

Geneva International Film Festival (GIFF)

Regulations 2025

The 31st edition of GIFF will take place in Geneva from **October 31 to November 9, 2025**.

Please find more information about the Festival [here](#). For details on the different sections (competitive and non-competitive), please visit the dedicated [page](#) on our website.

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1. Juries and Awards

- **International Feature Competition**

A jury composed of a renowned filmmaker and four film students will award the Reflet d'Or for Best Feature Film, along with a cash prize of CHF 10,000 offered by the City and Canton of Geneva (75% of the prize amount will be awarded to the director and 25% to the rights holder who submitted the film to the Festival's selection).

- **International Series Competition**

The Reflet d'Or for Best Series, along with a cash prize of CHF 10,000 offered by the City and Canton of Geneva will be awarded by a jury of three international experts from the cultural industries. The prize will be awarded to the (co-)creator(s).

- **International Immersive Experiences Competition**

A jury of international experts will award the Reflet d'Or for Best Immersive Experience, along with a cash prize of CHF 10,000 offered by the City and Canton of Geneva.

- **Future Is Sensible Award**

A jury composed of three international personalities active in the audiovisual and cultural industries will recognize a film, series, or immersive experience that stands out for its humanism,

ethical dimension, and positive impact on the future. The Future Is Sensible Award is accompanied by a cash prize of CHF 10,000 offered by Pour-cent culturel Migros.

2. Eligibility Requirements

All genres and themes are accepted, whether documentary, fiction, or animation, except for works considered as advertising a service or product. Short films are not eligible, except for specific initiatives of the Festival.

a) **Works must have been produced in 2024-2025** (except for tribute programs and retrospectives).

b) For films/series/immersive experiences in competition, at least a Swiss premiere is required. This means that submitted feature films, series, and immersive experiences must not have been shown/screened/broadcasted on unencrypted television channels available in Switzerland, free-access web platforms, cinemas, festivals, or any other public events in Switzerland before November 10, 2025.

c) The minimum durations accepted for selected works are:

- 60 minutes for feature films
- 15 minutes per episode for series/mini-series
- No minimum duration for immersive experiences

d) The Festival is committed to protecting the confidentiality and copyright of submitted works. Documents, links, and materials shared will only be accessible to the Festival team for the selection process. If selected, the Festival reserves the right to use information and promotional materials related to the work in its communication materials while respecting copyright. By submitting a work to GIFF, you acknowledge that sharing exclusive information online involves inherent risks (including piracy), which you accept unless they result from gross negligence on the part of GIFF.

e) Selection committees composed of Swiss and international experts assist the Artistic Director and Head of the Programming Office in selecting works for the official program. The Festival reserves the right to determine the section in which works will be presented.

3. Submission and Deadlines

Submissions for the next edition of the Festival are open exclusively to series, digital installations, and immersive experiences (virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality). There is no call for submissions for feature or short films.

a) Submissions must be made online via the MyGIFF platform.

b) A screening link for the film/series or a build for immersive experiences must be provided with the submission form. The link or build must remain accessible until October 9, 2025. If the link and/or password

become invalid, the work will not be considered for selection. For modifications, please email lucie.emch@giff.ch.

c) Submitting and participating in the Festival implies acceptance of the participation conditions. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the decision of the Festival Management is final.

d) To be considered for the 2025 edition, the **submission deadline** for series and immersive experiences is **July 31, 2025**.

e) No submission fee is required.

f) Applicants who have submitted a work via MyGIFF will receive a response by early October 2025 at the latest, confirming whether their work has been selected or not.

4. Selected Works

a) Selected films, series, and immersive experiences must be registered online. If your work is selected, you will receive a link to our online registration form. If you do not receive this link, please inform us immediately.

b) Online registration generates a contract (these Regulations) that must be accepted.

c) For internal use, a final version of your film, series, or immersive experience must be provided as soon as possible via a downloadable link or file transfer (Vimeo, Dropbox, WeTransfer, Filemail, etc.).

d) Films and series may be made available to professionals (press, jury, industry screenings), unless otherwise specified.

e) All required materials for the Festival catalog and website must be submitted by September 15, 2025, including:

- Distribution and credits
- Filmography, nationality, birth year, and country of the filmmaker(s)/creator(s)
- A photo of the filmmaker(s)/creator(s) (300 DPI, JPG)
- 1 to 3 horizontal images from the work (300 DPI, JPG)
- A password-protected HD file/link to the final version of the work
- A file or link to the trailer

f) The submission authorizes the Festival to use trailers and related extracts for promotion on its platforms.

g) Once confirmed for the 31st edition of GIFF, a work cannot be withdrawn from the official selection. The Festival reserves the right to remove a work if it does not meet the specified conditions.

h) Creative teams invited to present their selected work must confirm their participation within three weeks of receiving the invitation, no later than October 9, 2025.

i) With the rightsholders' permission, selected works may be included in GIFF UNLIMITED or other post-Festival screening programs.

j) All selected films and series will be screened in their original language with English and/or French subtitles.

5. Delivery of Screening and Exhibition Materials

a) Accepted formats for invited works:

- Feature films: DCP (24 or 25 fps)
- Series: DCP (24 or 25 fps), Digital File (Quicktime, Apple Pro Res, 100Mbit/s limited, 25 fps)
- Immersive experiences: Digital file compatible with VR, AR, or MR devices or any additional required devices (subject to technical and spatial feasibility).

b) A final screening copy must be delivered within the Festival's specified deadlines.

c) If a DCP is encrypted, a KDM for each screening and a test KDM before the Festival must be provided.

d) Shipping costs for selected works are covered by the Festival (conditions apply).

e) If a unique projection copy is scheduled for another event, please notify us upon submission.

6. General Rules

The Festival Management will handle any exceptional circumstances not covered in these regulations. Participation in GIFF implies full acceptance of these conditions. The Festival reserves the right to modify these regulations at any time without prior notice.

Geneva International Film Festival, April 2025

For more information, please contact:

Lucie Emch
Head of Programming Office
lucie.emch@giff.ch