



## **31<sup>th</sup> Festival International Nature Namur**

### **From 11 to 19 October 2025**

#### **Amateur Films Category**

##### **Agenda**

The 31<sup>th</sup> edition of the “Festival International Nature Namur” will take place from 11 to 19 October 2025. A selection of films dedicated to nature and wildlife will be shown to the public.

##### **Goals**

- To raise the large public’s awareness of nature’s knowledge and wildlife’s respect.
- To raise the awareness of authorities in charge at all levels of the protection of wildlife and environment.
- To boost the production of films dedicated to Nature and Environment through the granting of awards in a competition and showing those films on the big screen to a very large audience.
- To show films in the best possible conditions: cinemas equipped with a large screen and the latest audio-visual technologies.
- To offer possibilities of contacts between amateur filmmakers and the audience during the Festival.

##### **Presentation**

The Gala evening of the award ceremony for amateur films will be conducted by professional hosts in the presence of prestigious guests from the world of politics, audio-visual, naturalism and the media. The award-winning filmmakers will be invited to express themselves for a few minutes before and after their film is shown. In the second part of the evening, there will be an award giving ceremony for the winning films.

This Gala evening will take place on Saturday 18 October at 8 P.M. in Namur.

The award-winning films will also be shown during the 5 days dedicated to schools, hosted by Benoît Marenne, a specialist of school animation.



# Rules of the Competition

## Amateur Films Category

### Article 1: Amateur Films Category

The Festival International Nature Namur, Amateur Films category, is open to all non-professionals of image, sound and editing (\*): individuals, associations, clubs, classes...

(\*) A filmmaker is considered non-professional when his/her income from filmmaking is lower than 50% of his/her total income.

### Article 2: Theme

The admitted films are amateur films dedicated to discovery, observation, protection and conservation of wild nature.

All topics related to nature can be exploited.

Here are some examples of themes that have been highlighted in the last 30 years of the Festival:

- The wild fauna and flora of all countries.
- Special and rare behaviours of animals from our countries and from far away.
- The natural environment of all countries and its management.
- Interactions between plant and animal species.
- Fauna and flora as managed by humans (fish farming, forest management, agriculture, revalidation centres, hunting, invasive species, zoos...).
- Human activities in wildlife and/or the threat these activities represent for wildlife (human-wildlife cohabitation, water purification and use, transhumance, gardens, oceans, forests, quarries, hedges, brownfield sites, wildlife discovery oriented activities...).
- Environment change.
- Animal welfare.

The theme can be treated in a humorous or poetic way, as a long shot, as a documentary, a commercial, poetry, a fiction, etc. Originality, rhythm and script are to be favoured.

By entering this competition, the filmmaker reveals his or her interest for wildlife and environment and he/she gives evidence of his/her respectful behaviour towards the animal and plant species.

Originality and the beauty of the images as well as the script (story and comments) will be given priority but the classical criteria (framing, wildlife sound picking, editing mastery...) and the environmental criteria (no **destruction and no disturbance** caused by the shooting, respect of the environment...) will of course be appreciated as well.

We can help you establish contacts and facilitate your access to particular areas: quarries, brownfield sites, Natura 2000 zones...



### **Article 3: Registration**

The registration to the competition is free of cost and is taken into account only if all boxes are correctly filled in.

Every filmmaker will be allowed to submit several films to the selection.

The required minimum length of the film is 1 minute minimum and 5 minutes maximum.

Each film has to be registered separately (one registration per film).

Please leave 5 seconds black before the first image (not counted in the total number of minutes).

The registration is done online via one of the hereafter mentioned possibilities:

- On the online submission service “FilmFreeway” ([filmfreeway.com](http://filmfreeway.com))
- By filling in the online form on the website [www.festivalnaturenamur.be](http://www.festivalnaturenamur.be) and by sending a selection copy of the film to the secretariat of the Festival, as a data file in the formats .mp4 or .mov via one of the following media :
  - The WeTransfer+ account of the Festival (**preferably**)
  - Sending an external hard disk or a USB stick to the Festival’s postal address
  - Internet uploading (Vimeo, YouTube, FTP, Dropbox...)

The copy of the films can be lightly compressed but this without altering the vision quality of the film, which could be a disadvantage during the selection.

USB sticks and external hard disks will be sent back within 3 months after the event. The Festival cannot be held responsible in case of loss, theft or damage to the sent copies.

Remark: you can send several films on the same medium.

### **Article 4: Calendar**

The registrations will start on from February 1<sup>st</sup> of 2025. Every registration has to be filled in **before Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> of 2025 at midnight at the latest.**

### **Article 5: Coaching Committee**

A Coaching Committee set up by PointCulture will be viewing on request films or film projects that have to be submitted before **Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> of 2025** at the latest. This Committee will give advice to improve the film or the film project for the final submission set on 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2025 (cf. article 4).

This opinion/advice will be communicated to the participants on Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> of 2025 at the latest.



## **Article 6: Secretariat**

Please send the physical media to the following address:

Festival Nature Namur  
To Maximilien Triantafylou  
Rue du réemploi, 4  
5020 Suarlée  
Belgique

For more information: +32 (0)81 432 419 |  
[info@festivalnaturenamur.be](mailto:info@festivalnaturenamur.be)  
Website: [www.festivalnaturenamur.be](http://www.festivalnaturenamur.be)  
Rules are available in the following languages:  
French\*English\*

The Festival cannot be held responsible in case of loss, theft or damage of the sent copies.

