

The Tideway Prize

Terms and Conditions

Please read the following Terms and Conditions carefully and ensure your submission to The Tideway Prize complies.

1. Information

1.1 Bazalgette Tunnel Limited (Company Number 09553573), trading as Tideway ("Tideway"), is the organiser and operator of the Competition (defined in paragraph 1.2 below), administers all proceedings relating to the Competition.

1.2 By entering The Tideway Prize (the "Competition"), each entrant (the "Entrant"), and Tideway, agree to be bound by these terms (the "Terms and Conditions").

1.2 It is the Entrant's responsibility to read these Terms and Conditions prior to entry into the Competition, and entry into the Competition will be treated as acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.

1.3 The Competition is not open to any persons (including employees, staff members, contractors, consultants, judges and partners) who are employed by, contracted to, or otherwise directly involved with Tideway or the Competition.

1.5 Each image entered into the Competition (an "Entry" or "Image") must be submitted electronically via the official Competition website: <https://www.tideway.london/the-tideway-prize>

1.6 All enquiries regarding the Competition or these Terms and Conditions must be made via communications@tideway.london.

1.7 The closing date of the Competition (the "Closing Date") will be stated on the Competition Webpage. Any changes to the Closing Date will be published there.

2. Conditions of Entry

2.1 All Entrants must be residents of the United Kingdom.

2.2 Each Entry must be made by the individual whose details are submitted with the Entry.

2.3 The Competition will open at 00:00 on 27 September 2026. Each Entry must be received by 23:59 on 31 December 2026.

2.4 Entrants must enter the appropriate category based on their age at the Closing Date, based on the following categories:

- Open Category (open to all)
- Youth Category (16–24 years)
- School Student Category (11-15 years)

2.5 Entrants in the School Student Category must have permission from a parent or legal guardian. The parent or legal guardian must confirm that permission through the Competition website before the Entry can be judged. Tideway may reject an Entry if that confirmation is not received or cannot be verified.

2.6 If an Entry includes an identifiable person under the age of 18, the Entrant must have obtained permission from that person's parent or legal guardian for the Entry to be submitted and for Tideway to use the Image as described in these Terms and Conditions. The Entrant must also, so far as reasonably practicable having regard to the child's age and understanding, explain the proposed use to the child and respect any objection by the child. Tideway may request evidence of permission and may refuse to publish or may remove an Image where permission cannot be demonstrated or where publication may create a safeguarding or privacy risk.

2.7 The Entrant acknowledges that entry into the Competition does not grant any intellectual property rights in or over Tideway or the Competition itself.

2.8 The Entrant agrees and undertakes not to use Tideway's name, logo or associated branding, or make public statements about the Competition, without Tideway's prior written consent.

2.9 Entrants must not bring the Competition or Tideway into disrepute. Conduct that damages the reputation of the Competition, other Entrants, partners, Judges or associated parties may result in disqualification under section 10 and, where appropriate, further legal action.

3. Entry (Free Entry)

3.1 Entry to the Competition is free of charge.

3.2 Each Entrant may submit up to three Images in total for their Image Category

3.3 Each Entry must respond to the Competition theme: "Standing by the Thames," as expanded in the official Competition brief, which can be found on the Competition website:

<https://www.tideway.london/the-tideway-prize>

3.4 Each Entry must include a caption in accordance with Section 7.

3.5 To withdraw from the Competition, the Entrant must send a request to communications@tideway.london and such request must include a copy of valid proof of identification and an address that corresponds with the information provided with the entrance submission.

4. Image Rights

4.1 Each Image must be the Entrant's original work, owned by the Entrant, and must not infringe any copyright, privacy, confidentiality or other rights of any person.

4.2 The copyright in respect of each Image will remain with the Entrant before and after submission to the Competition and will not be transferred to the Admin or Tideway.

4.3 Where reasonably practicable, Tideway will credit the Entrant when publishing or displaying an Image, using the Entrant's name as submitted. For an Entrant under 18, Tideway will use only the form of credit agreed with the Entrant and their parent or legal guardian, which may be the Entrant's first name, initials, age category or no name.

4.4 By entering the Competition, the Entrant grants Tideway a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free licence (the "Licence") to reproduce, publish and exhibit the Images for a period of up to two years from the announcement of the results of the competition.

4.5 The Licence applies only to uses connected with the Competition and Tideway's related communications, including the uses listed below:

- Display at exhibitions and events;
- Use on Tideway websites and digital platforms;
- Use in publicity, press materials, reports and publications;
- Use across Tideway social media channels;
- Archiving the Competition and promoting future editions of the Competition during the two-year Licence period.

4.6 Tideway may permit its service providers, exhibition venues, media partners and other suppliers to use an Image only on Tideway's behalf and only for the purposes and period covered by the Licence.

4.7 Tideway will not use an Image for merchandising or paid advertising unrelated to the Competition without obtaining further permission from the Entrant and, where applicable, their parent or legal guardian.

4.8 The Entrant consents to their Entry being shared with the Competition Judges (as defined below) for the purpose of the judging process.

