

30 

**FESTIVAL DE
MÁLAGA**

26FEB-7MAR 2027

FAQ'S

**GENERAL PARTICIPATION
REGULATIONS**



GENERAL INFORMATION

When will the 30th edition of Festival de Málaga take place?

The 30th edition will take place from 26 February to 7 March 2027.

What is the aim of the Festival?

The Festival aims to promote Spanish-language audiovisual works, including Ibero-American cinematographies, Portugal and Brazil, and to foster professional exchange within the audiovisual sector.

What international recognition does the Festival have?

Festival de Málaga is recognised by FIAPF, the International Federation of Film Producers Associations.

SECTIONS

What sections are included in the 30th edition?

The regulations include, among others: Official Feature Film Section, ZonaZine, Documentaries, Fiction or Animation Short Films, Documentary Short Films, Málaga Short Films, Cinema Cocina, Mosaico / International Panorama, América, América and Series.

What works may participate in the Official Feature Film Section, ZonaZine and Documentaries?

Spanish or Ibero-American fiction, animation or documentary feature films produced after 1 January 2026 and not commercially released in Spain in cinemas, on television, at an audiovisual event or on VOD platforms.

What is ZonaZine?

ZonaZine is aimed at more avant-garde and auteur-driven works with a clear artistic intention. The Selection Committee will decide whether a work participates in the Official Feature Film Competition or in ZonaZine.

What is the maximum duration for short films?

Short films may not exceed 30 minutes.

What is Málaga Short Films?

It is the category for short films directed or produced by people born or resident in the province of Málaga, or whose production company is based in the province of Málaga.

What works may participate in Cinema Cocina?

Feature and short documentaries linked to gastronomy, including productions that address sectors directly or indirectly related to it.

What is Mosaico / International Panorama?

It is a section for international feature films, unreleased in Spain, produced after 1 January 2026 and highlighted by critics or awarded at other international festivals. These films are selected by the Festival and are not part of the general submission process.

What is the Series Section?

It is a selection of Spanish TV series produced after 1 January 2026 and unreleased in Spain. They are selected by the Festival and are not part of the general submission process.

SUBMISSION

How is a film submitted?

Submission may be completed through Festhome by registering and filling in the relevant form.

Is uploading the film to Festhome enough?

No. Uploading the film to Festhome does not constitute a submission to Festival de Málaga. To be valid, the Festival must be selected within Festhome, the relevant category must be chosen, the fee must be paid where applicable, and the "Submit" button must be clicked.

What happens if the submission is not completed correctly?

Works that do not complete all the required steps will be excluded from the selection process.

What are the submission deadlines?

Until 8 November 2026: documentary feature films; fiction, animation and documentary short films; Cinema Cocina feature and short films. Until 2 December 2026: Official Section feature films, ZonaZine and América, América feature films.

SUBMISSION FEES

What are the Early fees?

Fiction short films: €15; documentary short films: €15; documentary feature films: €20, all until 8 October 2026 inclusive. Fiction feature films: €40, until 2 November 2026 inclusive.

What are the Regular/Late fees?

Fiction short films: €30; documentary short films: €30; documentary feature films: €40, all until 8 November 2026 inclusive. Fiction feature films: €80, until 2 December 2026 inclusive.

Are submission fees refundable?

No. Submission fees will not be refunded under any circumstances.

Which sections are exempt from fees?

América, América and Cinema Cocina are exempt from submission fees.

Which short films are exempt from fees?

Fiction or documentary short films that duly prove they are directed or produced by people born or resident in the province of Málaga, or whose production company is based in the province of Málaga.

SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

Is the invitation to a selected film confidential?

Yes. The invitation is strictly confidential until the Festival officially announces it.

Can a film be withdrawn once selected and confirmed?

No. Once selection has been communicated and participation confirmed, the film may not be withdrawn.

Can a selected film be screened at other Spanish festivals before Málaga?

No. Once participation has been confirmed, the film may not compete, be screened or be presented at other Spanish festivals or similar events before its screening in Málaga. This restriction does not apply to short film categories.

Is attendance by representatives of the film compulsory?

Yes. The producer or distributor undertakes to ensure the attendance of technical and/or artistic representatives at the official screening.

