

4 Pictures 4 Mediterranean

PHOTO CONTEST REGULATION

The time has come to show off those awesome photos you took in the Mediterranean Protected Areas!

Be inspired by the Mediterranean Sea and join our first Instagram photo contest! We will declare four winners for each Marine Protected Areas. The winners will also participate to a **second-round contest** among the best pictures took in the Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas hosting the event, with additional **awesome prizes to win sponsored by Scubapro and Paralenz!**

Your photos will come to life: entering our marine nature photo competition you will contribute to the MPA Engage international project, carried out within the framework of the Interreg Med programme, aimed at raising awareness, committing people, and involving society in the conservation and knowledge of the Mediterranean marine environment in a scenario of climate change. Your photos **might be selected to be part of our exhibition on the Climate Change effects on the Mediterranean**, thus they will contribute to spread the awareness of the importance of Marine Protected Areas for sea and coastal natural and social protection.



The Marine Protected Areas hosting the photo competition

- **Brijuni MPA** #BrijuniMPA
- **Portofino MPA** #AMPPortofino
- **Calanques MPA** #parcnationaldescalanques
- **Cap de Creus MPA** #PNcapdecreus
- **Baix Emporda MPA** #N2000LitoralBaixEmporda
- **Tavolara Punta Coda Cavallo MPA** #amptavolara
- **Zakynthos MPA** #ZakynthosMPA

Download the local photo contest regulation [from our website](#)

Categories

We are inviting submissions of original photos, both taken in terrestrial and underwater habitats, actual or ancient, related to the sea and coastal natural and social environments that capture either:

Natural values Photos showing the beauty and richness of marine and coastal Mediterranean habitats and biodiversity, its biology and ecology, flagship species, curiosities of the sea such as rare organisms (**#ValueMPA**)

Impact Photos reflecting the effects of climate change on biological, geological and social aspects, exotic and invasive species and other processes derived from global warming threatening the ecological stability in the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments (**#ImpactMPA**).



Action Photos explaining how people and organizations take action to mitigate, counteract or adapt to consequences of climate change in the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments (**#ActionMPA**).

Old Mediterranean Old photos revealing the state of marine ecosystems and biodiversity, social aspects of both terrestrial and marine ecosystems, changes in landscape, presence of exotic and invasive species, and other processes happened in the past, and / or their evolution and changes due to direct or indirect human activities (**#OldMPA**).

The organizers of the contest are free to change the category to which participants have initially assigned each photo.

We reserve the right to declare a category null and void if it does not receive more than 10 pictures.

How to participate

First, you should follow us on Instagram! **@MPAengage**

Then...

- Post your pictures in your Instagram profile **between August 1st and September 30, 2020**.
- Tag us @MPAengage
- Describe what is shown in the picture
- Tell us which category you intend to assign the photo using the corresponding hashtag (see above).
- Do not forget to add these 2 hashtags: #MPAcontest and the hashtag of the MPA where you took the picture (see above).

It is possible to publish **more than one photo in the same post** if they extend the information about the same organism, habitat, process, or phenomenon shown in the post.

Each Instagram profile can participate with a **maximum of 2 posts per category**. It is not accepted to post the same photos in different categories.

The contest is open to any person over the age of 14 and from any nationality



Photo requirements

- You can share photos related to the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments took within one of the MPAs hosting the contest at any year of 21st or 20th centuries.
- Pictures have to be original, taken by the owner of the Instagram profile, and they cannot have been awarded in other photo contests.
- No photo editing altering the reality of photos is allowed. You can send us colour, black and white pictures. You can also edit brightness, contrast, damage, in order to highlight some aspects of the images and enhance their attractiveness.

The organizers recommend participants to contribute to marine research and knowledge by sharing their pictures in any of the following citizen science platforms if they suit a particular research project:

- Sea Watchers <https://www.observadoresdelmar.es/>
- Reef Check Mediterranean <https://www.reefcheckmed.org/italiano/reef-check-med/>
- Diverse Alert Newtork Europe <https://www.daneurope.org/home>
- Oddfish Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1714585748824288/>

Rights and ownership

Many of the photo you will send might be used in our communication activities and exhibitions and will contribute to spread the awareness of the importance of marine protected areas for sea and coastal natural and social protection.

Thus, by entering the contest **you agree to grant MPA Engage project the right to use the photo** in any manner and media, free of charge, including without limitation, the right to publish, adapt, distribute, copy, display or translate in printed or electronic media even if they are not the winning entries.

MPA Engage project agrees to mention the full name of author of the chosen picture when used for the Mediterranean exhibition other related materials.



Judging

Each MPA will select a jury of at least 5 people who will choose the best photo for each category, according to different criteria that should be set in advance by the jury itself (e.g. scientific / social / environmental interest of the photos, awareness potential, aesthetics, quality, originality). The selection will be carried out during October 2020.

The 4 winners will be admitted to the **International round of the photo contest**, maintaining the same categories. The jury of at least 5 people not linked to any Marine Protected Areas will be selected by the project's Communication Team of MPA Engage project. For each category, the jury will select the best post among the winners of the first round. The selection will be carried out during November 2020.

Exhibition

After the contest, the best photos (and the winner ones) will be selected in order to set up a **non-profit exhibition** to raise awareness among the citizenship about the natural values of the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the need to increase knowledge about climate change impacts on Marine Protected Areas and their mitigation. Organizers will contact the authors of the selected works to ask for a full resolution version of them.

Prizes

Prizes for the local rounds will be provided by the MPAs and the winners will have the possibility of being selected for the international round.

The winners of the international contest will be awarded with prizes provided by Scubapro and Paralenz ([check our website for details](#)).

We reserve the right to change the rules and conditions of the contest

We can't wait to see your photos!