

WILDLINK PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2010

About the competition

This annual competition is organised by Wildlink and judged by an expert panel.

The winner of the Wildlink Photographer of Year will be announced in December 2010

Organisers

The competition is organised by Wildlink.

Sponsors

Our Sponsor is the London Camera Exchange.

History of the competition

This competition started in 2006.

WILDLINK PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2010 The title Wildlink Photographer of the Year 2010 will be awarded for the entry judged as the most striking and memorable. He or she will receive a pair of Viking 8x42 ED binoculars. The prize is donated by London Camera Exchange. There is no cash equivalent to the prizes offered.

Rules

Entry rules for the 2010 competition

1. **'The Owners'** of the competition are Wildlink. The annual competition is open to anyone except those involved in its organisation and employees of Wildlink or London Camera Exchange.

2. **Format** Entries must be digital images, taken within the five years immediately prior to the closing date. You may crop images before submission. Digital images must not be adjusted beyond rule number 4 prior to submission.

3. **Submission** In the first instance entries should be submitted by email to photo@wildlink.org. Images should be in .jpg form using RGB and should be no more than 1Mb in size. No more than 2 images will be accepted from each entrant. Finalists may be asked to submit their image at higher resolution for final judging. **Labelling** The file should carry your name, and the key subject (e.g. JohnBrown_kestrel.jpg). Please make sure that your entry contains a valid email address as this will be used to contact finalists in the first instance (please also see 'Notification' below).

Other information required:- Full shooting details for the image (ideally as recorded by the camera at the time the picture was taken).

In the event of a tie the judges may call for a higher resolution image – please be sure to keep your original image available.

4. **Adjusting your image** Digital adjustments are only acceptable if limited to cleaning work, levels, curves, colour, saturation and contrast work, applied to the image as a whole. The faithful representation of a natural form, behaviour or phenomenon must be maintained. Masking sections of the work, compositing, multiple exposures, filters are NOT allowed. Cropping is allowed, but don't forget excessive cropping may reduce the quality of the image to an unacceptable level.

5. **Copyright** You must be the sole author and owner of the copyright for all images entered. By entering your images into the competition, you grant to Wildlink a non-exclusive, royalty-free, irrevocable licence to use and reproduce the images for any purpose in connection with the competition including, but not limited to, the following purposes:

- judging the competition
- display of the winning entries at events held within the UK following the competition
- inclusion within newspapers, website, magazines or similar in connection with Wildlink
- inclusion within promotions organised by selected media partners (to include BBC) and for exhibition purposes connected to Wildlink and this competition
- For the avoidance of doubt, the Owners will choose images from the winning images for the purposes of promoting and marketing the Wildlink and the competition. In addition, you grant Wildlink the right to sub-licence images to (i) the press for reproduction in connection with the competition and (ii) for use by the title sponsor of the exhibition for its non-commercial purposes.

6. **Subjects** Domestic animals (cats, dogs, farm animals, etc) and cultivated plants (species or hybrids grown in a cultivated setting) do not count as wildlife and are not eligible subjects. You must declare if a picture has been taken in captivity or conditions that are unnatural (e.g. if the animal has been restrained or previously kept captive). Details of the subject and location must accompany the image. In some cases, the photographer may be asked to sign a statement detailing how and where a picture was taken. If cruel or unethical practices are suspected by the Owners or any of the judges the entry will be disqualified.

7. **Legal issues** Where necessary under the Wildlife and Countryside Act or equivalent national or international legislation (e.g. in the case of protected species), pictures must be accompanied by scanned copies of the

relevant permits. UK entrants should note that, without a permit from English Nature, the Countryside Council for Wales or Scottish Natural Heritage, it is illegal to photograph some British birds at the nest.

8. **Other competitions** A picture that has already won a prize in a major competition (one receiving more than 500 images) is not eligible for entry.

9. **Manipulation** Sandwich shots, double exposures, photographs which consist in any way of more than one separate image and images which have been digitally manipulated outside of rule 4 are not eligible.

10. **Judges** These will be appointed by the Owners to choose the winner. The Owners' decision on all matters relating to the competition is final, and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the competition's judging and organisation. Should the quality of entries fall below the standard required, the Owners reserve the right not to award prizes.

11. **Notification** Winners and commended photographers will be notified prior to any announcement. Unsuccessful entries will not be notified. Winning and commended pictures may be retained after the end of the competition. The results will be published on the Wildlink and BBC websites.

12. **Reproduction** Wildlink and sponsor are entitled further to rule 5 above to reproduce and exhibit in all media (now known or hereafter created) prize-winning and commended entries, but only in connection with the promotion of and publicity for this competition, and any exhibition and tour.

13. **Merchandise** Wildlink is entitled further to rule 5 to reproduce the prize-winning and commended images in connection with the promotion and publicity of the competition.