Do selected films receive a certificate?

Yes. All selected films will receive a certificate of participation.

PROGRAMMING AND RIGHTS

How many times may a film be screened during the Festival?

No film may be screened more than 5 times, including press screenings.

Does the Festival pay screening fees?

No. Producers grant public screening rights during the Festival free of charge.

Who must hold the rights to the film?

The person signing the submission declares that they hold the necessary reproduction, public communication, dissemination and screening rights for the work to participate in the Festival.

VERSIONS, SUBTITLES AND COPIES

In what version must films be presented?

All screening copies must be presented in their original version.

What subtitles are required if the film is not in Spanish?

Spanish subtitles are required if the original version is not wholly or partially in Spanish.

What subtitles are required if the film is entirely in Spanish?

English subtitles are required.

What happens if the film is in one of Spain's co-official languages or in other languages?

It must be subtitled in Spanish and an SRT file with English subtitles must be provided, together with an online downloadable screener for internal and confidential use when required by the Print Traffic Department.

What projection format must be delivered?

Selected films must deliver a DCP screening copy before 13 January 2027.

Is a backup copy required?

Yes. In addition to the DCP, an H264 digital backup file of no more than 50 GB must be provided, with English and Spanish SRT subtitles and a minimum Full HD resolution.

Who must provide the KDMs?

The company that submitted the selected film must provide the necessary KDMs. They must be open from the beginning until the end of the Festival.

Are copy changes accepted after delivery of the final DCP?

No changes will be accepted for logos, title cards, credits, editing, subtitles or other later modifications, except in the case of a proven technical incident expressly authorised by the Festival and approved by the Management.

SHIPPING AND RETURN OF COPIES

How can copies be delivered?

Physically, by DCP and digital backup file, or digitally through a platform enabled by the Festival.

Who pays the physical shipping costs to the Festival?

Shipping, transport and insurance costs to the Festival's print storage facility are borne by the producers.

Who pays for the return of copies?

The Festival pays for the return of copies.

When are physical copies returned?

Within a maximum period of fifteen days from the end of the Festival.

Can a technical screening in a cinema be requested?

Yes, before 22 January 2027, by email at gestiondecopias@malagaprocultura.com.

CATALOGUE, MATERIALS AND PRESS

What happens once participation is confirmed?

The Festival will send an exclusive online form for each film, which must be completed with the contents required for programming.

What is the deadline for completing the form?

The form must be completed by 23 January 2027 at the latest.

What materials are requested?

Synopsis, biofilmography, cast and crew details, photographs of the director and the film, trailers and other audiovisual materials.

Can the Festival use excerpts from selected films?

Yes. By accepting participation, companies authorise the use of one or more excerpts as informational material in any media outlet.

JURIES AND AWARDS

Who appoints the juries?

The Festival Management appoints the juries for the different competitive sections.

Can jury decisions be appealed?

No. Jury decisions are final and do not need to be justified.

Can an award be declared void?

No. Awards may not be declared void.

Can a cash award be granted ex aequo?

No. Awards with cash prizes may not be granted ex aequo.

How is the Audience Award decided?

In general, it is decided during the first screenings of each film according to the votes cast by the audience. Specific exceptions apply to the Official Feature Film Section, Cinema Cocina and Documentaries.

PAYMENT OF AWARDS AND LAURELS

To whom are cash awards paid?

Cash awards are paid to the production company.

What requirement must be met to receive an award payment?

A certificate must be provided proving the film's commercial cinema screening or its exhibition at another festival or audiovisual event in 2027, always after its screening at Festival de Málaga.

Does this exhibition requirement apply to all sections?

No. It does not apply to Málaga Short Films, Cinema Cocina, Mosaico / International Panorama or América, América.

Are awards subject to tax withholdings?

Yes. Cash amounts are subject to the tax withholdings established by the legislation in force at the time of payment.

Can selected films use the Festival logo?

Yes. Participation allows the Festival logo with the wording "30th Edition" to be inserted, provided it is not altered or adapted.

CONTACT

Where should general submission enquiries be addressed?

To the Submissions Department: inscripciones@malagaprocultura.com.