

Fishing Licences in Victoria

A licence is required for all recreational fishing in Victorian waters, a Victorian Recreational Fishing Regulations Guide will be provided with your licence. Please take particular note of size limits and closed seasons on particular species of fish; failure to comply with these regulations may result in a fine being imposed by Fisheries Victoria.

YOU WILL NOT NEED A LICENCE TO FISH IF YOU ARE:

Under 18 YEARS OF AGE

70 years of age or over

The holder of a Victorian Seniors Card, Veterans Affairs pension Card, Veteran Affairs Health Card coded TPI or Commonwealth Pensioner concession Card coded DSP, DSP blind, AGE.

Fishing Licences can be obtained from the following outlets, or over the internet at www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing

Apollo Bay Sports Store – Ph: 5237 6434

Apollo Bay Surf'n'Fish – Ph: 5237 6426

Fishing Spots in Apollo Bay and Surrounds

APOLLO BAY HARBOUR

With a safe and convenient dual boat ramp open boat fishing is extremely popular; seek advice locally regarding sea conditions including reef areas and safety considerations. Inside the harbour free line fish for Silver Trevally and Mackerel and at times schools of Trevally will pass through. The local fishermen can be very helpful in regards to what types of rigs to use.

BARHAM RIVER

Throughout the whole river there is a chance of catching Trout; methods include wet fly and bait fishing. Recommended baits – shrimp, crickets and worms. Within the tidal reaches species include Bream, estuary Perch and Mullet. Ideal baits – sand worms, peeled prawns and sea or river shrimp.

WILD DOG BEACH

This beach is usually good for surf fishing species including Salmon and Silver Trevally late in the evening. Artificial blue bait and squid used with a Number 1-1/0 hook with bait on the second rig. Suggested baits: - white or small blue bait.

MARENGO

At Marengo only off beach fishing is allowed due to the establishment of a Marine Sanctuary (see Park Note “Marengo Reefs marine Sanctuary”). In this area use the same fishing methods as per Wild Dog Beach. Rock fishing at the west end of the beach can produce Garfish, Sweep, Snapper and King George Whiting.

PETTICOAT CREEK

Good fishing off the beach for King George Whiting; the South side of beach just prior to low tide being ideal for Snapper. Fish only with calm seas on low tide. Pippies are popular for bait.

SKENES CREEK

Popular fishing spot for King George Whiting – see fishing details for Petticoat Creek.

CAPE PATTON & SMYTHES CREEK

This region is ideal for rock fishing and has several sandy bottomed areas good for flathead and Sand Whiting. Fishing details as per Wye and Kennett River.

KENNETT RIVER AND GREY RIVER

Fish the estuary regions for Mullet and Bream or try rock fishing in the Grey River area. Species include Silver Trevally, Snapper, Salmon and Whiting. It is advisable to fish moderate or calm seas and the best fishing times are usually evening and night. Popular baits – squid, white bait, blue bait and pippies.

CAPE OTWAY/ CRAYFISH BAY

Ideal for rock fishing and sandy bay fishing. Using a paternoster rig, squid pippies or bluebait for bait should yield Trevally, Sweep, Rass, King George whiting. Fish 1hr either side of high tide or dusk or dawn for best results.

BERLEY: Berley is often used to attract fish to an area, mainly rock or surf fishing. Sometimes berley is cast out in a pot or tossed out by hand. Great berley recipe consists of, 1 tin of cat food, 4 cups chook pellets 2 cups bran or breadcrumbs & 1 capful of tuna oil mixed together.

WYE RIVER

A popular fishing area within 400m on the south side of the Wye River Store – species include: King George Whiting, Salmon and Snapper. Fishing on the falling tide is ideal for Whiting and Snapper; fish for Garfish on the rising tide. The estuary section of Wye River is particularly good for Mullet and Bream fishing. Ideal bait for Mullet and Garfish is peeled prawns – use small portions of flesh on number 10-8 hooks.

AIRE RIVER AND HORDERN VALE

An excellent river for Brown Trout fishing - use fishing methods as per Barham River; other species include Bream and Mullet. Access to the beach via 4WD track or 15 min walk, this beach is great for Salmon and Gummy Shark fishing.

JOHANNA BEACH

A long surf beach Johanna is Ideal for Salmon and Gummy Shark fishing with vehicle access from either the Red or Blue Johanna roads.

PRINCETOWN

Fishing in the Gellibrand River can produce Bream, Perch, Mullet and Brown Trout. The best baits to use are shrimp, worms or small yabbies. Due to Marine National Parks and Sanctuary laws (see Park Notes “Twelve Apostles Marine National Parks & the Arches Marine Sanctuary”) anglers should avoid open boat fishing, there is a good surf beach at the mouth of the river here you can fish for Gummy Sharks and Salmon.

PETERBOROUGH

Surf fishing off the beach is good for species such as Salmon, Whiting, Trevally and Mullet. The Curdies River produces species including Bream, Salmon, Mullet and Perch; use baits such as shrimp, yabbies or local minnows.

WEST BARWON DAM

Located near Forrest, fishing is allowed from the dam wall with boating, wading & swimming restrictions in place. Access to the rest of the lake is limited due to steep terrain & thick bush. A good population of wild & fisheries stocked trout, with a small population of redfin and of course plenty of eels. Good baits include live minnow, mud-eye and lures.

