



Eurasian Lynx in Transylvania in March 2026 (all images by Ferenc Alpár Gothárd)

LYNX PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS in TRANSYLVANIA in 2026 with **SAKERTOURS**

by Ferenc Alpár Gothárd

Seeing Eurasian Lynx is not easy. Photographing Eurasian Lynx daytime is even more difficult – at the beginning I thought it is just sheer luck! I have got obsessed with this majestic top predator of my homeland a few years ago and spent many years chasing the 'ghost of the forest' with various success. But as I had spent more time on the field, put more effort and innovation to understand their behaviour and movement, and eventually finding the right locations as well as the right tactic it ended with some great encounters! Transylvania is a TOP location for this mammal!

Sakertours Eastern Europe: Lynx Photography Tour 2026
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The idea of launching a Lynx Photography Tour sounded alien and a near impossible task when Janos approached me with this idea a few years back. He tried to do Lynx watching tours but not with great results, and at the very same time Estonia emerged as the top location for mammalwatchers to see the species in Europe. But I did not give up my idea, and I knew that the Carpathians have the most Lynx anywhere in Europe. So accepted the challenge and we started to elaborate Sakertour's Lynx Photography tour! I am proud that we got as far as we did in just a few years, and we can now offer a realistic chance to connect with this elusive and enigmatic cat daytime!



Eurasian Lynx in Transylvania in February 2026

At the beginning I was hoping that I can see a Lynx every year and maybe even manage to photograph them. But as I spent more time to figure out their movements, I got to know them better and had several encounters with these special cats. The photography tour is not easy, and it is challenging at times as it can be an 'endless boring wait', it can be cold, it can be frustrating at times but as they say 'no pain, no game' and this is very true when you are looking for such an elusive creature! I must say I am privileged as in the last years I saw and photographed Eurasian Lynx every year and managed to share some of these special moments with our guests. One thing is for sure, you cannot give up and you must stay focused. If somebody decide to do such a specialized photography tour, they must be patient (above all) and never give up hope! Our tours are mainly a waiting game where I think we have the biggest chance for a Lynx to turn up. Of course, we combine it with tracking and sometimes we just need to go with the flow if there is some fresh information available. Every season I put a lot of work to get as many information as possible on the movements of the Lynx before the tour. The best time is when the males are most active in the breeding season. It seems the most active period is only about 2-3 weeks when we can realistically hope to meet with a Lynx daytime and of course late winter the weather is also an important role!



Bear (left) and Lynx (right) tracks in Transylvania in February 2026



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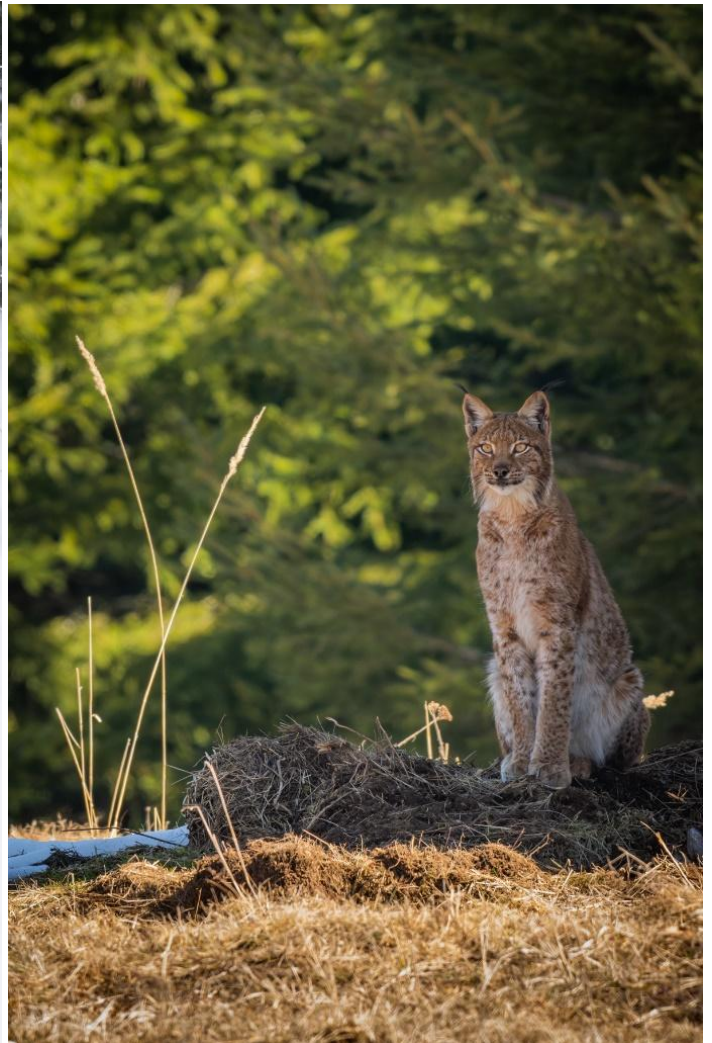
Brown Bear in Transylvania while waiting for Lynx (2026)



Ural Owl in Transylvania while tracking Lynx (2026)

This season was the best so far as I had managed to see Eurasian Lynx seven times in this relatively short mating period. All sightings daytime and on all occasions, we managed to photograph the Lynx as well. We have also witnessed some amazing behaviour like Lynx eating a fox carcass, and on one occasion could watch and photograph an individual for over an hour! One thing is for sure; TRANSYLVANIA is a great place for Eurasian Lynx and people should not forget this remarkable area! If you are tempted to look for the ghost with me, think about it twice, as it will not be easy. But those who up for the challenge I am looking forward sharing some special moments!

There are days when we don't see anything and I mean we see nothing. In some days it can be cold and other days it can be rainy or snowy. But if you are patient nature will reward you and we sometimes see Brown Bears or Western Roe Deers and of course some of the local birds too. Nature photography requires patience and quietness!



Eurasian Lynx in Transylvania in February and March 2026



Lynx habitat



It was a special encounter to see a Lynx eating a fox carcass

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Lynx marking its territory in February 2026

It also happens that we just hear a Lynx but you must enjoy every encounter! After days of silence and no sign of any cats it does increase your adrenalin level when a male Lynx start calling! Most importantly you know it is somewhere close by! There is always hope!

Occasionally unforeseen circumstances can happen just as it was in February 2026 when we heard a calling Lynx close by our hiding place and we started to track him down. Quickly finding his fresh kill but we had no sightings of the cat as a Brown Bear just took the kill immediately from him! He was calling in vain after losing his well-deserved roe deer prey.



The main prey item of Lynx in the Carpathian is the Western Roe Deer



You need a special luck to encounter Lynx in snow, but fresh snow is still possible in February!

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Every individual is different and there are some real 'spotted' ones, but also almost spotless males can occur!



A rather less marked individual staring into my lens in March 2026

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Lynx tracks in Transylvania



Occasionally we have luck with some birds too! Male White-backed Woodpecker



Lynx breath in March 2026

All in all, according to my experience Transylvania is amazing place to find, and with luck to photograph the Eurasian Lynx! If you interested to join me, please get in touch with our office as there may be some available places!

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sakertour.office@gmail.com



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