonable care not to disturb wildlife and the local environment in the pursuit of images. It is the photographer's responsibility to be aware of and comply with the laws (e.g. in the case of protected species). Wildlife law and animal welfare requirements must not be breached and protected species or habitats must not be compromised. All images must be taken in a responsible manner which respects nature and wildlife.
- 4.3 Subjects photographed in a studio setting or a captive environment are not eligible.
- 4.4 Domestic pets are not eligible.
- 4.5 If an image is captured on private land for entry into 'Children & teens' or 'Nature on your doorstep', the permission of the landowner must be sought before submission to the competition, including agreement to the terms of this competition.

5. Entering the competition and photo specifications

- 5.1 All images should be entered online via the BBOWT photo competition webpage. We cannot accept images sent by post.
- 5.2 Up to four images may be entered per person.
- 5.3 Entries must be **landscape (horizontal) format** for use in the 2026 BBOWT calendar. Portrait (vertical) or square images will be rejected.



Landscape format



Portrait format

- 5.4 Winning images may be cropped to an aspect ratio of 7:5 for the BBOWT calendar; ideally 3,600 pixels on the longest side.
- 5.5 The organiser cannot be held responsible for any problems uploading images.
- 5.6 All entries are sent at the photographer's risk. The owners cannot accept liability for any loss or damage of any images entered in the competition (howsoever caused) nor for any other resulting loss or damage.
- 5.7 You must be the image creator and hold sole copyright. Images must not already be licenced or share rights with another entity (for example, stock libraries).
- 5.8 Images that have won other major photography competitions are not eligible.
- 5.9 Images must not have been entered in a previous BBOWT photo competition.
- 5.10 Images must have been taken within the last two years.
- 5.11 Faithful representation of the subject must be maintained. Minor digital adjustments are only acceptable if limited to cleaning (removing dust spots), levels, curves, colour, saturation and contrast work. Sharpening and cropping to the required size is allowed. Images should be representative of the true scene through the viewfinder without elements added or removed.
- 5.12 Images created with or altered by AI are not permitted.
- 5.13 Images must not include any watermark, signature or professional logo.

6. Judging and prizes

- 6.1 Judges will be appointed by the organiser and will select winning images based upon technical skill, diversity, originality and creativity. Judging will be anonymous.
- 6.2 There will be a pre-filter of submissions by BBOWT to ensure that the photos are compliant with the rules and taken ethically.
- 6.3 The organiser's decision on all matters relating to the competition is final, and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the competition's judging and organisation.
- 6.4 All prizes are shown on the BBOWT photo competition webpage. The organiser reserves the right to substitute prizes. No alternative, cash or otherwise, will be given for any prizes.

7. Image rights and use of images

- 7.1 You must be the sole author and owner of the copyright for all images entered. You will retain copyright of your entries at all times and always be credited alongside your photograph.
- 7.2 You may use the entry on social media at any time (before or after judging) using the hashtag #BBOWTphotocomp
- 7.3 Entrants agree to grant BBOWT a nonexclusive, irrevocable licence to reproduce, publish and exhibit in any medium, including print and digital for the use of promoting the results of the competition and the wider BBOWT aims. This includes, but is not restricted to; photo exhibits, fundraising and marketing materials, calendars and for use in BBOWT press and websites, including those not linked to the competition. The overall winning image will be included in our membership publication, Wild Magazine.
- 7.4 The entrants agree to give BBOWT free usage sublicensing the shortlisted images for media and press articles or any other external communications related to the competition. The organiser will insist that images are credited to the photographer but cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions.
- 7.5 Beyond sublicensing for media and press related to the competition, the photos will not be passed on for use by third parties without prior permission.

8. Disclaimer

- 8.1 The information given in these terms and conditions is correct, but BBOWT reserves the right to change any of it without prior notice. By entering the competition, entrants will be deemed to have agreed to be bound by these terms and conditions. Any breach of these terms by an entrant will void their entry.
- 8.2 The entrant is responsible for any claim made by a third party against the submission.

9. Data protection

- 9.1 BBOWT is compliant with the Data Protection Act and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
- 9.2 By entering, you agree to BBOWT using your details for the purposes of managing your competition entry and properly attributing your photograph if it is used by us.
- 9.3 By entering, you also agree that if selected as a winner, BBOWT may share relevant details with any prize organisers for the purposes of issuing you your prize. BBOWT may also share your relevant data with media and press for publicising the results of the competition.
- 9.4 Your name will be used to attribute you as the author of your submitted photograph when it is used by BBOWT.
- 9.5 The name of any school that receives a library prize will not be released without the permission of the entrant and the school.
- 9.6 For more information on how we manage your data, please see our privacy policy: www.bbowt.org.uk/privacy