How to get Nerpio

Nerpio is located in the southern corner of Albacete Province, in south-east Spain.

The closest main town is Murcia, which is one hour and a half by car.

From Murcia: Take the road C-415 towards Caravaca de la Cruz, then take the C-330 to Archivel. From Archivel take the MU-702, and pass El Sabinar before arriving at Nerpio.

From Albacete: You have to take the A-30 towards Murcia. Leave the motorway on the first exit to Hellín. From Hellín take the CM-412 towards Elche de la Sierra. When you get to the road A-13 turn towards Socovos. You have to pass this locality and turn on the first exit to Nerpio. When you get to Benizar, take the first exit to Nerpio. Now you are on the road MU-702, and before arriving at Nerpio you must pass El Sabinar.



Nerpio offers to you a wide variety of touristic accommodations where to rest and try the rich local gastronomy. You can visit impressive cave paintings which have been declared World Heritage by UNESCO. Regarding Birdwatching; birdwatching platforms and photographic hides, bird ringing stations and guided tours led by expert local guides. Nerpio spread its wings for you.



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Birdwatching in Nerpio

Nerpio is a small mountain town located in the "Sierra del Segura" mountain range. Seventy-five **per cent** of the municipality is integrated in the **Special Protection Area for Birds (SPA)** "Sierras de Alcaraz y Segura y Cañones del Segura y el Mundo".



The Bearded Vulture (Gypaetus barbatus) has been recently reintroduced in the area. To date, 14 of them have been released in to the nearby "Sierra de Cazorla" (Jaén-Andalucía).

The mountain habitats and rocky cliffs dominate the area, with rivers and mountain streams, and very well preserved forestry areas.



Nerpio is isolated from built-up urban areas and main roads. The main appeal for the birdwatcher is the birdwatching takes place in an almost unpopulated region of impressive landscapes.



Birds of Nerpio

Up to now a total of **181 bird species** have been recorded in Nerpio. All the typical mediterranean mountain bird species can be observed in Nerpio. A small Citril Finch (*Serinus citrinella*) breeding population has been recently discovered in the area.



In winter, big flocks of Citril Finches can be observed in open forestry areas.

Nerpio's very well preserved riverside groves and mountain shrub areas are a paradise for that habitat typical passerines.



Rock Bunting (Emberiza cia) photographed close to a rural cottage in Nerpio.

The Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) and Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) can commonly be seen around Mingarnao's Vultures Restaurant, only 3 km. away from Nerpio urban area. The Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron pernopterus*), Booted Eagle (*Hieraaetus pennatus*) and Short-toed Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*) also can be observed in Mingarnao.



Griffon Vulture (Gyps fulvus) flying over Mingarnao's Vultures Restaurant.