

FESTIVAL PHOTO DES TROIS COURONNES

Open call
Rules

First edition, 15 to 18 April 2027 · Hendaye, Basque Country

COLLECTIF ARGIA

FROM 16 NOVEMBER 2026 TO 16 JANUARY 2027

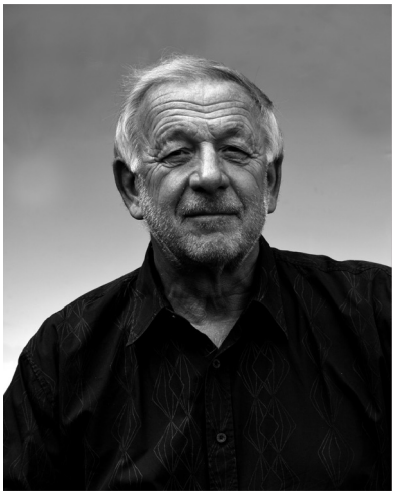
The festival

In Hendaye, between the Atlantic and the Pyrenees, the Collectif Argia is launching the first edition of the Festival photo des Trois Couronnes, a biennial event dedicated to contemporary photography.

The festival is built around three guests of honour, three major voices in contemporary photography. Around them, other photographers, emerging and established, are invited to bring their own perspectives into dialogue and create a varied programme.

This first edition takes place from Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 April 2027, in the centre of Hendaye. It is part of the national celebrations of the bicentenary of photography. On the programme: exhibitions, screenings, talks and meetings with the photographers, book signings, portfolio reviews, and the presentation of a photography project carried out with schoolchildren from Hendaye.

THREE PERSPECTIVES, THREE GUESTS OF HONOUR



Portrait: Marc Paygnard

PATRON OF THIS FIRST EDITION

Marc Paygnard

A humanist photographer who worked with the Rapho agency, alongside Doisneau, Boubat and Ronis, he has travelled to more than sixty countries and published some thirty books. His images are held in collections including those of MoMA in New York and the Nicéphore-Niépce museum.



Portrait: Anne Rearick, all rights reserved

GUEST OF HONOUR

Anne Rearick

An American photographer with a humanist and documentary eye, Guggenheim fellow and winner of the Roger Pic prize, she builds her series over long periods, close to people and places.



Portrait: Eric Bouvet, all rights reserved

GUEST OF HONOUR

Eric Bouvet

A French photojournalist, winner of five World Press Photo Awards and two Visa d'Or News awards, he has covered major international events since the early 1980s.

It is around these three perspectives that the photographers selected through the open call will enter into dialogue.

THE SPIRIT OF THE FESTIVAL

The theme of the series is free. The festival does, however, have an identity: a photography attentive to human beings, their environment, cultures and territories.

Born in a land of passage, between two countries and three cultures, the festival warmly welcomes perspectives that connect, that cross borders and that bring worlds together. All approaches are welcome: documentary, reportage, fine art photography, portrait, landscape, film or digital, colour or black and white.

How to apply

The open call is open to anyone aged 18 or over, amateur or professional, from 16 November 2026 to 16 January 2027. Entry is free. The full rules and the application form are available at festival.collectif-argia.com/en/open-call/.

HENDAYE, BASQUE COUNTRY · 15 TO 18 APRIL 2027 · COLLECTIF ARGIA

Open call rules

Translation: only the French version of these rules is legally binding.

PREAMBLE

The Festival photo des Trois Couronnes is a biennial contemporary photography event organised by the Collectif Argia in Hendaye. Its first edition will take place from 15 to 18 April 2027, around three guests of honour: Marc Paygnard, patron of this edition, Anne Rearick and Eric Bouvet. Committed to a photography attentive to human beings, their environment, cultures and territories, the festival remains open to all photographic approaches: the theme of the series submitted is free.

ARTICLE 1

Purpose and conditions of entry

The Collectif Argia invites amateur and professional photographers to submit their work and exhibit it at the Festival photo des Trois Couronnes, from 15 to 18 April 2027, in the centre of Hendaye.

The open call is open to anyone aged 18 or over, regardless of nationality or theme.

Entry to the open call is free. Each photographer may submit only one application.

