

ANGLING INFORMATION

AT WOODMILL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES CENTRE

Thank you for booking angling in the Salmon Pool at Woodmill Outdoor Activities Centre. Whether this is your first visit, or you are a regular visitor, we hope this information pack will enable you to plan and manage your visit so it's comfortable, exciting and as safe as possible.

Further details can be found on our website (www.woodmill.co.uk) or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to phone us on 0300 0200 135 or email us at info@woodmill.co.uk.

HOW YOUR BOOKING WORKS

- 1) Our fishing bookings open at 00:01 on the 1st January each calendar year.
- 2) Book online through our booking portal Eloa.
Night fishing
<https://eola.co/w/752/activities/salmon-pool-night-fishing>

Day fishing
<https://eola.co/w/752/activities/salmon-pool-day-fishing>
- 3) Once you've received your confirmation via email, this will act as your fishing permit. Please have access to this whilst you are fishing the pool.

YOUR VISIT

Your booking entitles you to exclusive use of the Salmon Pool for fishing up to three rods.

Woodmill is a busy Outdoor Activities Centre and you can expect customers to come and go between 7am to 10pm. During the summer Woodmill is used by schools and groups who camp on the main field. Party leaders are made aware that fishing happens on site.

The disabled toilet within Stoneham Lodge is left open for use during your visit. If a camping group are staying on the main field, we politely ask you to stick to the main path and avoid making noise when using the toilet or accessing your vehicles.

Woodmill is a non smoking site. **Please ensure all litter is removed when you leave.**

ISSUES

THE RIVER ITCHEN

The river Itchen meanders gracefully from its source in upper Hampshire, through Winchester to its completion in Southampton water and is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the Habitats Directive with Atlantic Salmon as a listed species. As such this special place needs treating with special care and attention.

WOODMILL

The Woodmill salmon pool is an idyllic and secluded fishing venue where the tidal and non-tidal stretches of the river Itchen meet and dates back more than 1,000 years. Woodmill offer two types of angling booking:

ARRIVAL AND PARKING

The centre address is:

Woodmill Outdoor Activities Centre
Woodmill Lane
Swaythling
Southampton
SO18 2JR

Upon arrival, you can park near to the Salmon Pool entrance. During event days, the Active Nation team may ask you move your vehicle.

You will be issued with a gate code to the Salmon Pool which you will need to keep confidential.

In the event of an emergency your first course of action should be to contact the emergency services (999). Please do not put yourself in a dangerous situation and do not enter the water.

The following number is the Woodmill fishing bailiff number (Dean) 07769 683375. This number is only to be contacted in the event of an emergency. Please do not ring this number for any non-emergency issues as staff do not live on site and will be unable to help you

You will assist Active Nation in protecting the fish stock from poaching and inappropriate fishing by notifying the Environment Agency Action Line (24 hours) and Active Nation (during normal officer hours) of any suspicious incident or suspected unauthorised or inappropriate use of the Salmon Pool. Further to that and where reasonably possible you will assist in any investigation or prosecution arising from such suspicious incident.

ENFORCEMENT & RESTRICTIONS

Each individual angler is required to obtain a valid Rod License during the period of the hire.

Our Active Nation team conduct spot inspections throughout the year to ensure anglers are fishing in harmony with our rules, have the necessary permits and licenses and are conducting themselves in a suitable manner.

In addition, bailiffs for the Environment Agency are granted open access to conduct their own inspections and anyone found behaving outside of the rules will be reported immediately.

You are asked to co-operate with our team and Environment Agency Bailiffs and anyone refusing to cooperate or found to be in breach of our rules will be asked to leave and will not be entitled any refund. Any breach of our rules could result in a lifetime ban.

CATCH RETURNS



SEA TROUT

HOW TO REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING

Spotted something that doesn't look right? Help us to stop those damaging our sport. If you see any fishing, netting or trapping you think is illegal, please don't tackle it yourself.

CALL THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY ACTION LINE ON 0800 80 70 60 AND TELL THEM:

1. Exactly where the alleged offence is, the National Grid Reference for Woodmill Pool is SU 43962 15248.
2. What's happening.
3. How many people are involved and a description of them.
4. The registration numbers of any vehicles.

INFORMATION ON ROD LICENSE:

Any angler aged 12 or over, fishing for salmon, trout, freshwater fish or eels in England (except the River Tweed), Wales, or the Border Esk and its tributaries in Scotland, **MUST** have a valid Environment Agency rod license.

Rod licenses are available from the Post Office, online at <https://www.gov.uk/fishing-licences/> and over the telephone on 0344 800 5386.

If you fish without a rod license you are cheating other anglers. It is an offence to fish for freshwater and migratory fish without a valid rod license. If you are caught you may be fined up to £2,500.



