Fishing Rules and Permits - Gällivare Municipality 2026

Welcome to the highlands of Norrbotten County!

The mountain region in Norrbotten County is vast and situated above the so called 'cultivation limit'.

In total, the region covers almost 55 000 km2 – an area slightly larger than Denmark! Many different types of habitats can be found in the area, e.g. high-altitude landscapes with glaciers, wind-swept tundra, extensive wetlands, and birch forests with a surprisingly rich flora. In Norrbotten County, you will also find the highest mountain in Sweden, Kebnekaise, and the deepest lake, Hornavan, along with the last remnants of continuous and pristine, coniferous forests in the country.

Many of the largest national parks in Sweden belong to Norrbotten County. This is also where you will find Laponia; the UNESCO World Heritage Site, preserved for its high environmental and cultural values. Extensive areas are encompassed by Laponia, and it is utilized by nine different Sámi villages. Within the boundaries of the world heritage site, you will also find four national parks and two nature reserves.

Recreational fishing in the highlands of Norrbotten County

The mountain region in Norrbotten County encompasses more than 20 000 lakes. It is also crossed by many streams and rivers of different characters that together cover thousands of kilometers.

The region has much to offer all types of recreational anglers. There are excellent opportunities to enjoy spin fishing, fly fishing, ice fishing, and trolling etc.

Most anglers target arctic char, brown trout, and grayling, but in some highland locations it is even possible to catch salmon. At lower altitudes, perch, pike, and whitefish present further challenges, and offer great opportunities for sport fishermen.

Most rivers that flow into the Baltic Sea have been exploited for hydroelectricity, but in Norrbotten County large and free-flowing rivers still remain. In fact, this is the only place in Sweden where salmon migrate and spawn in mountainous regions.

Recreational fishing in Gällivare Municipality

In the upper parts of the Kaitum River, and its associated lakes, there are excellent opportunities to catch grayling, trout, arctic char, and whitefish. Downstream it is also possible to catch salmon.

Gällivare Municipality has much to offer, e.g. the Kaitum River and its renowned fishing camp Tjuonajokk.

Another place in Gällivare Municipality, known for regular encounters with big grayling, is Tuvvajaure.

Many lakes with strong populations of arctic char are situated in the western parts. Even hydroelectric power dams, such as the Suorva reservoir, have become popular and easily accessible fishing destinations.

Gällivare Municipality currently holds the Swedish national record for inland trout. The record specimen weighed 17 kilograms.

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Länsstyrelsen Norrbotten

Sustainable fishing in highland environments

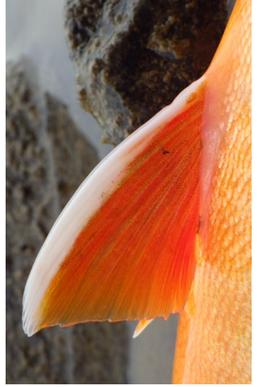
In highland environments it is important to fish sustainably to ensure the persistence of viable populations and natural habitats. Highland habitats are particularly vulnerable since damaged soils and plants recover very slowly. Arctic waters are often poor in nutrients, and fish growth is temperature dependent.

This means that the recuperation of harvested populations is restricted to relatively short summer seasons. For that reason, you should not keep more fish than you can consume in one day, and release all excess fish.

Highland environments are also inhabited by semi-domestic reindeers. Reindeers are sensitive animals, so please observe that fishing is prohibited if it interferes with reindeer husbandry in the area.

Please remember to:

- Collect your garbage. Trash left in highland habitats will decompose very slowly. In fact, in some places it will never disappear.
- Be careful around reindeers. If you meet a reindeer, stand still and let it pass.
- Minimize your effect on local fish populations by releasing excess fish alive.

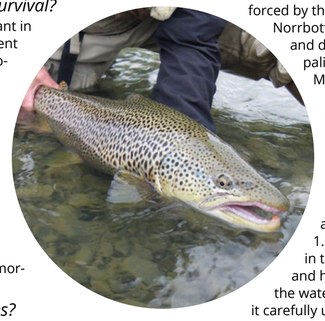


How to release fish

For catch-and-release practices to be meaningful it is important to handle hooked fish carefully so that they are not injured.

What factors determine fish survival?

Two factors are particularly important in terms of fish survival: hook placement and water temperature. Deeply hooked fish might bleed to death when released. The same goes for fish with hooks in their gills and eyes. It is also important to keep fights short, and to land fish as quickly as possible, especially when water temperatures are high. Otherwise lactic acid levels will build up in their muscle tissue. High levels of lactic acid have been linked to mortality in many fish species, and drawn-out fights might also cause mortality at lower water temperatures.



How do I minimize fish injuries?

Use the appropriate fishing gear. Avoid live baits such as worms and shrimps etc. Live baits often cause deeper injuries than artificial lures, and this will cause higher mortality levels. Streams and rivers provide important nursery grounds for juvenile fish, and live baits are particularly inappropriate in such environments. For that reason, live baits have been banned in all streams and rivers in every highland municipality of Norrbotten County. Please observe that the prohibition is enforced even if your intent is to release all specimens below the minimum size limit.

