

Christmas Card Photography Competition 2026

Celebrate Cornwall's churches this Christmas

The Cornwall Historic Churches Trust is launching its first Christmas Card Photography Competition, celebrating the beauty and heritage of Cornwall's churches. A selection of the winning images will be produced as Christmas cards, with proceeds supporting our work in conserving these historic buildings for future generations.

We know that fewer people send Christmas cards than they once did, yet there remains a real demand for cards that celebrate Cornwall and are made here in the county. This competition is our answer to that demand, and we hope it will bring together the very best of Cornish photography and Cornish churches.

What we are looking for

Entries must be a photograph of a church in Cornwall, or of an element within or upon it, such as a window, a font, a tower, a porch or similar architectural or decorative feature. We are looking for images that reflect the character, beauty and heritage of these remarkable buildings, and that evoke a sense of winter or the Christmas season — whether through snow, frost, winter light, seasonal decoration or atmosphere.

Who may enter

The competition is open to all photographers, amateur and professional. You do not need to be a resident of Cornwall or even the United Kingdom. Entrants may submit up to two photographs.

How to enter

Because photograph files of the quality we need are often too large to send by email, please complete our entry form and upload your images on the form:

 [Enter here](#)

Please submit your photographs in the highest resolution available. Each image file should ideally be named with your surname and the church depicted — for example, *Jones, St Mylor*.

Closing date

All entries must be received by midnight on Tuesday 15th September 2026. Entries received after this date cannot, unfortunately, be considered.

Our judges

We are honoured to have a distinguished panel judging this year's competition:

- Colonel Sir Edward Bolitho, Lord-Lieutenant of Cornwall
 - Louise Connell, Head of Programme, Tate St Ives
 - Cecilia Bisson, Chair of the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust
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What happens next

- A shortlist will be prepared from entries received and judged by our panel in November.
 - Winning entries will be announced in November 2026, with a selection produced as Christmas cards in support of CHCT's conservation work and showcased on the CHCT website.
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Entry Terms

1. Eligibility

The competition is open to all photographers, amateur and professional. You do not need to be a resident of Cornwall or the United Kingdom.

2. Subject matter

Entries must be a photograph of a church in Cornwall, or of an element within or upon it, such as a window, a font, a tower, a porch or similar architectural or decorative feature. Photographs should reflect the character, beauty and heritage of the building, and evoke a sense of winter or the Christmas season — whether through snow, frost, winter light, seasonal decoration or atmosphere.

3. Submissions

Entrants may submit up to two photographs. Photographs must be submitted in the highest resolution available via the entry form at form.jotform.com/262104234975052.

Each file should ideally be named with the entrant's surname and the church depicted — for example, *Jones, St Mylor*.

4. Closing date

All entries must be received by midnight on Tuesday 15th September 2026. Entries received after this date cannot be considered.

5. Copyright and licence

Copyright in each photograph remains with the entrant. By entering, the entrant grants CHCT a licence to reproduce the photograph, without charge, in printed Christmas cards, in digital form, and in related promotional material, with the photographer credited wherever practicable.

6. Judging

A shortlist will be prepared by CHCT from entries received and judged by a panel appointed by the Trust. Winning entries will be announced in November 2026, and a selection will be produced as Christmas cards in support of CHCT's conservation work. The judges' decision is final.

7. General

CHCT reserves the right to disqualify any entry that does not meet these terms, and to amend these terms if necessary.