## **Article 7: Selection**

All films will be viewed by a selection committee, composed of image professionals and scientists, and this committee will select the films admitted to entering the competition.

One single film will be selected per entrant. This committee's decisions will not be motivated, except upon written request from the entrant.

Will be excluded from the selection:

- Films with an incomplete registration
- Films that do not correspond to the criteria of admission such as these are mentioned in article 1 and 2.

The entrants to the competition will be informed personally about their selection.

In that case it is absolutely imperative to communicate the following information:

- Original master digital file in Full HD (1920x1080)
  - In Apple ProRes 422 or H264
  - Images/second: 25p
  - Mixed in stereo
- 3 photos of the film minimum and 1 photo of the filmmaker minimum
- The synopsis

The non-French speaking films will be dubbed in French or shown with French subtitles. The translation costs fee will be supported by the organisers.

The following elements should accompany the original master digital file of the non-French speaking films:

- The international mixing audio track(s) (including all sounds except the comments and the dialogues) in stereo
- The complete script with the time code corresponding to the dialogue and the comments.
- The list of Latin names of all the animal and plants species mentioned in the script.



## **Article 8: Copyright, author's rights and distribution**

The filmmaker remains the owner of the intellectual property of the film but he/she authorises the use of the film and the images it contains by the Festival International Nature Namur and the Festival public partners for the publishing of the yearly DVD and with educational aims or for the promotion of the Festival and of wildlife in Belgium and abroad.

The whole copy of the film can also be used within the frame of the Festival decentralisations. The Festival decentralisations are shows organised in municipalities in Belgium and abroad to allow the public who could not attend the Festival to discover the films.

The films selected by the Festival can be broadcast on RTBF (National Channel), platform Auvio included, and on local channels. They also can be broadcast in the programme "Le Jardin Extraordinaire" on RTBF and TV5Monde. To this aim, the film's soundtrack can be modified.

For music and sounds composed by third parties present in the film, the participants will see to it to respect the international copyright laws, to ensure that they have the rights of use and to mention these composers' names in the credits.

For the screenings of the amateur films during the Festival and at the events specified above, the organisers will pay the broadcasting rights due to the Sabam (Belgian Society of Authors). As far as the broadcastings are concerned, the broadcasters will pay the copyright fees due to the Sabam.

The filmmaker commits him/herself not to take legal action against the non-profit organisation of the Festival for the use by third parties of the film or the images it contains. In this context, the Festival commits itself never to grant the right to use these out of the limits of the present conditions.

## **Article 9: Category & Awards**

The official Jury composed of a president, image professionals, wildlife photographers and filmmakers, media personalities and scientists will decide about the granted awards.

The Jury will issue awards among the following categories:

- The "**Grand Prize**"
- The "**Image Award**" (best image)
- The "**Scenario Award**" (best screenplay)
- The "**Pedagogy Award** » (educational quality)
- The "**Francis Staffe Award**", to honour late Francis Staffe – a great Belgian amateur filmmaker who impressed the Festival – this award will be given to a filmmaker who has completed his film without professional assistance for the framing, sound picking, mixing, editing and calibrating...

The Jury reserves the right not to issue one or several awards and to grant one or several special mentions.

The awards cannot be cumulated except for the "Audience Award".

In addition to the prizes awarded by the Jury, the "**Audience Award**" will be given to the film which will receive the most votes from the public.



## **Article 10: Invitations**

The selected filmmakers (accompanied by a person of their own choice) will be invited to the Gala evening on 18 October 2025 to present their film and, as the case may be, to receive their award.

## **Article 11: Transport and insurances**

The copies will be returned by post. The postal sending costs for the pre-selection or for the competition are supported by the entrant. The return costs are supported by the FINN.

In case of loss or theft of a selection copy, the FINN will bear the costs of the copy and of the media in accordance with the prevailing prices in Belgium.

The FINN will be held responsible during the period between the reception and the return of the copy.

## **Article 12: Personal data**

The data communicated by the entrants can be used within the scope of the Festival competition. In any case, we remind the competitors that in pursuance of the European rules and guidelines in force that have come into force on 25 May 2018, you have the right to be informed, the right of access, the right to rectification, the right to erasure, the right to restrict processing, the right to data portability and also the right to object.

Consequently, any entrant benefits with the Festival of a right of access, questioning, opposition, rectification or suppression regarding data concerning him or her upon simple request sent to the following address: [info@festivalnaturenamur.be](mailto:info@festivalnaturenamur.be).

None of the communicated information will be used in a commercial goal.

## **Article 13: Application of the rules**

Any application and participation in the Festival involves the acceptance of the present rules.

The films that have not been selected for a previous edition of the Festival can be submitted again for a later edition.

In case of litigation about the meaning and the provisions of the present rules, only the French version of the text will be valid. Any not expressly anticipated cases will be the subject of an irrevocable deliberation of the executive commission of the Festival.

The present rules are also available on the website of the "Festival International Nature Namur": [www.festivalnaturemur.be](http://www.festivalnaturemur.be)

