



wiki loves
EARTH

2021

INTERNATIONAL JURY REPORT

Wiki Loves Earth is a photo contest of the natural monuments, where participants picture protected areas and upload their photos to Wikimedia Commons. The goal of the project is, on one hand, to picture under a free license as many natural monuments and protected areas as possible, on the other hand, to contribute to nature protection by raising public awareness.

After years of successful organisation of Wiki Loves Monuments there was an idea of a similar contest for natural monuments. The idea of Wiki Loves Earth was born in April 2012 during a discussion at Wikimedia Conference. The idea was realised for the first time in Ukraine, where the contest was held from 15 April to 15 May 2013. Wiki Loves Earth became international in 2014 with 16 participating countries from four continents, and expanded its geography further in the following years.

In 2021, during the ninth edition of Wiki Loves Earth 34 countries and territories all over the world organized local contests. Among those, 2 teams have joined the competition for the first time: Wales, United Arab Emirates. The contest lasted between May 1 — August 31. Usually, WLE takes place between May and June, but due to the world health situation and positive experience of extending the contest in 2020, it was extended by two more months. We have received more than 64 000 submissions from over 4300 uploaders.

The contest has two categories this year - landscapes and macro/close-up photography.

ABOUT WIKI LOVES EARTH

HOW THE JURY WORKS

Winners were determined by the 6-person international jury. Members were selected by the international team. The jury team was formed to be as diverse as possible: they are representatives of six countries and different continents. International jury members are experienced Wikimedians and professional photographers.

390 nominations were submitted to the international organising team by the national juries of the participating countries. Each country was allowed to submit up to 15 images, not more than 10 from each category.

The nominations were collected in a judging tool managed by non-voting jury moderators. After pre-filtering ineligible files all photos were submitted to the jury.

On the first stage, all jurors rated all images with stars from 1 (poor) to 10 (very good). 48 images with ratings higher than 6 were selected as candidates for the final round.

On the final stage, jury members rated (from 1 to 20) and commented on the 48 images. Comments were visible to other jury members, while rankings were not. These rankings were added together, and a combined jury ranking was produced. In case of equality of points in the final round, points from the first round were used as a tiebreaker. Photos were also checked for relevancy and if they depict a protected area.

INTRODUCE THE JURY

ANJA STRELEC, BELGIUM

Anja is an audiovisual and documentary film director and photographer based in Belgium. She is currently working on different audiovisual projects for BBC Studioworks, Belgian TV and European Commission as well as audiovisual trainer for different agencies and EU delegations. For the last twelve years she has been working as an independent TV journalist, documentary filmmaker, photographer, camera operator, editor and coach. Anja directed and co-directed several awarded creative documentaries and promotional films. Moreover, she had an opportunity to work for different clients in an international environment such as in Nepal, Argentina, Ghana, Eritrea, Guinea and all around Europe. Most of her work is concentrated on social, environmental and development topics as well as audio-visual portrait storytelling, institutional and music videos.

OSAMA SILWADI, PALESTINE

Osama Silwadi is a Palestinian photojournalist, visual storyteller, archivist and folklorist. He worked with several local press organizations, French Press Agency, Reuters. In 2004, he founded the Apollo Agency, the first Palestinian photography agency. In 2009, he founded and edited the “Wamid” magazine. Osama was a jury member of several photography awards and contests, such as “Youth Eyes on the Silk Road” organized by UNESCO, Wiki Loves Monuments conducted by the Wikimedians of the Levant user group in 2017 and 2018. Silwadi’s photos were published in leading international newspapers and magazines, such as National Geographic, Time and Newsweek. He also has held many local and international exhibitions, including in Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Italy, United States and France. Osama was the international jury member of the previous WLE edition in 2020 and was glad to continue contributing to the contest this year.

