

## Spain Feb 2023 for Iberian Lynx



I spent 3 full days in the Sierra de Andujar Natural Park area of Spain on 8, 9, 10 Feb 2023 to see Iberian Lynx. Tirso Perez (@tirsoperez\_wildlife) was my guide from Iberian Lynx Land ([www.iberianlynxland.com](http://www.iberianlynxland.com)), and it was all arranged by Martin Royle of Royle Safaris ([www.royle-safaris.co.uk](http://www.royle-safaris.co.uk)).

I stayed at the Aguan de Linche hotel, a lovely new place just outside of the park area, but close to it. The hotel has a mother lynx and two cubs that are on the property which we saw once live and many times on their security cameras. I'd recommend the hotel for sure.

I'd also recommend Tirso as a guide. I think that there is a valid question as to whether a guide is really needed in this area to see the lynx (i.e. you could definitely see a lynx without a guide), but I'll tell you why I think my experience was improved with a guide: 1) He's in touch with all the other guides, so if a lynx is seen, he'll get you there. 2) He's out in the park every day and knows where the lynx are being seen recently, 3) He'll get you in the best spot not just to have a sighting, but to take some pics too. 4) Its good to support the lynx tourism economy as that will encourage local folks to advocate for preservation and access to good sites. 5) He knows where to go and when for other mammals too.

We were successful with the lynx - we had nice but distant views on Day 1 from the hotel of the mother and two cubs. On the second and third days, we had a sighting each day in the late afternoon of two separate lynx in the La Launcha and Toros areas of the park road. All three times we had excellent opportunities for photos. In addition to Lynx, we saw Spanish Ibex, Mouflon, Red Deer, Fallow Deer, Eurasian Otter and more. The lynx are doing well and I'd say that with a little luck and effort, you will see lynx here given a couple days. Tirso said that their daily success rate is 60% for a lynx sighting (although they usually can be distant).



















