

18-26
AVRIL
2026

FILM COMPETITION
RULES

35^e

Festival de l'oiseau et de la nature

SORTIES NATURE | EXPOS PHOTO
CINÉMA ANIMALIER | ANIMATIONS ENFANTS

horisgraphie 06 33 34 7716 © Mazarine Artères



CCI LITTORAL
HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

ABBEVILLE
BAIE DE SOMME
HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

festival-oiseau-nature.com

1^{er} PARTENAIRE



Région
Hauts-de-France



2025 Film competition rules

Point 1: Place and date of the Festival

The 35th Bird and Nature Festival will be held from April 18th to 26th, 2026 in Abbeville and in the Bay of Somme – Picardie – FRANCE.

Point 2: Theme

The Festival offers a selection of films dealing **mainly with birds in their natural environment, wildlife, environment or natural history generally speaking**. Feature films or commercials are not allowed. A feature film shot outdoors but which main theme isn't one of the above won't be selected.

Professional films must be of 26 to 100 minutes duration.

This competition is also open to amateur wildlife filmmakers who do sound recording, shooting or editing as a hobby and on a non-profit basis.

Amateur films must be of 3 to 13 minutes duration.

If the filmmakers are attending the Festival, they will be allowed to say a few words to introduce their film before the screening. A translator will assist if needed.

All amateur films are screened on a special night.

SELECTION

Point 3: Formats

Admitted for the preselection

- ☛ URL to the streaming website of your choice (YouTube, Vimeo, company website...)
- ☛ USB stick

Films without French or English subtitles or timecoded script in either of these languages won't be considered by the preliminary jury.

Admitted only for the competition (the films will be shown in 1920 X 1080 full HD)

Apple Pro Res 422 files are highly recommended.

Only for films available in their French version:

- ☛ A digital original master file
- (☛ or for amateurs only, a digital video file to be submitted on a USB memory stick or an external hard drive (that will be returned after use). Other formats allowed: .mpg 4 or .mov codec H 264), 1920 X 1080 25p or 50p (full HD) With 2 stereo sound tracks.

For films available in any other foreign language version: 2 files of the film

- ☛ A digital original **video master file mixed with the sounds and original commentary**
- ☛ **And** a digital original master file of the international version **with the sounds and effects WITHOUT the commentary** with a 48Khz .wav sound (default format) at a decent rate.

For the nominated foreign (non-French) films, if necessary, the Festival may meet the cost of translation, sub-titling, and / or dubbing. The entrant authorizes the Festival to proceed to translation, sub-titling, and / or dubbing. **English timecoded and in the original language scripts will be requested if no French version is available.**

The digital files will have to be uploaded on the Festival's platform as requested in the selection e-mail. Alternately, they may be made available for download by the entrant from a platform of their choice or sent on an external hard drive that will be returned after the event.

The film may be shown in different venues equipped with various screening materials (Abbeville City Theatre and Cr cy-en-Ponthieu, Fort-Mahon, Hallencourt and Abbeville movie theatres). To meet these needs, the Festival might create DCPs of the French version if the entrant can't provide one.

The entrant authorizes the Festival to burn Blu-Ray copies and / or create DCP so that the film is shown in its best version according to the venue.

Point 4:

Films can't be removed from selection after it has been officially announced.

Any number of productions may be entered per entrant, but a maximum of two can be selected for nomination. The cut-off date is 2023.

The Festival Committee may choose some unnominated productions to present them out of competition.

Copyright nor any other type of payment can be claimed for screening of nominated nor unnominated films.

All decisions from the Festival Committee, Preliminary Jury and Final Jury are final and cannot be challenged.

REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULE

Point 5: Entry deadline and documents to be included

Registration is to be made online until NOVEMBER 12th 2025.

- **via our website:** www.festival-oiseau-nature.com (free)
- **or via** www.filmfreeway.com ( 2 / film)

The synopsis of the production, **a timecoded script in English**, the species list with local, English and Latin names, a minimum of 3 photos of at least 300 DPI and any other relevant document will have to be uploaded on the chosen website to complete the entry. **The streaming link must be valid until at least April 26th, 2026** (please don't forget to provide a password if access to your film is restricted).

Only full submissions will be considered. No entry fees will be refunded for non-compliance to these rules or for non-selection.

The entrant who fills in the registration file must be the authorized titulaire of all royalties, and gives the Organizer permission to show the film and to use text and photos without charge during the Festival.

The entrant authorized as above also gives us authority to use the film, text and photos for the promotion of the Bird and Nature Festival. (3 minutes maximum extract per film). Those trailers may also be used to promote the screenings on the Festival's website.

Competition files of the selected films are due to the Festival Office by January, 31st, 2026.

