



America the Beautiful Photo Contest 2021 Rules & Regulations

July 16, 2021

Scenic America is the only national nonprofit that helps citizens safeguard the scenic qualities of America's roadways, countryside, towns, and cities. We advocate for a Scenic America for all people and communities.

The theme of this photo contest is "America the Beautiful." We ask participants to think about where they find beauty in their community and in the world around them. All photos should reflect locations in the United States, including Washington, D.C., and the territories. **Please read the following Rules, Terms, and Conditions before submitting any photos.**

Who Should Enter: Anyone ages 18 and up, both amateur and professional photographers, may enter.

What to Enter: Show us your best digital images of beauty in your community, state, or nation. Entries may be submitted in any format (digital files, color prints, transparencies) but must be submitted electronically via the contest web page. Files must be 5 MP or larger.

Categories: When you enter, you will be asked to assign your image to one or more of the following categories:

- Cities & Towns
- Beaches & Coasts
- Landscapes, Countryside & Open Spaces
- Highways & Byways
- Hills, Mountains & Valleys
- Rivers & Waterways
- Trees & Forests
- People in Places

Each photographer may submit up to a total of 10 photos which may be distributed among the various categories. The same photo may be entered in multiple categories; each submission will count as one entry for a maximum of 10 total entries.

Naming Convention: Please name each of the photos with the following format: Photo Name_Photo Location_Photographer First InitialLast Name. For example, a photo entitled "Downtown Sunrise" taken of Pittsburgh, PA, by Mary Jones would be labeled would be named: Downtown Sunrise_PittsburghPA_MJones

Deadline: The contest begins on July 27, 2021. Entries must be submitted via online submission system by 11:59 pm EST on **September 14, 2021**. Scenic America reserves the right to extend the deadline.

Eligibility: Previously published material for which non-exclusive rights were granted may be entered as long as you still maintain the right to grant us a license. (See “Your Rights” below). The photographer must be able to disclose, upon request, when and where the photo appeared previously. Winners of prior Scenic America chapter and Scenic America affiliate photo contests may enter their images for this national competition as well, though no preference or advantage will be given to them.

Photographs that have been significantly enhanced or altered will not be accepted in this contest. Minor changes to an image, including spotting, dodging and burning, sharpening, contrast adjustment, and slight color change are acceptable, as are high dynamic range (HDR) adjustments and stitched panoramas. Images that, in the sole judgment of Scenic America, violate these enhancement/alteration criteria will be disqualified.

Judging:

A panel of judges including media and design professionals, along with Scenic America leadership and staff, will judge the entries.

Images will be judged on their representation of scenic beauty, originality, technical excellence, composition, overall impact, and artistic merit. The judges will follow these guidelines:

- Images should represent locations in the U.S., including Washington, D.C. and the territories that are publicly accessible. Submissions should be taken relatively recently so that they are representative of the location as it currently appears.
- Images should represent vistas, scenic areas, townscapes, or panoramas. Close-ups and interior shots will not be accepted.
- While we invite you to include people in your shots, please avoid any close-up portraits or immediately recognizable images. Please also avoid any trademarked products or logos in your photos.

Scenic America will determine winner eligibility in its sole and absolute discretion. All decisions by judges are final. The photo contest is not open to staff or board members of Scenic America.

The judges will select one winner per category as well as an overall Best in Show. Scenic America may also recognize runners up, honorable mentions, or other prizes in any or all categories. Scenic America will also facilitate a Fan Favorite contest among category winners and other select standout entries on social media. Scenic America

intends to notify all winners by October 15, 2021, but reserves the right to alter this timeline if needed.

Photographer Rights: Each photographer retains all rights to any photographs submitted -- including ownership, if applicable -- other than those rights licensed in the next sentence:

By entering **Scenic America's America the Beautiful Photo Contest 2021**, you hereby grant to Scenic America the following: (i) a non-exclusive, irrevocable, non-expiring, royalty-free license to reproduce, distribute, and publicly display the photographs you submit to Scenic America, and (ii) the right to use your name, city, state, and country of residence in promotions and other publications.

All photographs in media publications will be credited with the caption "***Photo Name*** by Photographer Name – Courtesy of Scenic America" whenever used by Scenic America. All photographs used on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) will be credited with the photographer's name, website, and social media handles as provided and as space permits. Scenic America has final approval of any language that appears on its website with any of the photos.

Scenic America will not encourage downloads of any featured entries via our website or social media platforms. The photo contest site states that photos should not be used for any purpose without the express permission of the photographer. However, we are not responsible for any such activity on the part of our website visitors and social media followers.

Questions: All questions about the America the Beautiful Photo Contest can be directed to Rebecca.aloisi@scenic.org.