

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE 2025

RULES OF ENTRY

All entries must be received by the Awards Organiser between **1st and 31st May 2025**.

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All entries must be accompanied by a completed **Awards Entry Form** (downloaded from the OWPG website <https://www.owpg.org.uk/memberspages/owpg-awards/>).

1. ENTRANT ELIGIBILITY

All entrants must be Full, Life or Entry-Level Members of the Guild. Under most categories, entrants should be responsible for 50% or more of the work. In the case of the Photography Award, the entrant would normally be 100% responsible.

In all cases where the entrant has collaborated, there must be an accompanying statement that clarifies the roles and their extent. This clarification is required for all entries containing photos. Unless each image is explicitly credited, please include a statement of the percentage or total number of images taken by the author of each book or feature.

2. NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Members may submit one or two entries in all categories except Features, for which they may only submit a single entry in either category.

Each category must attract a minimum of three eligible entries. The judges reserve the right not to make an award if no eligible entry reaches a suitable standard.

3. ORIGINALITY

All entries must be original. New editions of existing books or features are eligible only if they contain at least 50% new material. In Photography, a portfolio must not contain image(s) that have been submitted before if the previous portfolio won or was highly commended.

4. PUBLICATION DATE

Entries – except for Photography – must have been published for the first time since 1st April 2024. Entries must not have been previously entered for these Awards, other than as stipulated in Rule 3

above. The date of publication is determined as follows: *Books* (i) the information on the imprint page; (ii) the copyright date. *Periodicals*: the cover date.

5. THE JUDGES' DECISION

The decision of the judges is final, subject only to the Guild Executive: see also Rule 7.

6. ENTRY CATEGORIES

Guidebook

Offering guidance or instruction, eg how to perform an outdoor task or to follow a walking/cycling/ outdoor activity route. A good guidebook is inspirational, as well as informative and practical.

Where extra features such as maps/design have been provided by the author this should be explained in a statement accompanying the Awards Entry Form. However, the focus of the award is on the author's words and, where appropriate, images.

Outdoor Book

A book on any outdoor theme, inspirational as well as informative. It might contain some route description or instruction, but this would be a minor part of the text.

Where extra features such as maps/design have been provided by the author this should be explained in a statement accompanying the Awards Entry Form. However, the focus of the award is on the author's words and, where appropriate, images.

Outdoor Feature

One-off features, professionally published in print or non-print media, on any topic relating to the outdoors. The subject may include nature, travel or topographic writing, environmental/ green issues and outdoor activities. Features often include the author's photography, which will be assessed in conjunction with the text. 'Travel' features should involve some travel experience with an outdoor theme (ie not reviews or features about restaurants and hotels).

No specific limit (minimum or maximum) as to word length. If the entry includes any illustrative material that is not the work of the entrant, this should be explained in a statement accompanying the Awards Entry Form.

Technical Feature

Including outdoor gear reviews, photographic and technical 'how to' articles (eg navigation, winter skills). This may include technical or instructional articles aimed at outdoor professionals (eg OWPG members), as well as the general public.

No specific limit (minimum or maximum) as to word length. If the entry includes any illustrative material that is not the work of the entrant, this should be explained in a statement accompanying the Awards Entry Form.

Photography

A portfolio of **eight** images that represents a professional body of work on an identifiable subject or theme. The award aims to recognise consistent photographic skill as it might be applied to a specific commission. Entrants should include a statement of the portfolio's theme (150 words maximum), and a caption list that identifies each of the eight images by filename.

Members' Award

This is an open category for Members' work that does not quite fit into the other categories of the OWPG Awards for Excellence. It is open to all OWPG members and can be anything creative while still relevant to the remit of the Guild, such as illustrations, maps, animations, films, podcast, paintings, specialist design etc.

All OWPG members will be invited to vote using the online voting form. One vote/response is allowed only, and emails will be collected in-house to ensure no 'extra' votes are made.

The Members' Award must attract a minimum of three eligible entries. The Awards Organiser, or nominated person, will curate the votes.

6. CATEGORY REASSIGNMENT

Entries that have been – in the view of the Awards Organiser – submitted in the wrong category may be reassigned. Disagreement over an entry's category (like any other disagreement over the conduct of the Awards) shall be referred to the Guild Executive whose decision shall be final.

7. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

Please note that no entries will be returned. Ebooks are ineligible for either of the book awards.

Books (Guidebook and Outdoor book)

Printed books: **Two copies.**

Feature (Outdoor and Technical)

Printed media: **Two copies** of the publication; PDF or high-resolution screenshot
Non-print media: PDF or high-resolution screenshot; failing that **two** photocopies or tear sheets.
Online features: PDF or screenshot in case the page is no longer live when judging takes place.

Photography

Images should be supplied in **JPG** format, at least **A4 size at 300 dpi**. Entries may be submitted online by an upload service such as WeTransfer or MailBigFile; otherwise send two copies of a CD or DVD containing a portfolio of eight images. Submit also a caption list identifying each image by filename, with a statement of the theme or purpose of the portfolio.

Members' Award

Submissions should be sent in an appropriate format to the Awards Organiser so that the entries can be viewed and explored on an online voting platform. A statement of purpose should be included with the entry.

8. PRIZES

Prize-winning entries will be on display (in physical form or as a screen presentation) at the Awards ceremony. A representative image of the winning entry in each category will appear on the Guild's social media and website, at suitably low resolution. Each prize winner will receive a certificate and a payment of £100.

It is hoped that winning entries will also feature in *Outdoor Focus* magazine, but this is not a condition of entry. If you have any concerns about the Guild's use of your images, contact the Awards Organiser at the time you make your submission. The Guild does not assert any other rights of reproduction over material entered for its Awards.