

Busan Architecture & Urban Photo Competition 2026

1. Theme

Capturing the Waves of Busan Through the Lens: A City at the Boundary

Busan: The Maritime Capital Where Continent Meets Ocean

Busan has long stood as the gateway where the Asian continent ends and the sea begins. Within this maritime capital coexist the layered traces of history: the old downtown that bears the scars of the Japanese colonial era, the hillside villages shaped by the hardships of the Korean War, the rugged industrial landscapes that fueled Korea's rapid economic growth, and the contemporary skyline of elegant high-rise towers. Together, these diverse landscapes create a unique maritime city where different eras and spaces overlap, forming Busan's powerful and distinctive identity.

The Dynamic Energy Born at the Boundary

Where solid land meets the ever-changing sea lies a boundary governed by neither the rules of land nor those of the ocean. Instead, it gives rise to a third kind of dynamic energy. Along this threshold, visual and spatial flows emerge in countless forms—sometimes through the imposing presence of monumental structures, and at other times through the rhythms of everyday life created by its citizens. These interactions generate powerful "waves" that ripple throughout the city. It is this energy born from the encounter of contrasting elements that defines the true character of Busan.

Recording the Future of Busan Through the Citizens' Lens

The Busan Chapter of the Korea Institute of Architects invites citizens to capture these dynamic moments unfolding along the boundary where land and sea converge. Every photograph becomes more than a record of a fleeting instant; it becomes part of a collective civic archive that reflects Busan's identity and envisions the future of its architecture and urban landscape.

Now is the time to frame Busan's most compelling boundaries through your own lens and preserve the moments that make this maritime city truly unique.

2. Eligibility

Anyone who has a keen interest for architecture and the city (unrestricted to nationalities).

3. Entry Conditions Up to 3 pieces of work

Photography	The high-resolution jpg files of 3MB-10MB Rejected computer-generated files
-------------	--

4. Application

- + **Fee** Free
- + **Period** Mon, July 27, 2026 ~ Fri, September 4, 2026
- + **Submission** By E-mail. (kiabphoto@hanmail.net)
- + **Application Form** Download from the website. (www.kiabb.org)
- + **Conditions**
All pieces of work must be submitted with the application form.
(Otherwise, the application will not be accepted; file name/application form : up to 3 pieces of work)
The application form provided on the Website only.
- + **Announcement of Results** Thurs. September 10, 2026

5. Awards and Exhibitions

+ Awards

Prize		Selection(s)	Amount of the Award
Photography	First	1	1,000,000 KRW / work
	Second	2	500,000 KRW / work
	Third	3	200,000 KRW / work

- + **Period** : Tue, October 27, 2026 ~ Sat. October 31, 2026
- + **Venue** : Hall 3A, Exhibition Center I, BEXCO, Busan
- + The Amount of the Award includes tax, and will be paid once the tax has been deducted.

6. Additional Terms

+ Copyright

- The copyright of the winning prizes' works belongs to the artist, and their license and publication rights belong to the Organizer.
- The winner must fill in and submit the required consent form to transfer creative property rights. Otherwise, the prize will be cancelled forthwith.
- Entrants shall avoid any infringement of portrait rights, any moral and economic rights of the creator, and any other rights regarding their works, and the entrant has sole legal responsibility for any civil and criminal objections and disputes.
- None of the creative submissions can have previously received any awards in other contests, otherwise the prize will be cancelled, and it is imperative that the prize-winning works of this contest cannot be submitted to other contests.
- The winning prize's works (selected) will be used for the relevant exhibition and catalog, along with as promotional material for various publications and media.

+ Others

- The work cannot be submitted using more than one name.
- The winning work cannot be selected if all entries are considered to be ineligible.

Korean Institute of Architects Busan
Steering Committee of
Busan Architecture & Urban Photo Competition