Point 6: Transportation and insurance

The transportation and insurance costs for the forwarding will be borne by the entrants.

The Festival will pay for the return of the physical support if provided and will insure them for the whole period, door to door.

Point 7: Preliminary Jury

The Preliminary Jury is made up of professionals such as ornithology and other biology scientists, and other appropriate local specialists, chosen by the Festival Committee.

A video copy with technical quality not up to standard or dealing with topics other than those listed in Point 2 will be disqualified.

Point 8: Video library

A copy of the film(s) shown in competition during the Festival will be kept for the video library.

The archives of the Festival may be shown to the school-children and to the public.

A donation may be asked to cover the administrative costs. Itinerant screenings may be held to broaden the Festival's audience and to enable school-children and inhabitants to have access to this resource.

JURY AND PRIZES

Point 9: Final Jury and prizes

The Festival Committee name the Final Jury. The Jury is made up of persons from such fields as: wildlife film, TV and other programme-making organisations, ornithology and other biology scientists and 2 young people from the Bay of Somme area.

The President of the Jury has a casting vote in case of point of contention.

The winning entrants are permitted to mention subsequently in their credits that their production was awarded a prize or other distinction at **THE 35th BIRD AND NATURE FESTIVAL IN 2026.**

Point 10: Prizes

The Bird and Nature Festival Film Competition includes 2 categories: **professionals and amateurs**.

The prizes total € 12,000.

The Official Jury will award 4 prizes to the professionals.

THE « GRAND PRIX » OF THE BIRD AND NATURE FESTIVAL

Award of €4,000

This prize will be awarded to the production most faithful to The Festival's subject "The Bird in its Natural Environment or to film which deals with nature more generally".

THE SPECIAL JURY PRIZE

Award of €2,000

This prize is left to the Jury's choice.

THE WILDLIFE PRIZE

Award of €2,000

This prize will be awarded to the production which deals with wildlife: birds, mammals, marine fauna, fauna and flora more generally.

THE ENVIRONMENT PRIZE

Award of €2,000

This prize will be awarded to the production which will be focused on environmental problems of the Planet.

The public will decide of the best amateur film.

PUBLIC PRIZE

Award of €2,000

This prize will be awarded to the film which has totalized the more votes from the audience on the night dedicated exclusively to the screening of the amateur productions.

A same film can't receive 2 Prizes but 2 films can be ex-aequo for a same Prize. In such case, winners would share the prize money.

The prizes will be paid within a maximum period of 8 months by cheque or by bank transfer to the directors.

Point 11: Special distinctions

Special distinctions may also be awarded by the Final Jury such as (but not limited to):

- ☛ the best picture
- ☛ the best soundtrack
- ☛ the best editing
- ☛ the best technical quality

Point 12: Invitation

The Festival will offer to each entrant whose production is nominated:

- ☛ 2 nights in a hotel room for two people,
 - ☛ 2 first-class return train tickets: Paris-Abbeville-Paris, (alternatively a refund on this basis will be paid after the Festival by bank transfer). We will be happy to pick you up at Abbeville railway station if you let us know of your arrival time.
 - ☛ a meal with the other nominated entrants, on Saturday, 25th, April followed by a tour.
- A welcome pack including your accreditation will be given to you. In case of late arrival, please claim it upon arrival at your hotel.

Point 13: Address:

BIRD AND NATURE FESTIVAL
Village d'Entreprises – Route des 2 Vallées
80100 ABBEVILLE - FRANCE
sophie@festival-oiseau-nature.com - www.festival-oiseau-nature.com
SIRET 382 624 476 00034

Point 14: GDPR

The completion and submission of an entry form and a production implies the full acceptance of these rules.

The information provided by the participants are only used for the film competition. In all cases, it is reminded that, in accordance with the European laws and directives in force and the European regulation that came into force on May 25, 2018, relating to Information technology, files and liberties, the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data, the entrants have the right to oppose, access and rectify data concerning them.

Consequently, any entrant benefits from the organizer of the competition of a right of access, interrogation, opposition, rectification and suppression for his/her data, on simple request to the following address: rgpd@festival-oiseau-nature.com.

None of these data may be sold to a third party.

Point 15: CASE OF FORCE MAJEURE

The Festival Committee, in case of necessity, may alter without notice the terms and conditions of these rules. They may also decide to cancel screenings or the whole Festival without prejudice.

If screenings couldn't be done in public, a digital alternative may be set up. The authorization would be asked again to the entrant for online viewing.

The present rules are also available on www.festival-oiseau-nature.com where registrations should be made and on www.filmfreeway.com.

In case of any dispute concerning the rules only the French language rules will be deemed authentic. The French language rules are available at CASTANIE, TALBOT, CASTANIE & HAMON's, Public Notaries in Abbeville (Somme).