SUMMER KAMALELDEEN, EGYPT

Summer is a professional photographer from Egypt practicing for already 5 years including wildlife photography. He has organized the local competition Wiki Loves Africa for two consecutive years, as well as won the international round of Wiki Loves Africa for two years in a row. In addition, he received an award in the International Competition for the Elderly in Bahrain and became a winner of the Wiki Loves Monuments competition last year.

CARLOS FIGUEROA, CHILE

Carlos Figueroa is a Chilean dentist and active Wikipedian since 2005 and has contributed to Wikimedia Commons since then. As a part of Wikimedia Chile board since 2017, chair since 2020, he has been in charge of the “Chile in images” project which portrays the main cultural events in the country. Also, Carlos was a member of the national jury of 2018 and 2019 editions of Wiki Loves Earth, and jury for other photographic contests, such as “6 months that changed Chile” and “Revealing Sites”. Carlos was the international jury member of the previous WLE edition in 2020 and was glad to continue contributing to the contest this year.

ARJUN SURI, INDIA

Arjun is a filmmaker and photographer based in Mumbai, India. Over a decade he is working on projects across a wide range of audio-visual crafts including screenwriting, directing, editing, cinematography and photography. One of his directions in photography is travel and landscape, which is especially valuable for Wiki Loves Earth photos evaluation.

MOHAMMED MUSTAPHA ALIYU, NIGERIA

Mohammed from Nigeria is an active Wikimedia contributor and community organizer that has joined the movement since 2017. He also co-founded Hausa Wikimedians User Group. Since then he has been carrying out projects to promote Wikimedia projects in Hausa language for the reach of its speakers. Mohammed is an urban planner working on environmental design and ecology. He is interested in beauty and cultural adaptation of the natural environment. In addition he practices photography.



Sintra-Cascais Natural Park

Photographer: Luis Afonso

Site: Sintra-Cascais Natural Park, Portugal

Abano beach at sunset in Sintra-Cascais Natural Park, Portugal. [\[English\]](#)

Praia do Abano ao pôr do sol no Parque Natural Sintra-Cascais, Portugal. [\[Portuguese\]](#)

Jury comments

Very nice use of colors.

Very nice shot, sharp and good lighting with so much detail.

Great picture and nice composition.

1 LANDSCAPES



Parco Agricolo Sud Milano

Photographer: Dario.brollo

Site: Parco Agricolo Sud Milano, Italy

Emerged from the waters. Landscape in the Parco Agricolo Sud Milano (Q3895458) near Rosate (MI), Italy. [\[English\]](#)

Emerso dalle acque. Paesaggio nel Parco Agricolo Sud Milano (Q3895458) nei pressi di Rosate (MI), Italia. [\[Italian\]](#)

Jury comments

“ The picture is like a fantasy, the colors are quiet, the lighting is imaginary, and the picture is complete with the presence of a person with his dog, giving you the feeling that you are out of a movie.

A scene that reminds of a nostalgic experience, the dullness is positive here.

”

2 LANDSCAPES



Lake Stymphalia

Photographer: Nojos88
Site: Lake Stymphalia, Greece

Morning ride with an authentic boat of the old times. [\[English\]](#)

Πρωινή βόλτα με αυθεντική βάρκα της παλιάς εποχής
[\[Ελληνικά\]](#)

Jury comments

Great poetic photo and use of lights, shutter speed, colors, it gives a sense of calmness and voyage, has a story to tell, I would only have taken it with a boat little bit straighter towards the left.

Good picture and nice composition.

3 LANDSCAPES

Kaçkar Dağları Millî Parkı

Photographer: Engin Tavlı

Site: Kaçkar Dağları Millî Parkı, Turkey

Zilkale castle. [\[English\]](#)

Zilkale Çamlıhemşin / Rize.

[\[Türkçe\]](#)

“

The picture is like a dream above the clouds, the colors and the perspective are all excellent.

Good picture and great composition.

