

RULES

1. Objectives

- 1.1 To promote the observation and appreciation of seabirds in the broad area of Macaronesia, which comprises the Azores, the Canary Islands, the Madeira archipelago, Cape Verde, and surrounding oceans.
- 1.2 To act as a public challenge to discover more about the biodiversity, natural history, and habitats of Macaronesian seabirds and the threats they face.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1 The competition is open to all members of the public, except the judges and directors of Asas do Mar (IOMA).
- 2.2 Entrants to the Young Photographer Award should be younger than 18 years on the closing date of the contest (i.e. 15 October of the year of the competition).
- 2.3 The general theme of the competition is Seabirds of Macaronesia:
 - i) Photographs must have been taken in the Macaronesian region (i.e. the Azores, the Canary Islands, the Madeira archipelago, Cape Verde, and surrounding oceans).
 - ii) Accepted seabird species are listed here:
<https://en.asasdomar.org/copy-of-concurso-de-fotografia-1>
 - iii) Images must include at least part of a seabird but can range from close-ups (e.g. a feather detail) to wide-angle views placing seabirds in the context of their environment. Images showing human interactions with seabirds, whether positive or negative, are welcomed, as are those that draw attention to the threats faced by seabirds.
- 2.4 Images taken at any time and on any type of camera are allowed.
- 2.5 Entrants must be the sole copyright holder of any images entered.
- 2.6 Each participant may submit up to five photographs. If more than five are submitted, only the first five received will be judged.

- 2.7 Images awarded a prize in any previous Asas do Mar (IOMA) photography contest are not eligible.

3. Technical requirements

- 3.1 Images must be submitted in digital format (see 4, below).
- 3.2 Photographs may be in colour or black and white.
- 3.3 For shortlisted images we will request original in-camera (preferably RAW) files and high-resolution JPG or TIFF files of at least 10 MP at 300 dpi, to confirm authenticity and to allow high-quality exhibition prints to be made.
- 3.4 Normal post-processing is permitted, with the following limitations:
- i) An image must be the result of a single in-camera photograph with no elements added or removed.
 - ii) Generative artificial intelligence should not be used to add, remove, modify, or create the image submitted.
 - iii) Photographers may make reasonable use of standard digital darkroom techniques (i.e. adjustment of levels, curves, colour balance; dust removal, etc.), but **digital editing should be kept to a minimum**.
 - iv) Cropping should be limited to 35% of the original image size. Cropped images should not be resampled.

4. Submitting your images

- 4.1 Images may be submitted via the google form available at www.asasdomar.org/ between **3 July** and midnight on **15 October**.
- 4.2 Submit medium-resolution JPEG files at 72 dpi, maximum 2500 pixels on the longest side and less than 5 MB.
- 4.3 Include in the application form your name and each image title, with a brief description that includes the location, subject photographed, and the date the photograph was taken. Young photographers: please also include your age and date of birth.
- 4.4 **Do not** include **your name** or any identifying information on your photograph, in your image title or file name, or within the image metadata.



- 4.5 Do not remove the EXIF data (camera, lens, settings, etc.) from your file(s).

5. Conditions of entry

- 5.1 Disturbing seabirds or approaching too closely to obtain a “better” photograph is expressly prohibited. The judges may request clarification or may automatically disqualify any image suspected to have been obtained by using inappropriate behaviour.
- 5.2. Participants declare that their images were taken in full compliance with the regulations of the place they were taken, and, if permits were required (either for the site or the species photographed), will provide a copy of the permit(s) upon simple request by Asas do Mar (IOMA).
- 5.3 By entering the contest you agree to grant Asas do Mar (IOMA) non-exclusive rights to use your photographs (regardless of whether or not they win a prize) for purposes directly related to promoting and sharing all aspects of the photography contest, now and in the future. For example,
- i) in announcements made about this or future competitions via online platforms or printed media;
 - ii) for display in an exhibition of printed seabird photographs.

Copyright will remain with the photographer and the photographer will be credited by name. If Asas do Mar (IOMA) wishes to use submitted photographs for any other purpose, photographers will be contacted for their permission.

- 5.4 Entrants guarantee that they are the sole copyright owner and assume all responsibility for any issues arising from complaints from third parties with respect to copyright and related rights.

6. Judging

- 6.1 The judges for the adult contest are Kirstin Jones, Paulo Henrique Silva, and Bart Vercruysse. The judge for the Young Photographer Award is Marc Albiac.
- 6.2 Images will be judged anonymously.

- 6.3 The judges will be looking for original and inspiring images that celebrate the unique beauty of seabirds or that highlight interesting aspects of seabirds' behaviour, conservation, or vulnerability.
- 6.4 The judges will first shortlist the best images and later select the winners, to be announced by the end of the year.
- 6.5 The judges' decision is final.

7. Prizes

- 7.1 Winning photographers will be awarded prizes as follows:

Adult photographers

1st place – €250

2nd place – Asas do Mar T-shirt and notebook

3rd place – Asas do Mar notebook

Young photographers

1st place – €150 + binoculars (8 x 40)

2nd place – Asas do Mar T-shirt and notebook

3rd place – Asas do Mar notebook

- 7.2 An additional prize may be awarded to the winner of the Members' Choice, selected from among the shortlisted images.
- 7.3 The winners will be notified by email and informed about the time, date, and place of the prize giving, if any.
- 7.4 All winners can request a digital certificate by email from concursodefotografiaasasdomar@gmail.com.

8. Final note

Please direct any questions to us at concursodefotografiaasasdomar@gmail.com.

GOOD LUCK!