

Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year 2025 Terms and Conditions

The Royal Meteorological Society's (RMetS) Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year 2025 competition is hosted on Zealous.co, and [Zealous' Terms and conditions](#), [Zealous Privacy](#) and [Zealous Usage](#) policies apply. Details of the [RMetS privacy and data policies can be viewed here](#).

The competition features 4 award categories:

1. Main
2. Mobile
3. Young
4. Standard Chartered Climate Award

In addition, please note the following in relation to Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year 2025:

1. The Promoter

The competition promoter is Royal Meteorological Society (RMetS), 104 Oxford Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 7LL in association with Standard Chartered (sponsor), ITV Weather (media partner), The Week Junior Science + Nature (media partner for young category), Fun Kids (media partner for young category), My Modern Met (media partner), and Zealous.

2. Eligibility

The competition is open to professional and amateur photographers of any nationality but is subject to laws of England and Wales. Entrants from outside the UK must adhere to local laws.

**Due to the war in Ukraine, and in unity with other arts competitions, the Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year competition will be suspending photographers living in Russia or Belarus from submitting entries into this year's competition, as well as any photographs taken in those countries. Those photos will not be judged. Our position will be upheld until there is a peaceful resolution to these hostile actions.*

The Young Weather Photographer of the Year category is only open to photographers under the age of 18 years on 18 June 2025.

Entrants under the age of 13 at the closing date of the competition must gain the permission of a parent, guardian or appropriate adult to enter the competition. It is the responsibility of each entrant (and the entrant's parent, guardian or appropriate adult) to ensure that they have read and will abide by these rules and Zealous's terms and conditions. By submitting an entry, each entrant (and the entrant's parent, guardian or appropriate adult) agrees to these rules, that their entry complies with these rules, and that they will be liable to the Promoter and their licensees in respect of any damages or losses incurred as a breach of the Rules.

Employees or agents of the Royal Meteorological Society, or Zealous, their families or other persons connected with this promotion, employees directly connected to the competition at Standard Chartered, or The Week Junior Science + Nature, or ITV Weather, or Fun Kids, or My Modern Met, are not eligible to enter. Members of the Royal Meteorological Society are eligible to enter the competition. Wider employees

of Standard Chartered, ITV Weather, The Week Junior Science + Nature, Fun Kids, and My Modern Met and their families are eligible to enter. Should prospective entrants be in any doubt as to their eligibility, then confirmation from the Promoter should be sought by emailing: weatherphotographer@rmets.org.

3. Submission Rules

No entries will be accepted by email or post. A maximum of 5 entries in each opportunity are permitted per entrant.

The same image can be entered into more than one opportunity if the eligibility criteria for that opportunity is met.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the competition, in 2025 we are accepting images taken within the last ten years from the competition closing date – i.e. since 19 June 2015.

Photographs that have been submitted into other competitions will be accepted but photographs that have won a national or international competition (winner, runner-up, shortlisted or commended), or are entered into a national or international competition where the results are pending, are not eligible for entry, and by entering a photograph you warrant that it has not previously been awarded, and will not soon be awarded, in a national or international competition in this capacity.

Submitted entries must not deceive the viewer or attempt to disguise or misrepresent the reality of a scene. Therefore, some restrictions on the use of digital manipulation of images apply.

Images submitted to Weather Photographer of the Year 2025 must show the scene and subjects as they were photographed and must not combine multiple elements from separate photographs into one frame.

Entries that use fundamentally different subjects or backgrounds brought together into one image are not allowed, even if you have photographed all the components yourself.

Images submitted to Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year 2025 must not use the following digital adjustments:

- the use of sky replacement packs and software.
- incorporating other weather elements into a scene that were not in the original shot, including (but not limited to) lightning bolts, clouds, rain, tornadoes, waves and rainbows.
- Adding, moving or removing objects, people or animals into a scene that were not in the original shot, or parts of objects, people, animals, dirt, highlights, backscatter, bubbles, debris and similar composites.
- Painting the foreground or painting out the background.
- Artwork and illustrations will not be accepted.

Artificial Intelligence

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) image generation or enhancement is not permitted. Images found to have been enhanced through the use of AI will be disqualified. This includes use of AI-enhanced generative fill.

If any post-processing method adds new image content to the photograph via AI algorithms or by manual intervention, the resulting photograph/image will have contravened these Terms and Conditions.

Entrants are reminded that they are responsible for obtaining any necessary licences that may be required to photograph protected areas. Proof may be requested by the Promoter and entries disqualified where it is suspected the relevant permissions have not been obtained. It is also the responsibility of the Entrant to ensure that the relevant permissions have been obtained when photographing on private land.

Any images you upload must be wholly your own photograph - they must not have been taken by another photographer, include any elements that were taken by someone else, or be an image you have found on the internet, or that was included as part of a software package.

Submission of images depicting other individuals must be accompanied with a relevant model release form for each individual depicted:

- [WPOTY model release form \(adult\)](#)
- [WPOTY model release form \(minor, for persons aged 17 years or younger\)](#)

All shortlisted and winning images will be checked before the winners are announced. The Promoter reserves the right to request a copy of the original camera file and a screengrab of your indexing software showing other images from the same shoot. We reserve the right to eliminate entries where such a request is ignored or where it is suspected that the rules have been infringed.

Full disclosure of the techniques employed should be provided at the point of image upload in the image description. The Promoter reserves the right to disqualify any entry where they suspect either full disclosure has not been made or where the methods employed by the photographer are judged to breach the ethical code of conduct e.g. use of a camera other than a mobile phone or tablet for the mobile phone category.

