

# Will your city be the next European Green Leaf winner?

The European Commission launches a new competition round with the aim to nominate the European Green Leaf 2025.

The title of European Green Leaf is awarded annually to a European city with a population between 20,000 and 99,999 inhabitants for its commitment to environmental sustainability - why not apply?

## Evaluation Process

The Prize is awarded on the basis of **7 environmental topic areas**:

- |          |  |          |                            |
|----------|--|----------|----------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | Air Quality                                      | <b>5</b> | Noise                      |
| <b>2</b> | Water  | <b>6</b> | Climate Change: Mitigation |
| <b>3</b> | Biodiversity, Green areas & Sustainable Land Use | <b>7</b> | Climate Change: Adaptation |
| <b>4</b> | Waste & Circular Economy                         |          |                            |

A panel of 7 independent experts will carry out a technical assessment of the eligible applications received.

After the technical assessment, and taking into account environmental data from the European Environment Agency, DG Environment will then establish a number of short-listed cities (the finalists) that will have the opportunity to present their city in front of a Jury Panel.



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Representatives of each shortlisted city will be invited to give an oral presentation in front of the jury panel covering as follows:

- 1 The city's overall strategy, vision, and commitment to sustainability, and how these are implemented in practice.
- 2 The city's communication strategy and actions for its role as a European Green Capital or Leaf for the year 2025, which should address:
  - Citizen communication and involvement to date in relation to the 7 topic areas, effectiveness via changes in citizen behaviour, lessons learned and proposed modifications for the future.
  - The applicant city's ability to showcase the city's environmental sustainability vision and plans at local and regional levels.
  - How the applicant city intends to fulfil their role of Green Ambassador/role model, inspiring other European cities.
- 3 Their proposal on concrete initiatives and measures for their title year 2025 with the aim to enhance transition to a greener and more sustainable city. The city should give examples and inform about planning to reach targets as under the European Green Deal, in particular those specified in the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the Biodiversity Strategy and Circular Economy Action Plan and the Fit for 55 Package.

Following these presentations, the Jury will deliberate on the winner of the European Green Leaf Awards 2025. The Jury will choose one or two winners on the basis of the award criteria.

The jury is chaired by the European Commission.

## Financial Prize

The Commission will award €200,000 to the winning city of the European Green Leaf 2025 title to enhance the city's environmental sustainability and to contribute to achieving the city's sustainability vision.

## European Green Leaf 2025: Key Dates

- January 2023: Competition opens
- February 2023: Online Applicant City Workshop: How to make a good application
- 30 April 2023: Competition closes at 23:59 CEST (GMT+2)
- May – June 2023: Assessment of applications by the Expert Panel
- June 2023: Announcement of finalist cities
- 4 October 2023: Finalist cities make presentations to the Jury
- 5 October 2023: Awards Ceremony to announce the winner

**You can check the competition rules and get more information on eligibility, submission, evaluation process and updates on our website or by contacting the Secretariat.**

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 [Learn more](#)

[Get inspired by other cities' journeys, discover what it means to be involved in the Awards, find tips and tricks from previous winners.](#)

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