ARTICLE 2

Timetable

Opening of the open call	Monday 16 November 2026
Closing (Paris time; postmark as proof of date for postal entries)	Saturday 16 January 2027, 00:00
Announcement of results	Mid-February 2027
Hanging, with the photographer present	Tuesday 13 or Wednesday 14 April 2027
Festival, with the photographer present	Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 April 2027
Opening night, with the photographer present	Friday 16 April 2027, in the evening
Taking down, with the photographer present	Sunday 18 April 2027, when the festival closes

ARTICLE 3

Application

Applications may be sent:

- in digital form, via the online form on the festival website (festival.collectif-argia.com/en/open-call/) or by email to festival@collectif-argia.com;
- by post, to the address given at the end of these rules.

The application must include the following 5 items:

1. At least 10 photographs printed on A4 photo paper, with or without a border, with the photographer's name written on the back of each print, forming a coherent series. For digital applications, the photographs are sent as files via the online form, by email or by download link (WeTransfer, etc.).
2. A text presenting the project (half a page maximum): the purpose of the series, the approach, the context in which it was made.
3. A short biography (about ten lines).
4. The application form completed online, or the application sheet (appendix 1) for entries sent by email or by post.
5. These rules, dated and signed, with the handwritten words “Read and approved”.

An acknowledgement of receipt is sent by email to each applicant as soon as their application is registered. Incomplete applications, or applications that do not meet the conditions of these rules, will not be considered.

Applicants who wish to have their prints returned after sending them by post must enclose a stamped envelope addressed to themselves. Without a stamped return envelope, the photographs, whether selected or not, will not be returned.

The Collectif Argia accepts no liability for any damage to prints and media during shipping and any return.

By submitting an application, the photographer certifies that they are the author of the photographs submitted and legally hold all rights to them, including the image rights of the people photographed. The Collectif Argia accepts no liability if this is not the case.

ARTICLE 4

Selection

When the open call closes, the applications are examined by a selection committee made up of the festival director, the artistic direction of the Collectif Argia and any other guest deemed relevant. The committee's decisions are final, cannot be appealed and are given without justification. The results will be announced in mid-February 2027.

The final number of selected photographers is not fixed in advance.

Selected photographers will be informed personally. By signing these rules, they agree to be announced on all the festival's communication media (website, social media, press, radio and television) from February 2027. The anonymity of photographers who are not selected will be respected.

ARTICLE 5

Rights and communication

Like the festival's guests, selected photographers make available to the Collectif Argia, free of charge, the digital file or files, chosen by mutual agreement, needed solely to present their series in the festival's promotional media (website, social media, press, radio and television). These files will always be used with their author's name. No photograph from an application that is not selected will be used.

This permission is granted for three years from the announcement of the results. After that, content already published may remain available in the archives of the festival's website and social media, without being published again.

ARTICLE 6

Hospitality and exhibition conditions

The Collectif Argia provides selected photographers, free of charge, with an exhibition space chosen according to the overall layout of the festival, on the same terms as for the guests:

- accommodation with local hosts, within the festival's volunteer network;
- one meal a day (lunch) paid for by the Collectif Argia;
- insurance of the exhibited works at their production value;
- payment of an exhibition and presentation fee.

However, travel to and from Hendaye is not reimbursed. The Collectif Argia does not cover any costs related to the printing, framing or transport of the selected photographs.

ARTICLE 7

Attendance, hanging and taking down

Selected photographers must be present:

- to hang their photographs, on Tuesday 13 or Wednesday 14 April 2027;
- throughout the festival, from Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 April 2027;
- at the opening night, on Friday 16 April 2027 in the evening.

Photographers are responsible for hanging and taking down their photographs. Taking down takes place as soon as the festival closes its doors, on Sunday 18 April 2027 in the evening. They can count on the help of the Collectif Argia's volunteers throughout these stages.

The display of each series may be discussed beforehand between the photographer and the artistic direction of the Collectif Argia, so that it fits into the overall layout of the festival.

ARTICLE 8

Sale of works

Exhibited photographers may sell their works during the festival. Sales take place directly between the photographer and the buyer: the Collectif Argia is not involved in the sale, payment or delivery of the works, and takes no commission.

The exhibition spaces are reserved for presenting the series. Merchandise (postcards, posters, objects, goodies, books, etc.) is not allowed there.

A bookshop area will be set up during the festival, where the photography books of the exhibited photographers may be sold.

ARTICLE 9

Changes

The organisers reserve the right, in the event of force majeure or if circumstances so require, to change or cancel the 2027 edition of the Festival photo des Trois Couronnes. Neither they nor the festival may be held liable for such changes.