4.9 An Entrant may ask Tideway to stop future use of an Image by contacting communications@tideway.london. Tideway will consider the request promptly, taking particular account of safeguarding and privacy concerns. Tideway may not be able to recall printed materials already distributed or third-party publications outside its control, but will stop further use where reasonably practicable.

5. File Upload Specifications

5.1 Entries must be submitted as digital JPEG (.jpg) files. Entries submitted in other formats may not be accepted

5.2 Minimum technical specifications (e.g. resolution) will be published on the Competition webpage.

5.3 It is the responsibility of the Entrant to ensure that each Entry meets with the requirements of this section by saving the files with no watermarks, borders, logos or signatures on the Image file itself.

5.4 Tideway may request high-resolution files and/or original (RAW) files (or original film negatives, untouched JPEGs or transparency) for shortlisted Images at the discretion of the Judges. The file will not be circulated to any individual other than an Admin or Judges. Submission of the RAW data in accordance with this section 5.5 is to ensure ethical standards are maintained. This section 5.5 applies (as determined Tideway in its sole discretion), where evidence of animal baiting/cruelty, misrepresentation of reality through Artificial Intelligence, or an attempt to disguise unethical behaviour is suspected. This list is not exhaustive and is provided for example(s) only.

5.5 Failure to adhere to this section 5 of the Terms and Conditions may lead to immediate disqualification of the Entries with no further notice or reasoning given, in accordance with section 10.

5.6 Images that cannot be authenticated or are deemed to be of insufficient quality (at Tideway's sole discretion) may be disqualified in accordance with section 10.

5.7 Entrants are requested not to upscale their Images before submitting them to the Competition.

5.8 After the judging process has concluded, high-resolution files will be requested of those Entrants who have been selected by the Admin. These files should be in their original format if possible. These files should be cropped the same, and in the same colour gamete as the original JPEG entry.

5.9 Images entered into the competition do not have to have been taken in the Competition year and can be from any time in the past.

6. Image Manipulation and Authenticity Assurance

6.1 Basic editing is permitted, including HDR, focus stacking, cropping, noise reduction, dodging, burning, dust spot removal, sharpening, contrast, tone, and multiple exposure layering

(provided that the Images were all taken in the same session in the same location) are permitted. This list is exhaustive.

6.3 The following are strictly prohibited:

- AI-generated images
- AI-assisted image creation or editing
- Addition, removal or alteration of elements that materially change the scene or do not originate from the original photograph.

6.4 Any Image suspected of manipulation, falsification, or misrepresentation may be disqualified.

6.5 Image-wide contrast and brightness adjustments, saturation, exposure lens profiling and colour temperature tweaking are exempt from necessary mention in the caption submission and should be considered as commonplace tweaking are permitted.

6.6 All EXIF data should be kept intact on the files submitted.

7. Caption Submissions

7.1 A caption (the “Caption”) must be submitted with every Entry into the Competition.

7.2 The entry title may be provided in any language, the caption must be in English where possible. If an entry title is provided in a language other than English, the Entrant must also provide an accompanying English translation. Enquiries regarding the submission of Captions in languages other than English must be sent to Tideway via communications@tideway.london.

7.3 Captions should include:

- An ‘entry title’ (the name of the image);
- A caption, which asks: “Image explainer. Please tell us why you submitted this image” (600 character limit).

7.4 Captions can include background information about the Entry, such as any motivations the Entrant may have held for the Image and special circumstances surrounding the moment and/or Image. Captions shall include the location of the photo.

8. The Judging Process

8.1 Judging will be carried out by a panel appointed by Tideway (the “Judges”). The Judges are selected by the Admin and are appointed to their role by the Admin. The identities of the Judges selected by the Admin will be publicly available on the Competition website.

8.2 Tideway's Admin team will review Entries and select shortlisted and winning Images based on the judging criteria outlined on the entry page.

8.4 Tideway reserves the right to appoint, remove or replace Judges at any stage of the competition at their sole discretion.

8.5 The judging process is confidential, and entrants must not attempt to influence it.

8.6 Entrants selected as winners or shortlisted may be notified in confidence and must not disclose this information until permitted

9. Ethical Requirements

9.1 Tideway respects the rights of nature, and laws of the United Kingdom, As such, any and all breaches of the laws of the United Kingdom may be grounds for disqualification from the Competition in accordance with section 10 of these Terms and Conditions.

9.2 Entrants are responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions, including:

- Permission from each identifiable person shown in an Image for its submission and use under these Terms and Conditions and, where that person is under 18, permission from their parent or legal guardian in accordance with paragraph 2.6;
- Seeking permits or permissions for accessing land on which Property or land access requires it

Tideway accepts no responsibility for Entrants that fail to comply with this section.

9.3 Images must be captured ethically and must not:

- Involve trespass or unsafe behaviour
- Cause harm or distress to wildlife or habitats
- Involve illegal or environmentally damaging activity
- Risk personal safety or public safety
- Contain unlawful, offensive, abusive or inappropriate content.

9.4 Any suspected breach of this rule will not be tolerated and will result in the Entrant being disqualified from the Competition in accordance with section 10 of these Terms and Conditions.