”

4 LANDSCAPES



Gunung Merapi National Park

Photographer: Adyagustian

Site: Gunung Merapi National Park, Indonesia

Mount Merapi is located on the border of Central Java and the Special Region of Yogyakarta, has an altitude of 2,930 meters above sea level. Since the end of 2020 until now Mount Merapi is erupting. The eruption of Mount Merapi is estimated to only be in the form of molten / incandescent lava without an eruption. The frequency of incandescent lava discharge can reach dozens of times a day. The farthest sliding distance from incandescent lava reaches 2,200 meters.

[English]

Gunung Merapi berada di perbatasan Jawa Tengah dan Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta, memiliki ketinggian 2.930 mdpl. Sejak akhir tahun 2020 hingga saat ini Gunung Merapi sedang erupsi. Erupsi Gunung Merapi diperkirakan hanya berbentuk lelehan/luncuran lava pijar tanpa disertai letusan. Frekwensi keluarnya lava pijar bisa mencapai puluhan kali dalam sehari. Jarak luncur terjauh dari lava pijar mencapai 2.200 meter. [Bahasa Indonesia]

Jury comments

“
A complete landscape, the image is very sharp, the lighting is wonderful, the colors are balanced, the shades of blue and green work as a symphony.

It works as a whole.
”

5 LANDSCAPES

Ropsha Forest



Photographer: Mariia Obidina (Мария Обидина)

Site: Ropsha Forest, Russia

Arianta arbustorum on the *Taraxacum* flower: macro shot taken in the Ropsha Forest, Leningrad Oblast, Russia.

[English]

Древесная арианта (*Arianta arbustorum*) на цветке одуванчика (*Taraxacum*), Ропшинский лес и долина реки Стрелка: Ленинградская область. [Русский]

“

One of the favourite photos, so clear colors and the motif and the details.

The photo is wonderful, very sharp, with a wonderful color palette, and the composition is very wonderful.

Great light and composition. Good timing.

”

1 MACRO/CLOSE-UP



Mapawa Natural Park

Photographer: Domzjuniorwildlife

Site: Mapawa Natural Park, Philippines

Brown-throated sunbirds are commonly seen upland feeding with nectar. Males have this wonderful colors which really attracts attention to your eye specially when it is in its colorful habitat of flowers. Nature really give this bird a wonderful touch of paint all over its body. Photo Taken: Brgy. Mapawa, Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental, Philippines. [English]

Jury comments

“ One of my favourites, great colors, great use of lens, difference between red, blue and green is amazing.

The photo combines all my three criteria of a great photo, 1. The light, soft light without shadows, 2. Timing, accurate timing of the innocent bird, and finally 3. The story.

”

2 MACRO/CLOSE-UP



Serra do Mar State Park

Photographer: RafaelMenegucci

Site: Serra do Mar State Park, Brazil

Portrait of a snake Papa Lesmas. [\[English\]](#)

Retrato de uma cobra Papa Lesmas.

[\[Portuguese\]](#)

“

Jury comments

The picture is very, very sharp, like a mirror of a snake's eyes that snatches the eye so you can't look away from it. The lighting is also excellent.

Very good timing and good composition.

”

3 MACRO/CLOSE-UP

Cantagallo Natural Reserve



Photographer: Andrea Fabiani Ph
Site: Cantagallo Natural Reserve, Italy

Carrhotus xanthogramma - Acquerino
Cantagallo Natural Reserve(Q3936505), in the
province of Prato, Italy. [\[English\]](#)

Carrhotus xanthogramma - Riserva naturale
Acquerino Cantagallo (Q3936505), in
provincia di Prato, Italia. [\[Italian\]](#)

Jury comments

Very good photo, great captured moment, one of the favourites, colors are nice and sharp, maybe only the photo should have been taken a little bit closer.

The picture is sharp, the color gamut of the green color is very good, the composition is good.

Sharp, nice composition, lovely green and eyes.

