

RIVER THURSO, CAITHNESS

FISHING CONDITIONS & CONTACTS –2016



THE FISHINGS

There are twelve beats, with two rods on each, moving downstream by two beats each day, allowing both Upper and Lower water to be fished in one week. The beats provide a wonderful variety of fishing and whilst much of the river has a fine running character, some beats, particularly lower 3, as well as sections of 6, 7 and 12 are long and deep. These pools are invaluable for the conservation of fish stocks in hot, dry weather conditions and with a good wind to ruffle the water, they can be very productive. The beats vary in length from just under one mile to three and a quarter miles, each having a variety of pools. (see www.thursoriver.co.uk for detailed beat and pool descriptions.)

ROD CATCHES FOR BEATS 2 – 13 (SEASON 11 JANUARY – 5 OCTOBER)

Beat	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	5 yr av
Jan	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	11	4	3	2	8	10	3	1	5	0	4
Mar	34	9	36	30	39	30	14	18	8	25	19
Apr	104	19	68	35	108	47	62	41	32	39	44
May	112	33	77	109	186	246	115	222	84	186	171
June	63	108	166	84	202	217	316	128	90	292	209
July	36	327	108	303	324	190	557	66	53	448	263
Aug	518	565	104	397	1,026	761	535	126	464	479	473
Sept	307	369	308	508	986	642	559	308	171	299	396
Oct	118	93	119	118	143	66	108	38	15	23	50
Total	1,305	1,530	989	1,586	3,022	2,210	2,269	948	922	1,791	1,628

- Fishing is by fair fly only, with a maximum of 2 rods per beat and fishing with bait, prawn, worm, spinner, spoon or any other lure is expressly forbidden. Fishing is from both banks and breast waders are not necessary.
- It is a prerequisite of fishing on the River Thurso that anglers sign and deliver **GYRODACTYLUS SALARIS DECLARATION FORMS to the Fishery Manager (Tim Hawes) upon arrival on their first day at the River and before they commence fishing. Anglers who have not signed and delivered the Declaration will not be permitted to fish.**
- Salmon Conservation – anglers are reminded that under the Salmon Conservation (Scotland) Act 2001, it is illegal to sell salmon and sea trout caught by rod and line. In accordance with the Scottish Government’s statutory catch and release regulations, all salmon caught prior to 1st April must be returned to the River. From 1st April until 19th of June any fish incapable of being safely returned (ie bleeders) must be handed to either the Fishery Manager (Tim Hawes) or the Senior Ghillie (Geordie Doull) on the day the fish is removed from the River. From 20th June until 5th October, anglers fishing for a week may retain up to two fish, provided they do not exceed 8lbs in weight or 70cm in length. Treble hooks are not to be used at any time during the season and from 1st September until the end of the season (5th October) all hooks must be barbless.
- Trout fishing can be arranged through either Tim Hawes or Hugo Ross.
- Ghillies – from week 11 until 23 the services of a ghillie is provided within the Fishing Rents. From week 24 until week 39 if a ghillie is required, there is a charge of £60/day and this can be organised through Tim Hawes.
- Accommodation - a discounted fishing and hotel package is available for guests who stay at the Ulbster Arms Hotel during their fishing holiday. The package consists of 7 nights hotel bed and breakfast, 5 nights restaurant dinner, 6 days packed lunch and 6 days salmon fishing. For further details on package rates, please contact the Ulbster Arms Hotel.
- Contact: **Tim Hawes (Fishery Manager)**, phone: 01955 661325, e: tim@ulbsterarmshotel.co.uk
Ulbster Arms Hotel, Bridge Street, Halkirk, Caithness, KW12 6XY,
phone: 01847 831641, e:fishing@ulbsterarmshotel.co.uk web: www.ulbsterarmshotel.co.uk
Hugo Ross Fishing Tackle, Wick, phone: 01955 604200, web: www.hugoross.co.uk

FISHING RENTS – 2016 SEASON

Rent/Rod/Week (incl VAT), from weeks 11 to 23 a ghillie is included within the fishing charge, weeks 24 to 39 does not include a ghillie charge. All prices below exclude Ulbster Arms Hotel charges.

Week 1	11 Jan	to	16 Jan	POA	Week 20	23 May	to	28 May	£1,260
Week 2	18 Jan	to	23 Jan	POA	Week 21	30 May	to	4 Jun	£1,260
Week 3	25 Jan	to	30 Jan	POA	Week 22	6 Jun	to	11 Jun	£1,125
Week 4	1 Feb	to	6 Feb	POA	Week 23	13 Jun	to	18 Jun	£1,100
Week 5	8 Feb	to	13 Feb	POA	Week 24	20 Jun	to	25 Jun	£950
Week 6	15 Feb	to	20 Feb	POA	Week 25	27 Jun	to	2 Jul	£950
Week 7	22 Feb	to	27 Feb	POA	Week 26	4 Jul	to	9 Jul	£1,000
Week 8	29 Feb	to	5 Mar	POA	Week 27	11 Jul	to	16 Jul	£1,100
Week 9	7 Mar	to	12 Mar	POA	Week 28	18 Jul	to	23 Jul	£1,300
Week 10	14 Mar	to	19 Mar	POA	Week 29	25 Jul	to	30 Jul	£1,300
Week 11	21 Mar	to	26 Mar	£250	Week 30	1 Aug	to	6 Aug	£1,300
Week 12	28 Mar	to	2 Apr	£250	Week 31	8 Aug	to	13 Aug	£1,300
Week 13	4 Apr	to	9 Apr	£350	Week 32	15 Aug	to	20 Aug	£1,300
Week 14	11 Apr	to	16 Apr	£550	Week 33	22 Aug	to	27 Aug	£1,300
Week 15	18 Apr	to	23 Apr	£650	Week 34	29 Aug	to	3 Sep	£1,200
Week 16	25 Apr	to	30 Apr	£825	Week 35	5 Sep	to	10 Sep	£1,200
Week 17	2 May	to	7 May	£975	Week 36	12 Sep	to	17 Sep	£1,150
Week 18	9 May	to	14 May	£1,100	Week 37	19 Sep	to	24 Sep	£1,100
Week 19	16 May	to	21 May	£1,175	Week 38	26 Sep	to	1 Oct	£1,000
					Week 39	3 Oct	to	5 Oct	£500