

Governor's Photo Contest for Travel and Tourism

A partnership of the Office of Governor Doug Burgum, AAA, North Dakota Tourism and the North Dakota Council on the Arts

The North Dakota Governor's Photo Contest for Travel and Tourism celebrates the talents of North Dakotans and showcases our state as a destination. This year we're celebrating the seasons of North Dakota, showcasing that there's beauty to be found and things to do year-round. The contest is open now through Jan. 31, 2024.

Eligibility:

The contest is open to all North Dakota resident photographers. Photographers under the age of 18 must have parental/guardian permission to enter. All federal, state and local laws, and regulations apply. The Best in Show winner from the previous contest is ineligible to participate (eligible again next year). Anyone that has won a category the last two consecutive contests is ineligible to participate (eligible again next year).

Contest Rules:

- The main purpose of the contest is to show North Dakota's appeal as a travel destination.
- Only North Dakota residents are eligible.
- Photographers are limited to 15 entries. Entries are limited to three category tags.
- Photos must have been taken in North Dakota, preferably within the last three years.
- Entered photos must be family-friendly. Inappropriate photos will not be considered. This includes solicitations, harassing messages, defamation, libel materials, spam, advertisements, materials violating local, state or federal law, and unethical materials.
- Only color photographs will be considered.
- Submission of the photo entry is entrant's guarantee as the photographer and copyright holder of the photo with rights to distribute the image.
- You must have the consent of those, or the guardians of minors, whose faces are visible in the image and be able to provide proof of consent via signed waiver.
- By entering the contest, photographers agree that if their photo is selected, they grant the North Dakota Department of Commerce, its affiliates and AAA royalty-free rights and license to use, copy, publicly display, publish or distribute images offline and online. Credit will be given to the photographer of the image, as space allows.

Contest Categories:

- **Winter Scenery** (Tag as "Winter" – beautiful spaces covered in snow or frost. Downtowns looking like they are inside a snowglobe. Frozen lakes reflecting sunsets, and more.)

- **Winter Activities** (Tag as "Winter" – things to do when the temperature drops such as snowmobiling, skiing, ice-skating, cross-country skiing, ice fishing, holiday events and more. Don't forget our indoor attractions and events!)
- **Fall Scenery** (Tag as "Fall" – beautiful spaces showcasing fall foliage such a scenic drives, parks, and our vibrant cities.)
- **Fall Activities** (Tag as "Fall" – Hunting, hiking, scenic drives, bonfires, boat rides, and more.)
- **Spring and Summer Scenery** (Tag as "Spring" or "Summer" – Pasque flowers (prairie crocus), budding trees, green spaces, lakes, vibrant downtowns, overlooks, and anything else showcasing the beautiful spaces in the height of the travel season.)
- **Spring and Summer Activities** (Tag as "Spring" or "Summer" – concerts, fairs and festivals, family roadtrips, birding, fishing, museum and cultural visits, interacting with public art, and more.)

How to Enter:

Online Method (Instagram)

1. On Instagram, upload photo submissions to a publicly-viewable account.
2. Use the hashtag **#NDPhotoContest** and the contest category tags (#spring, #summer, #fall, or #winter) that apply to each image. Photos must be uploaded and tagged by Jan. 31, 2024.
3. For each photo, information must include:
 - a. Title of the photo
 - b. Location in state where the photo was taken
 - c. Date photo was taken (usually included in photo data)
 - d. Contest Category tag as listed above (more than one category may apply)
4. Photos not using the #NDPhotoContest hashtag will not be entered in the contest. North Dakota Tourism is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected or incomplete entries or technical errors.
5. If photo is chosen, photographer will be asked to provide name and city of residence.
6. Entrant should frequently check Instagram DMs in February for correspondence from @NorthDakotaLegendary for name, address, telephone number and email address.
 - a. Failure to respond to inquiries within three days may result in the disqualification of a winning photograph.
7. NOTE: This promotion is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with, Instagram.