SALMON
(BREEDING)

Rod licence holders are legally required to make a catch return for salmon and sea trout.

To help monitor the impact of fishing at Woodmill we require you to complete a catch return form which has been supplied. Please make sure this data matches your national catch return.

If available please fill out your catch return by either scanning the QR code in the hut or emailing your return to info@woodmill.co.uk

TEMPERATURE PROTOCOL

In line with guidance from the Environment Agency, we operate a water temperature protocol designed to protect migratory fish species being removed in high temperature periods of the year.

Active Nation will monitor water temperatures and if they exceed 19 degrees by 9am or 20 degrees at any time, we will implement a 24 hour fishing suspension.

Should we need to suspend fishing we will contact you 24 hours in advance of your booking and you will be offered an alternative date or a refund.

CATCH AND RELEASE

Active Nation operates a mandatory catch and release policy in order to conserve fish stocks and you are required to immediately release any salmon, trout, bass or eels caught back to the river.

FISHING RULES

Our fishing rules are based on the latest guidance and the [Environment Agency's South East Region bylaws](#). Anyone failing to comply with these byelaws could face prosecution and receive a significant fine. You are required to ensure all individuals comply with the following;

Applies to all fishers

- No more than three anglers can fish at the same time during the period of the hire and no angler shall use more than one rod at a time.
- All fishers must not use any device intended to hook a fish automatically.
- All fish must be returned immediately without delay.
- All foul-hooked and "unclean" fish shall be immediately returned to the water without delay.
- All fishers must not use any form of lead weight attached to a fishing line other than those of 0.06grams, or less (commonly called dust shot No. 8), or of more than 28.35 grams (heavier than 1 oz). 'Lead weight' does not include lead incorporated into a weighted line, swim-feeder or fishing fly or lure
- Any net must be a fine mesh design.
- No flying C's are permitted.

Salmon fishing rules

- You will only fish for salmon with fly, lure and only using a single barbless hook.
- The use of worm, bread, live bait or dead bait shall not be permitted.
- When fishing for salmon before 16 June, you may only use artificial fly or artificial lure.
- Woodmill is adopting the EA advice on avoiding fishing for salmon in temperatures above 20 degrees, to reduce catch and release mortality in hot weather.

Sea trout fishing rules

- When fishing for sea trout in June July and August only fly shall be used on a single barbless hook. When fishing for Sea Trout in September and October only fly or spinner may be used and must be used on one barbless hook.

GUIDANCE ON CATCH & RELEASE

#keepemwet

Tackle advice

Single barbless hooks cause much less damage than doubles and trebles, which are not permitted.

There's less risk of damage with smaller hooks (size 6 or smaller with a maximum gape of 8 millimetres is what is recommended).

Always use as strong a leader material as possible. This will ensure the fish can be brought to the net quickly and safely.

Planning

Before fishing a pool, always identify where a fish can be safely landed without risk of damage on rocks or stones. If fishing alone, take a net.

Have long-nosed forceps or a similar tool close to hand for prompt hook removal. If you want a photo of your salmon before release, have your camera ready, as example, on a neck lanyard.

Playing fish

Fish should be played quickly and as firmly as possible so that they can be released before becoming too exhausted.

Landing fish

Landing does not mean the fish needs to come into contact with land. The best way to maximise survival of fish is to keep them wet.

Never lift your salmon from the water by its tail, or gill cover. Fish should be kept in the water if at all possible. Avoid taking them onto the bank or dragging them over stones or gravel.

Use a soft, knotless net with small mesh size and rectangular shape with a shallow, wide bottom to allow the fish to lie flat. Knotless mesh is a legal requirement.

Unhooking

Do not kill a fish simply because it is bleeding. A fish returned will stand some chance of recovery, compared to zero chance for one removed from the fishery.

Fish should be allowed to recover and returned in steady clean water. Recovery may take some time.

If fish are deep-hooked, particularly in the gills or oesophagus, it may not be possible to remove the hook – snip the line close to the hook. This will cause less harm to the fish than removing it.

Recording your catch

Only lift the fish from the water for the minimum time necessary. Fish exposed to air for more than 20 seconds, will increase the risk of mortality

- Photography - When photographing a fish, keep it in the water, or the head and gills in the water and support the fish gently under the belly and loosely hold the wrist of the tail.

BOOKING TERMS AND CONDITION

It's great news that you have chosen to make a fishing booking at Woodmill Outdoor Activities Centre. Before you start, there are a few guidelines listed below which will help to ensure your booking runs smoothly. Please read through these carefully and if there are any elements you would like to discuss please let us know.

