# eden project

**PRESS RELEASE** 

### Eden Project summer programme to begin with prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition

Astonishing collection of 100 images will be on display at the iconic attraction

## Exhibit is a major part of packed summer programme full of discovery, adventure and play

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A powerful and unique glimpse at the natural world awaits visitors to the Eden Project this summer with the arrival of the world-renowned Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition.

The exhibition, on loan from the Natural History Museum in London, will be on display at the Eden Project from July 1 until September 1 and will see 100 stunning images displayed throughout the attraction's outdoor gardens, with the world-famous Biomes providing a picture-perfect backdrop.

Visitors will see exceptional images which capture fascinating animal behaviour, spectacular species and the breathtaking diversity of the natural world. Using photography's unique emotive power to engage and inspire audiences, the images shine a light on stories and species around the world and encourage a future of advocating for the planet. The exhibition will form a major part of the Eden Project's summer programme which will encourage visitors to embrace their wild life and connect with the natural world through family fun, games and challenges.

The full, exciting and engaging summer offering will take place from July 27 to September 8. It will include an array of play activities, including an adventurous wild family trail around the Eden Project site and a giant mud kitchen play area.

The Stage area will be transformed into an immersive space exploring how much we have in common with other lifeforms. By looking at the incredible biodiversity all around us, visitors will learn how it affects us and what we can do to protect it.

Within this space, visitors will be able to enjoy shadow puppet shows and then be inspired to make their own in engaging craft activities, play games and enjoy interactive exhibitions showcasing the skills of some of our planet's incredible animals.

In the Arena area of the Eden Project's outdoor gardens, visitors can relax in a vibrant and colourful outdoor setting whilst younger guests can enjoy themselves in an under-5s nature play zone.

Kate Francis, the Eden Project's Live Producer, said: "It is an honour to be able to share the absolutely incredible Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition with our visitors this summer. We hope that by showcasing these amazing images in the Eden Project's lush natural landscape, our guests will be able to form a rich connection to them and the stories told within them.

"We are extremely excited about our summer programme which has been designed to allow everyone visiting us to become more connected with nature, while having a tremendous amount of fun along the way."

Dr Doug Gurr, Director of the Natural History Museum, said: "We are facing urgent biodiversity and climate crises, and photography is a powerful catalyst for change. The Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition reveals some of nature's most wondrous sights whilst offering hope and achievable actions visitors can take to help protect the natural world."

Wildlife Photographer of the Year is the most prestigious photography event of its kind, providing a global platform that showcases some of the best photography talent from around the world for nearly 60 years. Launching in 1965, today the competition receives entries from 95 countries all over the world, highlighting its enduring appeal. This exhibition showcases the photographs from the 59<sup>th</sup> competition. Its time at the Eden Project is part of an international tour that will allow the images to be seen by well over a million people.

The competition attracted an astounding 49,957 entries from photographers of all ages and experience levels. During an intense week at the Natural History Museum in London, entries were judged anonymously on their creativity, originality, and technical excellence by an international panel of industry experts.

For more information and to book tickets to the Eden Project this summer see <u>www.edenproject.com</u>.

#### **ENDS**

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