LOVES CREEK – GELLIBRAND

The Gellibrand River winds through this district with a healthy population of wild trout, blackfish and eels. Limited access due to private property river frontage.

BARWON RIVER

The Barwon River can be accessed from the Birregurra or Winchelsea townships via private property; permission must be sought to use private property. Species targeted in this river include Brown Trout, Black Fish, redbfin and Eels. The best method for Trout is to drift unweighted baits such as crickets, mud-eye or worms or casting lures like cleats, Jenson insects or small minnows. Other species can be taken using a small running sinker rig and bait such as worms, wood grubs or mud-eye. The best time to fish for Black Fish and Eels is from late afternoon until well after dark.

CARLISLE & GELLIBRAND RIVER AREAS

Access is limited to the Carlisle and Gellibrand Rivers from the bridges above and in the Carlisle River Township, though the best access to rivers is through private property; permission must be sought before entering these areas. Species in these Rivers include Brown Trout, Black Fish and Eels; see Barwon River for fishing methods.

LAKE PURRUMBETE & LAKE BULLEN MERRI

The Eastern side of the Lake Purrumbete provides the only access by foot and has only one access point for boats at the southern end of the lake, near the Purrumbete Caravan Park. Lake Bullen Merri has plenty of beach access with a road that rims the crater for more than half of the shoreline. As for boat ramps there are two to be found, the first at the northern end or town end of the lake and the second at the southern end of the lake. Fishing methods are similar for both lakes either trolling or flicking lures, fly fishing and bait casting, species include Brown & rainbow Trout, Atlantic Salmon (Bullen Merri only) Chinook Salmon, Slimy Eels, Australian Bass (Bullen Merri only) and Redfin (Purrumbete only). Please note that these Lakes are not suitable for wading as they have severe drop offs so care should be taken at all times .

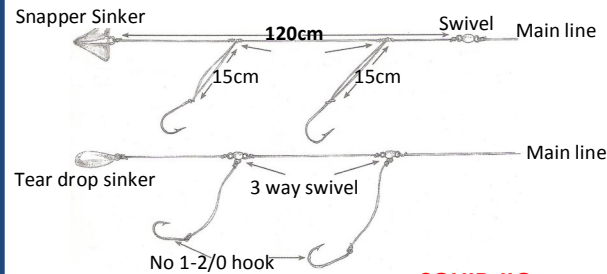


Suggested rigs to help your fishing experience

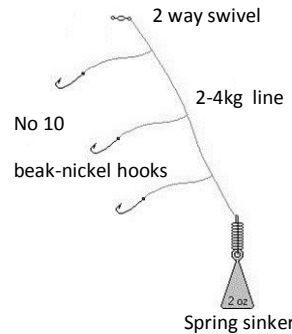
BREAM RIG



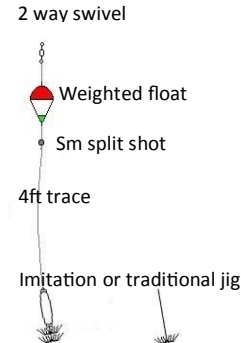
PATERNOSTER RIGS



MULLET RIG



SQUID JIG



PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLEAN UP PLASTIC BAGS, HOOKS AND LINES ETC, WHICH CAN BE DEADLY TO MARINE AND BIRDLIFE.

Apollo Bay Fishing & Adventure Tours – Assorted Tour Options Ph 03 5237 7888

Port Campbell Boat Charters – Scenic Tours, diving, snorkeling, fishing tours Ph 03 5598 6411 , M 0428 986 366

www.visitapollobay.com  www.visitotways.com

Great Ocean Road Visitor Information Centre
100 Great Ocean Rd, APOLLO BAY 3233 | Ph: 1300 689 297 (OTWAYS)
Colac Visitor Information Centre
Cnr Murray & Queen St, COLAC 3250 | Ph: 1300 689 297 (OTWAYS)

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FISHING GUIDE

Apollo Bay & Otways



A guide to Fishing in Apollo Bay & the Otways

There are many excellent fishing opportunities available in the Otway region. Both the ocean and rivers around the Otways abound with various fish for both recreational and commercial fishing. The commercial fleet moors in the Apollo Bay harbour and includes a permanent crayfish fleet. The crayfish season opens in mid-November through to 31 August. Fresh fish and crayfish are available from the Fisherman's Co-op, Nelson St Apollo Bay. Bait and equipment is available from many outlets in the region including most service stations and sports/fishing stores.

The Victorian Government has created a system of 13 Marine National Parks and 11 smaller Marine Sanctuaries. These parks and sanctuaries protect 5.3% of Victoria's coastal waters, safeguarding important marine habitats and species, significant natural features, cultural heritage and aesthetic values. Please phone Parks Victoria for further information on 13 19 63 or check out their website www.parkweb.vic.gov.au/1park_marine.cfm

Please note: Fishing regulation can change.

For general enquires phone the DSE/DPI information number 13 61 86 or check out the Dept. of Primary Industries website www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing To report Fisheries offences phone 13 FISH, 13 34 74. Colac has recreational river and lake fishing only.

Warning: Rock fishing along the coast can be dangerous. In a big swell freak or rogue waves can be frequent. It is wise to seek advice from someone who is familiar with the local conditions.

