****

**April 11 2019**

**PHOTOGRAPHY BEYOND BORDERS**

**2019 Travel Photographer of the Year awards open for entry**

Entries are open for the 2019 global Travel Photographer of the Year awards (TPOTY). Founded in 2003, the competition attracts submissions from amateur, semi-professional and professional photographers from more than 140 countries each year, all drawn to take the TPOTY challenge by the fantastic prizes and the international kudos and exposure that comes from doing well in the awards.

Travel Photographer of the Year 2019 has a wide range of category themes and awards, reflecting the great diversity of travel photography. The Travel Photographer of the Year 2019 will be the entrant who submits the best eight images across the four portfolio categories 'The Art of Travel'**,** 'Endangered Planet', 'People & Cultures'and 'Thrills & Adventures'. There is a special award for young photographers and even a category solely for images shot on a smartphone or tablet. New for 2019 is the TAPSA Travel Documentaries award for documentary photography with a travel-related theme.

Prizes include £5,000 in TPOTY cash bursaries, Fujifilm XT-3 cameras with 18-55mm lenses, Swarovski CL Companion 8x30 binoculars, a WILDFOOT Travel Northern Lights and Whale sailing ship expedition in Northern Norway, a 10-day trip to Sharjah and the Xposure Festival of Photography including a five-day photo workshop with the 2013 Travel Photographer of the Year Timothy Allen, a TravelLight Secret Venice Immersive Photo Workshop with photographers Chris Weston and Simon Weir, Paràmo outdoor clothing, Plastic Sandwich leather portfolio books and iFolios, a full set of the stunning ‘Remembering Wildlife’ books, Photo Iconic mentoring and critiques, exhibition-quality prints from Genesis Imaging and Royal Photographic Society (RPS) memberships.

The awards are judged by an international panel of imaging experts. New faces on the panel this year include double Pulitzer Prize-winner Essdras M Suarez and Lawrence Jackson, a former official White House photographer under the Obama Administration. Winning images will be showcased in global media coverage and in the Travel Photographer of the Year exhibitions; in 2018 alone TPOTY exhibitions were seen by some two million people.

The 2019 categories are:

* The eight-image portfolio category: ‘The Art of Travel’
* The four-image portfolio categories: ‘Endangered Planet’, ‘People & Cultures’, ‘Thrills & Adventures’
* ‘TAPSA Travel Documentaries’ (The Timothy Allen Photography Scholarship Award)
* The One Shot single-image categories: ‘Dusk to Dawn’, ‘Ocean, Seas, Rivers, Lakes’, ‘Street Life’
* The SmartShot phone/tablet category: iTravelled
* Young Travel Photographer of the Year: My Journey

Images can be submitted online at [www.tpoty.com](http://www.tpoty.com/)or as prints. Entry fees start at £8 and submissions to Young TPOTY are free of charge. Entries close on October 1stand the results will be announced in December.

**Travel Photographer of the Year 2019 - categories and prizes in detail**

## Overall winner - Travel Photographer of the Year 2019

## The Travel Photographer of the Year 2019 award will be presented to the photographer who submits the best eight images across the portfolio categories 'The Art of Travel', 'Endangered Planet', 'People & Cultures' and 'Thrills & Adventures'. The winner receives £2,000, a Fujifilm XT-3 camera with 18-55mm lens, a Plastic Sandwich personalised leather portfolio book or iFolio and membership of the Royal Photographic Society (RPS), plus the vast amount of exposure that comes with winning TPOTY.

### **The portfolio categories**

### ‘The Art of Travel’ gives photographers the chance to showcase their best work in a portfolio of eight images, ‘People and Cultures’ challenges entrants to depict in a set of four images the lives of the people they meet on their travels, while ‘Thrills & Adventures’ is about the excitement of travel, adventure and exhilaration - all captured in four images. The winner of each category receives a Fujifilm XT-3 camera with 18-55mm lens, clothing from Páramo and RPS membership.

‘Endangered Planet’ requires entrants to show the endangered natural world in a portfolio of four images. The winner receives a pair of Swarovski Optik CL Companion 8x30 B binoculars, a full set of the 'Remembering Wildlife' books - 'Remembering Elephants', 'Remembering Rhinos', 'Remembering Great Apes' and 'Remembering Lions' - and RPS membership.

The judges will also select their favourite image from all the submitted portfolios. The winner of the Best Single Image award for each portfolio category receives a Genesis Imaging giclée exhibition print.

**TAPSA Travel Documentaries**

The Timothy Allen Photography Scholarship Award (TAPSA) recognises and rewards original documentary travel photography. This scholarship is run in conjunction with Xposure Photography Festival and the Sharjah Government Media Bureau, and this TPOTY Special Award is based on a portfolio of 5 to 10 images. The winner will be chosen by Timothy Allen and TPOTY and will join Timothy and four other photographers for 10 days on TAPSA 2020 in the United Arab Emirates. The winner also receives £500 from TPOTY and a Plastic Sandwich leather portfolio book.

**The ‘One Shot’ single-image categories**

The single image categories are a great opportunity for photographers who have captured one very special image.

‘Dusk to Dawn’ puts the focus on low-light and night photography. The winner receives £500, Páramo clothing, a Plastic Sandwich leather portfolio book and RPS membership. ‘Oceans, Seas, Rivers, Lakes’ is about water and its impact on our planet. The winner will go on an eight-day Northern Lights & Whale Expedition by sailing ship with WILDFOOT Travel, plus receive RPS membership. ‘Street Life’ is all about capturing a moment on a city or village street. The winner joins tutors Chris Weston and Simon Weir in Venice in spring 2020 for a Secret Venice Immersive Photo Workshop and receives RPS membership. ‘iTravelled’ is the Smart Shot Category, for images shot on a mobile phone or tablet. The winner receives £250.

**Young Travel Photographer of the Year**

This year’s theme is ‘My Journey’. Awards will be given in the 14 and under and 15-18 age groups. The Young TPOTY winner receives £500, a Plastic Sandwich leather portfolio book or iFolio, plus RPS membership. The winners of the individual age groups each receive £250 plus RPS membership. All three young winners also win a place on a Photo Iconic one-day photography workshop, or receive a Photo Iconic online imaging critique.

Ends

For media enquiries and images please contact Karen Coe at Travel Photographer of the Year on +44

(0) 7540 725821 or email press@tpoty.com