Any specific request concerning hospitality conditions that is not covered by these rules may be considered case by case, without guarantee, by the Collectif Argia; it will then be the subject of a separate agreement. The organising team is available to answer any further questions from photographers and to ensure that exhibitions take place in the best possible conditions.

ARTICLE 10

Personal data

The data collected for the open call is processed electronically. It is used by the Collectif Argia solely to manage applications. In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the amended French Data Protection Act (“Informatique et Libertés”), each applicant has the right to access, rectify, erase and object to the processing of their data. Any request must be sent in writing to the address below.

CONTACT US

Collectif Argia
Festival photo des Trois Couronnes, open call
1 bis rue du Jaizkibel, bâtiment A
64700 Hendaye (France)

festival@collectif-argia.com
festival.collectif-argia.com/en/open-call/
Instagram @collectif_argia

ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

"I confirm that I have read all the articles of the rules of the open call of the Festival photo des Trois Couronnes 2027 and, in doing so, accept them in full."

First and last name: _____

Signed in _____ , on ____ / ____ / _____

Signature preceded by the handwritten words "Read and approved":

APPENDIX 1

Application sheet

For applications sent by email or by post. Online, this information is entered directly in the form on the website.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER

First and last name

Age

Status ☐ professional ☐ amateur ☐ other: .....

Postal address

Phone

Email address

Website / social media

THE SERIES

Title of the series

Equipment used (film, digital, pinhole, smartphone…)

Planned number of photographs for the full series (minimum 10)

Planned print size

Planned type of framing

SHORT BIOGRAPHY (ABOUT TEN LINES)

TEXT PRESENTING THE PROJECT (HALF A PAGE MAXIMUM)

ENCLOSURES

- ☐ at least 10 A4 prints or digital application
- ☐ text presenting the project
- ☐ short biography
- ☐ application sheet
- ☐ rules dated and signed
- ☐ stamped return envelope (optional)

APPENDIX 2

Getting to Hendaye

Hendaye (about 17,000 inhabitants) is the last town on the French Basque coast, at the mouth of the Bidasoa, between the Atlantic Ocean and the Pyrenees. Facing it, across the bay, lie Hondarribia and Irun; on the horizon rises the Three Crowns massif, which gave the festival its name.

ACCESS

Train	Hendaye station, end of the TGV line from Paris-Montparnasse (about 4 h 30). TER regional trains from Bayonne (about 25 min) and Bordeaux.
Train to Spain	The Topo (Euskotren) leaves Hendaye every 30 minutes and reaches San Sebastián in about 35 minutes.
Car	A63 motorway, exits 1 or 2. Saint-Jean-de-Luz 15 km away, San Sebastián 20 km away, Bayonne and Biarritz about 30 minutes away.
Plane	San Sebastián airport (Hondarribia) about 6 km away. Biarritz Pays Basque airport about 30 minutes away. Bilbao airport about 1 h 30 by road.
Boat	A shuttle boat crosses Txingudi Bay between Hendaye and Hondarribia.
Bus	Local Txik Txak network and long-distance coaches (Flixbus).

THINGS TO SEE

- The Abbadia castle-observatory, built by Viollet-le-Duc between 1864 and 1879 for the explorer and scientist Antoine d'Abbadie, and its 66-hectare clifftop estate protected by the Conservatoire du littoral.
- The Basque corniche and the Deux Jumeaux, iconic rocks off the Sainte-Anne headland.
- Hendaye beach, one of the longest on the Basque coast (about 3 km), popular with surfers, and its seafront lined with neo-Basque villas.
- Txingudi Bay, its marina and the bay path, a 15 km greenway that goes all the way round it.
- Pheasant Island, on the Bidasoa, where the Treaty of the Pyrenees was signed in 1659. It is administered alternately by France and Spain every six months.
- Nearby: the fortified old town of Hondarribia (reachable by boat), San Sebastián, Saint-Jean-de-Luz, La Rhune and the villages of the inland Basque Country.

A CROSS-BORDER AREA

Together with Irun and Hondarribia, Hendaye forms a single living area of nearly 100,000 inhabitants, united since 1998 within the Bidasoa-Txingudi cross-border consortium, which runs joint projects in tourism, culture and social action. The town is also part of the Basque Eurocity Bayonne-San Sebastián.

French, Spanish and Basque are spoken side by side every day. This crossroads of cultures is what the Festival photo des Trois Couronnes wants to bring to life: an event rooted in the Basque Country, open to audiences on both sides of the border, and looking out to the world.

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FESTIVAL.COLLECTIF-ARGIA.COM