4 MACRO/CLOSE-UP



Chitwan National Park

Photographer: Mildeep

Site: Chitwan National Park, Nepal

A Leaf beetle (*Aulacophora indica*) (Family: Chrysomelidae; subfamily: Galerucinae) peeking from the leaf hole of *Alnus nepalensis* tree. Adult leaf beetles makes holes on host plant leaves while feeding. They camouflage themselves with their feeding holes. Location: Chitwan National Park, Nepal. [\[English\]](#)

“

Jury comments

Cool photo, interesting, great composition, colors could have been better.

Love composition.

Very nice shot and composition but the leaf should have been fully shown to provide more detail.

Perfect timing.

”

5 MACRO/CLOSE-UP

Kremenets Mountains National Nature Park



Photographer: Byrdyak

Site: Kremenets Mountains National Nature
Park, Ukraine

Three female deer in the Kremenets
Mountains National Nature Park, Western
Ukraine. [\[English\]](#)

Jury comments

Very nice light, shadows and highlights, photographer should have waited maybe for the third deer to look at the camera as well, I like the blue touch.

The lighting is great, the composition is very good.

Nice timing and very good composition. The colours are great.

Nice lighting.

6 MACRO/CLOSE-UP



Chitwan National Park

Photographer: Mildeep

Site: Chitwan National Park, Nepal

Baya Weavers (*Ploceus philippinus*) are best known for their elaborately woven nests. These pendulous nests are retort shaped, with a central nesting chamber and a long vertical tube that leads to a side entrance to the chamber. The nests are woven with long strips of paddy leaves, rough grasses and long strips torn from palm fronds. Location: Chitwan National Park, Nepal. [\[English\]](#)

Jury comments

Great shot, nice colours, lighting and composition.

Great composition but not sharp enough.

7 MACRO/CLOSE-UP



Chitwan National Park

Photographer: Mildeep

Site: Chitwan National Park, Nepal

A Feral Pigeon in flight, Rainy day. [\[English\]](#)

Jury comments

Nice, poetic, average

Very very sharp good photo.

Sharp, nice composition, peace feeling.

Great shot, timing and the light.

Great picture.

8 MACRO/CLOSE-UP



Natural park Pfälzerwald

Photographer: Stephan Sprinz

Site: Natural park Pfälzerwald, Germany

Young common frog (*Rana temporaria*) in
Natural park Pfälzerwald. [\[English\]](#)

Junger Grasfrosch (*Rana temporaria*) in
Buchenlaub im Naturpark Pfälzerwald.
[\[Deutsch\]](#)

“

Jury comments

One of my favourites, very sharp, colors are amazing, focus of the photographer to capture the moment is extraordinary, great use of the lens where background is blurry.

Hard lighting and very sharp but the surrounding area is too blurred.

”

9 MACRO/CLOSE-UP

Ras al kohr bird sanctuary



Photographer: Srivath

Site: Ras Al Kohr bird sanctuary, United Arab Emirates

On a non season day, for my wait this came from no where and got this beautiful shot.

[English]

Jury comments

Nice action, not very sharp.

Very good composition and the lighting so hard that add too much of a focus on the bird. The timing is also great.

Good timing and good composition.

10 MACRO/CLOSE-UP

IMAGES

1. File:Praia do Abano at Sunset.jpg
2. File:Emerso dalle acque.jpg
3. File:Λίμνη Στυμφαλίας 8.jpg
4. File:Zilkale.jpg
5. File:Erupsi%20Gunung%20Merapi.jpg
6. File:Доброе утро в лесу.jpg
7. File:Flowerish Sunbird.jpg
8. File:Dipsas albifrons, Cobra Papa Lesmas.jpg
9. File:Ragno Salticidae.jpg
10. File:The Bug Peek.jpg
11. File:Три олениці взимку.jpg
12. File:BayaWeaver.jpg
13. File:PigeonFeral.jpg
14. File:Junger Grasfrosch (Rana temporaria) in Buchenlaub im Naturpark Pfälzerwald.jpg
15. File:Flying colors.jpg



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