Online Method (Website Collector)

1. Go to <https://www.ndtourism.com/governors-photo-contest-entry> and select the category for your photo submission. Upload and accept the terms.
2. For each photo, information must include:
 - a. Title of the photo
 - b. Location in state where the photo was taken (or geotagged on the map)
 - c. Date photo was taken (usually included in photo data)
 - d. Contest Category tag as listed above (more than one category may apply)
3. Upload the highest-resolution image possible – at least 8"x10" @ 300 dpi (or 2400x3000 pixels).
4. Photos must be uploaded and shared by Jan. 31, 2024.
5. Entrant should frequently check email address submitted with the photos in February for email correspondence from North Dakota Tourism.
 - a. Failure to respond to inquiries within three days may result in the disqualification of a winning photograph.

Online Method (Flickr)

1. On www.flickr.com, join the Travel North Dakota group on Flickr if you are not already a group member. <https://www.flickr.com/groups/northdakota/>
 - a. Membership to Flickr and to the Travel North Dakota group is free.
 - b. The frequently asked questions page at Flickr can answer questions regarding membership, uploading and sharing photos.
<https://www.flickr.com/help/faq/>
2. Add your photo(s) to the Travel North Dakota photo pool (<https://www.flickr.com/groups/northdakota/>) and tag them with "**NDPhotoContest**" and the contest category tags (listed above) that apply to each image. Photos must be uploaded and tagged by Jan. 31, 2024.
3. Untagged photos will not be entered in the contest. North Dakota Tourism is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected or incomplete entries or technical errors.
4. Upload the highest-resolution image possible – at least 8"x10" @ 300 dpi (or 2400x3000 pixels).
5. Entered photos must be family-friendly and follow the group rules as stated (<https://www.flickr.com/groups/northdakota/>). Inappropriate photos will be removed from the group.
6. Information about the photo must include:
 - a. Title of the photo
 - b. Location in state where the photo was taken
 - c. Date photo was taken
 - d. Contest Category as listed above (more than one category may apply)

7. If photo is chosen, photographer will be asked to provide name and city of residence.
8. Entrant should frequently check Flickr mail in February for correspondence from North Dakota Tourism for name, address, telephone number and email address.
 - a. Failure to respond to inquiries within three days may result in the disqualification of a winning photograph.

Mail-In Method

1. Photo submissions must be **received** by Jan. 31, 2024.
2. Photos need to be submitted on CD or USB flash drive with at least a 4x6 print copy.
 - Prints do not need to be mounted or framed.
3. The following information must be included with the CD or USB drive and on the back of the print:
 - Entrant's name
 - Address
 - Telephone number
 - E-mail address
 - Title of photo
 - Location in state where photo was taken
 - Date photo was taken
 - Contest Category tags as listed above (more than one category may apply).
4. Multiple entries may be included in one mailing.
5. We cannot guarantee that entered photos will be returned.
6. Photo entries can be mailed to:

Cassie Theurer
Dept. of Commerce, Tourism Division
PO Box 2057
Bismarck, ND 58502-2057

Winners:

Number of winners will be determined by the number of entries and the quality of photos in each category. Photos will be judged by a panel consisting of North Dakota Tourism, Governor's Office, AAA and North Dakota Council on the Arts staff or representatives familiar with photography and responsible for selecting images for various marketing materials. Photos will be judged on the following:

- Ability to showcase North Dakota as a destination where we can Be Legendary
- Originality
- Interest of the subject matter

- Visual appeal and consistency with the category theme

One winner will be selected in each category and a \$200 cash prize will be awarded to the photographer of each selected photo. Additional honorable mentions may be selected in each category, with photographers receiving \$50 and North Dakota merchandise. A Best of Show photo will be selected from the winning photographs, and the photographer will receive an additional \$300 cash prize and a free, one-year basic membership to AAA.

Winning photographs may be used in North Dakota Tourism's newsletters, promotional materials and social channels as well as AAA publications and social media channels.

Winning photographs will be displayed on the 18th, or observatory floor, of the ND State Capitol through May 2024.

Additional:

Judging of photos will take place within one month of the contest deadline. Winners will be notified via email and/or phone following judging. Winners will be announced at the Travel Industry Conference in Fargo on April 8-10, 2024, with press releases to be distributed soon thereafter.

Professional and freelance photographers who are interested in working with North Dakota Tourism should contact Cassie Theurer at (701) 328-5387 or catheurer@nd.gov in order to submit portfolios and samples.