



extrablue

SAILING PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

by EXTRA Factory – Arts & Culture | Livorno, Italy

OFFICIAL CALL FOR ENTRIES

1. Concept

Sailing is not merely a sport: it is a way of experiencing and inhabiting space, time, and our relationship with the elements.

EXTRABLUE – Sailing Photography Award is an international photography award dedicated to the visual culture of sailing in all its forms: from regattas to cruising, from competitive tension to the most intimate dimension of everyday life at sea.

EXTRA Factory – Arts & Culture invites photographers from around the world to explore, through images, the relationship between human beings, sea, and wind: strength, waiting, balance, gesture, light, life on board, and everything that makes sailing not simply an activity, but a true way of life.

The selected works will become part of the final collective exhibition hosted at EXTRA Factory Contemporary Art Gallery in Livorno, Italy, during **Blu Livorno 2027 – Biennale of the Sea and Water**.

2. Categories

I. Action. The Breath of the Wind.

Spray, heeling boats, speed, and extreme manoeuvres in regattas and cruising.

II. Life on Board. The Soul of the Crew.

Gestures, relationships, waiting, life on board and around the harbour.

III. Sea & Atmosphere. Infinity.

Boat suspended between sea and sky, silence and changing weather conditions.

IV. Open Vision. Beyond the Shot.

Personal interpretations of the sailing world: abstractions, details, geometries, experimental languages and dreamlike visions.

3. Participation and Image Submission

Participation is open to photographers of all nationalities, both professional and amateur, provided they are over 18 years old.

Each participant may submit one image per category.



The following types of photographs are accepted:

Colour photographs, Digital photographs, Analogue photographs subsequently digitised

Post-production adjustments (tone, colour, contrast, etc.) are permitted. Images generated entirely or partially through generative artificial intelligence are not allowed.

EXTRABLUE is dedicated to the visual culture of sailing and life on board. Therefore, board-based disciplines such as kiteboarding, kitesurfing, wingfoiling, windsurfing and surfing are excluded.

Photographs taken in any period are accepted, provided that the entrant owns all rights to the submitted images.

Required formats

5:7 ratio (vertical or horizontal) – minimum dimensions: 5000 × 7000 px

1:1 ratio – minimum dimensions: 4000 × 4000 px

Resolution ≥ 240 dpi to ensure high-quality exhibition printing

Technical specifications

File format: .JPG

Colour space: sRGB

File naming: Surname-Name-CategoryNumber.jpg

Submission methods

via uploader on the official website: extrablue.it

or via WeTransfer / SwissTransfer sent to: org@extrablue.it

Subject line: "Surname-Name"

Submission deadline

Saturday, October 31st, 2026 (inclusive), unless officially extended by the Organisation.

Accompanying text (optional)

Each participant may attach a short accompanying text (maximum 600 characters including spaces) describing the context or moment of the shot. The text is optional. It may be considered by the jury during the selection process and may accompany the photograph in the exhibition and printed catalogue, at the discretion of the Organisation. For editorial, layout or communication purposes, the Organisation reserves the right to make minor edits or reductions while preserving the original meaning.

4. Jury and Selection

A jury composed of photography and sailing professionals will select:

- 20 finalist photographs (5 per category)
- one winning photograph for each category
- the overall winner of the edition

Visitors to the exhibition will also be able to vote for their favourite photograph, determining the Audience Award. Selection will consider both technical quality and narrative strength, as well as consistency with the concept of the award. The jury's decisions are final and indisputable. The



selected photographs will become part of the curatorial archive of «Gravitat – Open Space for Photography» by EXTRA Factory, contributing to the ongoing archive of previous editions.

5. Awards

EXTRABLUE Trophy 2027 – Overall Winner

Solo exhibition at EXTRA Factory Contemporary Art Gallery

EXTRABLUE Trophy 2027: a unique 50×70 cm artwork created by an artist selected through the parallel artist call by October 2026

Category Awards (Action, Life on Board, Sea & Atmosphere, Open Vision)

Unique 30×40 cm artwork created by an artist selected through the parallel artist call by October 2026

Audience Award

€300 voucher for photographic equipment

The twenty selected photographs will be exhibited during Blu Livorno 2027 – Biennale of the Sea and Water and published in the printed catalogue.

Copyright remains the property of the authors. By submitting their work, participants authorise the Organisation to use the images for exhibition, catalogue and future promotional purposes, always with proper credit to the author.

Selected photographers will also be included in the 2019–2026 curatorial archive of «Gravitat – Open Space for Photography» by EXTRA Factory.

6. Registration and Entry Fees

Registration is considered valid only upon:

- payment of the entry fee
- completion of the participation form (online or on-site)
- submission of files within the stated deadline or any officially announced extension

Entry Fees

- Early Bird Fee: €15 until June 30th, 2026
- Standard Fee: €20 from July 1st to October 31st, 2026

Participants may submit one photograph per category.

Participation in all categories is not mandatory.

Payment methods

PayPal or credit card: direzione@extrafactory.it

Bank transfer (Italy):

IBAN: IT23S0846113903000010998673 – BIC: CCRTIT2TCAS

Account holder: EXTRA FACTORY Payment reference: extrablue-SurnameName

Cash payment at EXTRA Factory (via della Pina d’Oro 2, Livorno, Italy) during gallery opening hours.

Entry fees are non-refundable.



7. Rights, Watermarks and Responsibility

All image rights remain the property of the authors.

Credits will always accompany the works in the exhibition and catalogue. However, visible names, signatures, logos or watermarks on the submitted images are not permitted.

Non-compliant works will be excluded.

Authors retain all rights to their images. The use of submitted works by the Organisation will be exclusively cultural and promotional. No commercial use will be made without the author's consent.

Participants declare that they own all rights to the submitted images and release the Organisation from any liability arising from disputes concerning the content.

8. Exhibition and Catalogue

The finalist photographs will be exhibited during Blu Livorno 2027 – Biennale of the Sea and Water at EXTRA Factory Contemporary Art Gallery, Livorno, Italy.

Printing of the exhibition works and printed catalogue will be managed by the Organisation.

Photographs may be offered for sale upon request and in agreement with the respective authors.

EXTRABLUE was created to build, through photography, a contemporary visual archive of the relationship between human beings, sea, and wind.

Timeline

Call opening → May 2026

Submission deadline → October 31st, 2026

Finalists announcement → by February 28th, 2027

Final exhibition → during Blu Livorno 2027 – Biennale of the Sea and Water