Your booking

- Your application to hire the Salmon Pool is only confirmed once you have received confirmation in writing and you have been issued with your permit to fish.
- No part of the Salmon Pool is to be used for any purpose other than the purpose of hiring.
- No part of the Salmon Pool is to be used for any unlawful purpose or in any unlawful way.
- No animal is to be brought into the Salmon Pool or allowed to enter the Salmon Pool without the consent of Active Nation.
- Permission for filming or photography must be obtained in writing prior to a booking or event.
- All areas shall be left in the state they were found prior to the booking. If any additional cleaning, waste removal or repairs are necessary beyond our normal procedures these may be charged and must be payable within 14 days.
- The hirer shall keep all noise levels to an acceptable standard. Hirer's should take every reasonable means to reduce the noise level if asked by a member of the Active Nation team.
- No portable electrical appliances are to be used on site without prior agreement from Active Nation. Any such appliance must have been inspected beforehand in accordance with current Institution of Electrical Engineers Regulations and bear a dated sticker, or other endorsement to that effect.
- Active Nation may remove and store any property left by the hirer after the termination of the booking. If after receiving notice, the hirer fails to collect the property within 30 days, Active Nation may dispose of the property without further notice to the hirer.

Other things you may need to know

- Active Nation reserves the right for duly authorised employees of Active Nation to enter the Salmon Pool at any time for any authorised purpose.

Insurance by the hirer

- Active Nation accepts no responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, property or injury, illness or death, on its premises unless caused by its own negligence.
- The hirer shall at its own expense take out third party liability insurance with an insurance company to cover loss of or damage to property injury or death of any person caused by the Hirer's negligence during the Hire Period.

Payments and fees changes, cancellations, transfers and refunds

- The hirer is responsible for payment and any other charges related to the hire of the Salmon pool. Payment must be made within the time specified on the invoice which will be prior to the booking commencement period.
- The hirer shall not sub-let the right to use the Salmon Pool or sell tickets to an event without the written consent of Active Nation.
- Active Nation reserves the right to review its pricing at any time.
- The hirer will be liable for any additional expenses incurred by Active Nation if a booking over-runs its allotted timeframe.
- Active Nation reserve the right to refuse or cancel any booking.
- Active Nation can add to, change, withdraw, cancel facilities, bookings or events without notice based on the grounds of safety, maintenance or special circumstances.
- Active Nation will not be responsible for any losses incurred by the hirer due to the cancellation of an booking.
- 30 days' notice must be given if you wish to cancel a booking. After this time no refund will be given.
- Any application for refunds must be made in writing to Active Nation, stating the details of the refund requested.
- By exception, if the period of hire has commenced and if the hirer has deemed that levels of weed within the first hour of hire, or by no later than 11.30pm for night fishing, to be excessive and preventing fishing from taking place the hirer may contact the Fishing bailiff and request a cancellation. An Active Nation officer will attend the site and inspect the conditions and reach a decision with the hirer on suitability of the conditions.

Breach of Conditions

- The Hirer will be responsible for ensuring that the conditions of hire are complied with, by all persons using the Salmon Pool arising out of or in consequence of hiring. In the event of the Hirer breaching any of the conditions of hire, Active Nation may, at their discretion, cancel the booking and all future bookings. The hirer shall remain liable for all charges, including cancelled future bookings.
- If the hirer fails to observe and perform any of these conditions Active Nation will contact the Environment Agency and inform them of the breach to local bylaws.

Safety, rules and responsibilities

- In the event of an accident and/or injury, the hirer will at once alert an Active Nation member of staff.
- During the period of the hire the hirer is responsible for:
 - the efficient supervision of the Salmon Pool including (without prejudice):
 - the effective control of persons connected with the hire.
 - the orderly and safe admission and departure of persons to and from the Salmon Pool.
 - the orderly and safe vacation of the Salmon Pool in case of emergency;
 - the safety of the Salmon Pool, within the scope of the activity for which the pool is hired.
 - ensuring that all doors and gates giving egress from the Salmon Pool are left unfastened and unobstructed and immediately available for exit.
 - ensuring that there is no lighting of fires in the Salmon Pool.
 - ensuring all cars are parked in the main car park or legally elsewhere and no cars are driven into the Salmon Pool.
 - Environment Agency Byelaws to be strictly observed at all times.
 - The Hirer shall ensure no-one using the Salmon Pool during the period of the hire: is using, in possession of or under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol. is breaching the Active Nation's no smoking policy. is engaging in any aggressive, abusive or irresponsible behaviour or any behaviour likely to affect the safety, well-being or comfort of any User or Active Nation staff.

Complaints

- Any complaint arising out of the period of the hire will be dealt with according to Active Nation's complaint procedure.
- This agreement shall be governed and construed according to the laws of England and Wales and the parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.