Information accompanying your image submissions must be true and accurate. Photographers are encouraged to provide information about the image, how it was shot etc. for the judges. You must not include your name in the caption or on the photograph itself. You must not include your name in the file data, i.e: owner, copyright or creator fields. If you're unable to remove your name from these fields, we will do this.

4. Competition Judging

The initial judging for each category of the competition will take the form of an elimination round scored online by a panel of expert judges, producing a shortlist of images in the main and mobile phone and young categories of 'Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year 2025'.

The shortlist of panel-judged images from the main and mobile phone categories of 'Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year' will be announced in September 2025. Once the shortlisted images are announced, a public vote will open. The public will be able to vote for their favourite image on the shortlist through the RMetS website.

The 'Standard Chartered Young Weather Photographer of the Year' category will not produce a shortlist or a public vote, and the final results will simply be decided by the judging panel.

The category winners and runners-up for the main, mobile, young, and climate award categories of the competition will be decided upon by the judging panel. The public vote winner is decided solely by the public vote on the RMetS website.

Any photograph that is found to be subject to vote manipulation, for example via bots or fake IP addresses, to artificially boost its score in the public vote will immediately be disqualified from the competition.

Additional awards may be decided during the judging process at the discretion of the promoter, sponsor or partner.

Feedback will not be given on any individual entry's score or position, and certificates are not issued to participants.

5. Prizes

Each of the winning photographs will receive a prize as stated in the opportunity descriptions.

Winners will be notified ahead of a public announcement at the end of October 2025.

6. Copyright and permissions

All imagery MUST be the total and exclusive work of the submitting photographer and may not include any element that is the copyright of another. The Copyright for each image entered will remain with its respective photographer.

By submitting images to this competition, the entrant confirms and warrants 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 or responsible adult) for the usage rights required by the promoter and will indemnify the Promoter, sponsor and media partner against any claims made by any third parties in respect of such infringement.

Submission of images depicting other individuals must be accompanied with a relevant model release form for each individual depicted:

- [WPOTY model release form \(adult\)](#)
- [WPOTY model release form \(minor, for persons aged 17 years or younger\)](#)

By submitting images, the entrant confirms that any necessary permissions from the owner(s) of objects including buildings included in submitted images for the usage rights required by the Promoter and will indemnify the Promoter, sponsor and media partner against any claims made by any third parties in respect of such infringement.

By entering the Competition and submitting your photograph(s), you hereby grant the Promoter, its sponsor, media partner and hosting partner Zealous, a non-exclusive, irrevocable license to use your photograph(s) for any purpose connected with the Competition, including (but not limited to), promoting the Competition within printed and online media, the inclusion within printed and digital versions of any subsequent book relating to the competition, the inclusion within printed and digital versions of Competition calendars and other merchandise, display at exhibitions, publication in other magazines or print media which the Promoter, sponsor and media partner may produce, promotion of the sponsor or media partner's involvement in the competition, use in press, promotional and marketing materials, social media networks and for the promotion of any future photographic competition in both print and online media. In context of the above, the Promoter, its sponsor, media partner and hosting partner Zealous, reserve the right to make minor edits to the image for publication purposes e.g. resize or crop. In doing so they will maintain the photographer's copyright and will not manipulate the image out of recognition.

We request that all 3rd party media outlets covering 'Standard Chartered Weather Photographer of the Year 2025' also fully credit images used with the photographer's name, although this cannot be enforced. The Promoter, sponsor, media partner and Zealous accept no liability for the failure of any third-party media outlet to credit images to the photographer.

By submitting images, the entrant confirms that they have not licensed or disposed of any rights in the image that would conflict with uses to be made by the Promoter, sponsor and media partners.

Other commercial opportunities may exist for photographers. Where such a commercial benefit is likely to arise, permission will be sought in advance in accordance with terms to be decided and agreed by the photographer.

The Promoter and the sponsor do not accept any liability for the publication of unlawfully reproduced images.

7. Liabilities

By entering the Competition, the entrant agrees to maintain the highest standards in all matters relating to the Competition and not to do or say anything that does or might damage the reputation of the Promoter, the Competition, the other entrants, or the official partners, supporters, or sponsors of the Competition, or any subsequent Exhibition. The entrant acknowledges that entry into the Competition does not grant any rights in any intellectual property rights of the Competition and/or the Promoter, sponsor and media partner, and agrees not to use any names, logos or other intellectual property rights of any of them or to make any public statement regarding any of them without the prior written consent of the Promoter, sponsor or media partner.

The Promoter, sponsor and media partner is excluded from liability for any loss, damage or injury which might occur to the winner arising from his or her acceptance of the prize. The entrant will indemnify the Promoter, sponsor and media partner and the sponsor for all liabilities, including legal costs, in relation to any action or complaint taken by any third party against the Promoter, sponsor and media partner in relation to the entrant's photograph(s).

8. General

The Promoter reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by English law. When a photograph is submitted and the entry date has passed, the entry cannot be changed or withdrawn. Entries for the competition are free. Entry to the Competition shall be deemed full and unconditional acceptance of the terms & conditions.

Any entry found not to comply with these Terms and Conditions at any stage of the Competition may be disqualified. No refunds or allowances will be made in the event of disqualification, and any unreceived prizes will be forfeited. The disqualified entrants must return any prize money and fees already received within 14 days. In response to any enquiries, we reserve the right to confirm that an entry has been disqualified. If a breach has occurred, but is discovered after an award, then we may withdraw the relevant entry from any of the Exhibitions and/or related activity and require the return or reimbursement of any prize already received. Any decision of ours relating to the Competition is final and binding. No negotiation will be considered, and we will not enter into subsequent correspondence regarding such decisions.