10. Disqualification

10.1 Tideway reserves the right to disqualify any Entrant or Entry at its sole discretion at any stage and for any reason.

10.2 Grounds for disqualification may include (but are not limited to):

- Breach of these Terms
- Intellectual property infringement
- Misrepresentation or dishonesty
- Unsafe, unethical or illegal conduct

10.3 Disqualified Entrants will not be entitled to prizes or compensation

10.4 Decisions relating to disqualification are final and no correspondence will be entered into with any Entrant or associated parties.

10.5 Tideway reserves the right to waive a breach of the Terms and Conditions at its sole discretion, after considering the case in question.

11. Data Protection

11.1 Tideway is the controller of personal data collected in connection with the Competition. Tideway will process that data in accordance with applicable UK data protection legislation, including the UK General Data Protection Regulation, the Data Protection Act 2018 and any legislation that amends, replaces or supplements them.

11.2 Tideway may collect the Entrant's name, age or age category, contact details, parental or guardian details and permissions where applicable, Entry, Caption, correspondence, judging information and prize-delivery details. An identifiable person shown in an Image may also be identifiable personal data.

11.3 Tideway will use personal data to administer and judge the Competition, verify eligibility and permissions, contact Entrants and parents or legal guardians, award prizes, prevent misuse, comply with legal obligations, and publish and promote Entries as described in section 4. Depending on the activity, Tideway will rely on performance of these Terms and Conditions, its legitimate interests in running and promoting the Competition, consent where Tideway asks for it, and compliance with legal obligations.

11.4 Tideway may share personal data with the Judges and with service providers, exhibition venues, media partners and other suppliers involved in administering, judging, publicising or delivering the Competition and prizes. Tideway will share only what is reasonably necessary for those purposes. Entries and agreed credits may be published publicly, including on websites and social media, and may therefore be viewed or copied worldwide.

11.5 Competition contact details will not be added to a general marketing mailing list unless the individual has separately chosen to receive marketing communications. Choosing not to receive marketing will not affect entry to the Competition.

11.6 Tideway will retain personal data only for as long as reasonably necessary for the Competition, the Licence period, record-keeping and the handling of any complaint or legal claim. Further information about retention, international transfers and data protection rights, including how to object, withdraw consent where applicable or request access, correction or erasure, is available in [Tideway's Privacy Policy](#). Entrants, parents, legal guardians and identifiable people shown in Images may contact Tideway using the details in that policy.

11.7 Entrants in the School Student Category, and their parent or legal guardian, should read Tideway's separate child-friendly privacy notice before submitting or confirming an Entry. The notice explains in clear, age-appropriate language how Tideway uses and protects children's personal data and how children may exercise their data protection rights. It will be available on the Competition website at: <https://content.tideway.london/media/7759/the-tideway-prize-child-friendly-terms.pdf>

12. Prizes

12.1 Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Open

1 × Winner: £2,000 photography vouchers

3 × Highly Commended: £200 vouchers

Youth (16–24 years) Category

1 × Winner: £1,000 in photography vouchers and half-day coaching/mentorship with Matthew Joseph.

3 × Highly Commended: £100 in photography vouchers.

School Student (11-15 years) Category

1 × Winner: £200 photography vouchers and half-day masterclass session with Matthew Joseph at their school.

3 × Highly Commended: £100 in photography vouchers.

12.2 Prizes are non-transferable and no cash alternative will be offered.

12.3 Tideway reserves the right to substitute prizes where necessary.

12.4 All winners and highly commended will be featured in a photo exhibition, along with a selection of other notable entries.

13. Liability

13.1 Nothing in these Terms and Conditions excludes or limits Tideway's liability for death or personal injury caused by its negligence, fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation, or any other liability that cannot lawfully be excluded or limited.

13.2 Subject to paragraph 13.1, Tideway will not be responsible for any Entry or communication that is lost, delayed, corrupted, incomplete, misdirected or not received, or for any failure of the Competition website, network, server, computer hardware, software or other system, where the matter is outside Tideway's reasonable control. Proof of submission is not proof of receipt.

13.3 Subject to paragraph 13.1, Tideway is not responsible for loss, damage or injury caused by an Entrant's trespass, unlawful or unsafe conduct, failure to obtain a required permission or permit, or other breach of these Terms and Conditions.

13.4 Subject to paragraph 13.1, Tideway is not responsible for an act or omission of an independent prize supplier or other independent third party where the matter is outside Tideway's reasonable control. This does not exclude or limit Tideway's responsibility for its own acts or omissions, including its selection or instructions of a supplier. Where reasonably practicable, Tideway will assist a winner to contact the relevant supplier. Any prize experience is also subject to the supplier's terms, availability and reasonable safety requirements.

13.5 Subject to paragraph 13.1, Tideway will not be liable for any loss that was not reasonably foreseeable when the Entrant entered the Competition, or for any business loss. An Entrant's statutory rights are not affected.

14. General

14.1 Tideway reserves the right to amend, suspend or cancel the Competition at any time where necessary.

14.2 These Terms are governed by the laws of England and Wales.