

Empty Estonia

28th Feb – 4th Mar 2020



Introduction

A brief trip in the search of Lynx in Estonia organised through [Estonian Nature Tours](#) staying at the Jäägri Villa hotel which was very nice. It was a nice trip and I enjoyed it but no luck with the Lynx.

Diary

Friday 28th Feb

A disastrous day where I missed my flight to Tallin, I eventually got another via Warsaw (just!) arriving at 2am in temperatures of -10°C , I spent the night in hotel close to the airport.

Saturday 29th Feb

John and Mike picked me up late morning and we headed to our base in Albu. We met our guide and headed out for a drive into the forest. We found Lynx tracks but despite all our effort we only saw a fox during the night drive.

Sunday 1st March

An early morning drive we had a mountain hare and some roe deer.

We had a few hours to ourselves during the day and we took a local walk and drove to a few spots where we found a flock of waxwings. A walk in the local park had Grey headed, white backed and middle spotted woodpeckers.

The night drive had fox and roe deer.

Monday 2nd March

The morning drive had only roe deer and a couple of hazelhen of note. A lone common crane was seen on the way back near the hotel.

A walk round the park gave great views of middle spotted woodpecker and nuthatch and a flyover sparrowhawk. The evening drive had no mammals at all but we added black woodpecker to the list.

Tuesday 3rd March

The morning drive was very productive lots of roe deer, two foxes and two elk.

We drove in the thawing forest tracks a red squirrel and great grey shrike of note, and we had to push the car a few times in the slush and snow. A wander round the park got us willow tit and mealy redpoll.

Our last night was very productive we saw four foxes, mountain hare, roe deer and a racoon dog.

Wednesday 4th March

We headed back to Tallin and flew home without any issues.



Lists



Birds

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Siskin | Hooded Crow | Buzzard |
| Whooper Swan | Mallard | Great Tit |
| Raven | Grey Heron | Bullfinch (Northern) |
| Blue Tit | White Backed Woodpecker | Grey Headed Woodpecker |
| Middle Soptted Woodpecker | Great Spotted Woodpecker | Jay |
| Waxwing | Goldeneye | Jackdaw |
| Magpie | Feral Pigeon | Hazelhen |
| Common Crane | Kingfisher | Nuthatch |
| Sparrowhawk | Greenfinch | Black Woodpecker |
| Robin | Willow Tit | Mealy Redpoll |
| Great Grey Shrike | | |

Mammals

| | | |
|---------|---------------|-------------|
| Red Fox | Mountain Hare | Roe Deer |
| Elk | Red Squirrel | Raccoon Dog |



