

# 1st Batanes International Photography Awards

## Guidelines and Mechanics

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### 🎯 Objective

To highlight and celebrate the rich natural beauty and cultural heritage of **Batanes** as a premier ecotourism destination through the lens of photography.

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## 1. Who Can Join

The **1st Batanes International Photography Awards** is open to:

- All **Ivatans**, and
  - Both **local and foreign** amateur or professional photographers visiting **Batanes** between **April 10, 2025** and **May 31, 2025**.  
✍️ *There is no registration fee to participate.*
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## 2. Entry Requirements

- Each participant may submit **only one (1) photo essay** consisting of **3 to 5 original and unpublished photographs**.
  - By submitting an entry, participants **agree to the Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy** of the competition.
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## 3. Theme and Scope

- All photographs must be taken **within Batanes** between **April 10 and May 31, 2025**.
  - The theme is: **“Breathtaking Batanes”**  
Entries should highlight Batanes as a spectacular destination and pay homage to the **resilience of the Ivatan people**.
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## 4. Technical Specifications

- Acceptable aspect ratios: **3:2, 4:3, or 16:9**
  - Devices allowed: **DSLRs, mirrorless cameras, drones, action cameras, or high-resolution smartphones**
  - Format: **JPEG (.jpg / .jpeg)**
  - Color Profile: **sRGB, with EXIF data intact**
  - File size: **Minimum 1MB, Maximum 5MB** per image
  - Post-processing: Only **global adjustments** (e.g., exposure, contrast, white balance) are permitted
    - ⊘ Strictly **no** image manipulation, compositing, or AI-generated content (including "text-to-image" or artificially created visuals).
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## 5. Submission Details

- 📅 **Submission Period:**  
From **April 10, 2025 at 11:59 PM (PHT)**  
To **May 31, 2025 at 11:59 PM (PHT)**
  - ✉️ **Email entries to:** [breathtakingbatanes@gmail.com](mailto:breathtakingbatanes@gmail.com)
  - Do **not** include watermarks, borders, or frames on submitted images
  - If a photo includes identifiable individuals, a **signed model release and waiver** must be submitted per image
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## 6. Screening and Judging

A **Technical Working Group** will screen entries for quality and compliance. Entries will be judged as a **photo essay** based on the following criteria:

- 🧠 **Creativity & Visual Impact** – 35%
- 📖 **Storytelling** – 35%
- 🏷️ **Relevance to Theme** – 30%


Shortlisted entries must submit **high-resolution files (minimum 300 dpi)** for publication. In case of dispute, the photographer must present the **untampered RAW file** showing original metadata, including date and GPS location.

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## 7. Jury Panel

The panel of judges will include:





- Renowned **professional photographers**
- **Creative artists**
- Representatives from the **Batanes LGU, relevant national/local agencies, and event partners**

 *All decisions of the jury are final and irrevocable.*

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## 8. Awards and Prizes

Six finalists will be announced online. Among them, the **Top 3 entries** will be declared winners and receive the following cash prizes:

-  **Grand Prize** – PHP 20,000
  -  **1st Runner-Up** – PHP 15,000
  -  **2nd Runner-Up** – PHP 10,000
  -  **Finalists (3)** – PHP 5,000 each
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## 9. Copyright and Usage Rights

Photographers will retain **full ownership and copyright** of their work. However, by joining the competition, participants grant the **Provincial Government of Batanes** and its official partners a **non-exclusive, irrevocable license** for the **use of submitted photos** for promotional, publication, and exhibition purposes related to:

- The **Photography Awards**
- The **Photographer (Artist)**
- The **Vunung Festival**
- The **Breathtaking Batanes** campaign

This license is valid for **36 months** from the date of winner announcement.

 *All published photos will include proper credit to the photographer.*

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## 10. Disqualification and Ethics

The **2025 Batanes Day Cultural Committee**, led by **Gawad Mangpus Awardee 2024, Mr. Noli C. Gabilo**, reserves the right to disqualify entries that:

- Infringe on copyrights, trademarks, or privacy rights
- Contain commercial branding unrelated to Batanes culture or heritage
- Display misleading, defamatory, obscene, pornographic, or offensive content

- Portray harm to humans, wildlife, or damage to property and environment
  - Violate any local or international laws
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For inquiries and further information, please contact:

✉ [brehtakingbatanes@gmail.com](mailto:brehtakingbatanes@gmail.com)

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Caption Let your photographs tell the story of a land shaped by time, nature, and tradition.  
**Capture the soul of Batanes. Share its breathtaking beauty.**