

In The Netherlands live seven species of martens. They are difficult to spot also due to nocturnal activity. But there is a way to see and photograph a lot of them. At night.

In a large forest in the north- eastern part of the Netherlands (a nature reserve called het Drents Friese Wold) there is a fabulous hide. Under strong LED lamps, Polecat and Stone marten are guaranteed, but often also Pine marten and Badger appear.

This a private hide, run by biologist Edo van Uchelen. He charges a fee for access – well worth it. Edo's hide overlooks a set in the forest: dead wood and water make this great for photography; you do not need a mega lens, that's for sure.

For example when visiting Amsterdam in the Netherlands it is easy to combine it with the hide which is based close to Vledder, only about 1,5 hours from Amsterdam by car or train. The luxury accommodation has real beds to stay overnight, a toilet and gives place for maximum 4 photographers. You even don't need a tripod as Edo has mounted tripod heads in the hide!

If you want to see / photograph martens, this is probably the best place in Europe to enjoy these wild and amazing animals close without the use of flashlight. The whole setting keeps disturbance to a very minimum.

I have visited the hide several times and saw Polecat, Stone marten, Pine marten and Badger. Often all these species appeared in the same night!

If you understand Dutch a little, you can have a look at the hide on Edo's website:

<https://www.wildernistrek.nl/fotohutten/hut/marterhut>

If you need more information please contact him at: info@wildernistrek.nl

Polecat



Pine marten



Stone marten



Badger