To summarize, please remember to:

- Fight fish as quickly as possible to prevent lactic acid build-up and higher mortality rates.
- Use the appropriate gear (rods, reel, and line) for the size of the fish you are targeting. Unnecessarily light equipment will prolong the fight and increase the risk of fatal injury.

Please respect local restrictions at all time. In general, you are allowed to keep five salmonids (brown trout and/or grayling) per angler and day.

However, remember that the so called 'bag limits' define upper limits, i.e. the maximum number of fish that you may kill and keep per angler and day. In some state-owned waters, additional and site-specific restrictions are enforced by the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten. Local restrictions are outlined and described in maps for each municipality (this brochure covers Gällivare Municipality).

Permits presented in this brochure are intended for recreational fishing. So called house hold and subsistence fishermen must apply for alternative permits.

Revival and Release

Here are a few things to think about when unhooking your catch:

1. If possible, try to keep your catch in the water during hook removal and handling. To release your catch in the water, hold onto the hook and rotate it carefully until the weight of the fish can be used to free it.

2.I f your catch cannot be unhooked without handling, make sure that your hands are wet before you touch the fish. By handling your catch carefully you will avoid injuries to its mucus layer and prevent infections. Avoid squeezing the fish over its abdomen and do not touch its gills.

3. If your catch is alive but turns upside down and floats to the surface, try to help it orientate itself and position its head towards the current. By oxygenating it you will help it break down lactic acid within its muscle tissue so that it can make a faster recovery. When the fish shows signs of wanting to break free, let it go. However, do not release it in the main current. A calmer location will be better suited given that most fish require additional time to recover.

4. If your catch is bleeding and shows little signs of recovery it should be kept and accounted for, i.e. become part of your bag limit.

Fishing rules

General fishing rules, above the cultivation limit, in state-owned waters managed by the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten:

- A fishing permit is required and can be purchased either online (www.natureit.se) or from local retailers (listed below).
- Permit holders are allowed to use one fishing rod (line equipped with three hooks maximum) per angler. Other rules are enforced in trolling lakes (see map). Please note that the fishing license does not give the right to fish with pole hooks and similar gear. Examples of such tools are ice fishing rods that are not under direct supervision and pike shears.
- There's a daily limit on the number of salmonid fish you can keep. Catch limit (trout and grayling): 5 fish in total, e.g. 2 trout and 3 grayling.
- If you want to keep your catch, salmonid fish must be of a certain size (minimum length): grayling (0.35 m), trout (0.35 m), and salmon (0.5 m). Captured fish are measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail.
- There are additional restrictions in three rivers, i.e. Kalixälven, Linaälven, and Kaitumälven. In these waters anglers are only allowed to keep one trout per day with a minimum length of 0.35 m and a maximum length of 0.45 m (FIFS 2004:37). Grayling fishing is also forbidden from the 15th of April until 10th of June (FIFS 2004:37).
- It is forbidden to use live bait (worms, insect larvae, crustaceans, fish etc.) in streams and rivers. If there are exceptions it is stated in your fishing permit. These rules have been enforced to protect juvenile salmonids (grayling, trout, and salmon).
- To ensure the sustainability of fish populations, trout fishing is not allowed in streams and rivers during spawning, i.e. from the 1st of September until the 31st of December. If you catch a trout by accident you must release it even if it is within the size limits or injured.
- It is forbidden to confine fish or to restrict their movements in order to keep them alive until consumption or until bigger fish are caught.
- It is forbidden to sell captured fish.
- In two rivers, i.e. Kalixälven and Kaitumälven, you are not allowed to kill female salmon. All females must be released because of their disproportionate effects on the reproductive success of salmon populations. Salmon fishing is forbidden from the 1st of September until the 31st of December.
- Grayling fishing is forbidden between the 10th of May and the 10th of June in three municipalities; Arjeplog, Jokkmokk, and Gällivare, and between the 15th of May and 15th of June in Kiruna municipality. Restrictions are enforced to protect the grayling during spawning. If you catch a grayling by accident during this period you must release it even if it is within the size limits or injured.
- Fishing is not allowed from boats in the Kaitum River, i.e. Kaitumälven.
- To protect fish populations from overexploitation, ice fishing is forbidden in all rivers apart from Piteälven, Kalixälven, and Torneälven. Ice fishing is also prohibited in streams and lake-like (wide and slow-flowing) segments of rivers other than Piteälven, Kalixälven, and Torneälven. Wide and slow-flowing sections are considered 'lake-like' when the maximum width equals <200 m and the length equals <1 km.

Please remember that you are responsible for making informed decisions. Before you go fishing make sure that you understand all local rules and restrictions. Additional restrictions can be enforced by the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten.

Regulatory framework (relevant laws and regulations):

Fiskelagen (1993:787), förordning (1994:1716) om fisket, vattenbruket och fiskerinäringen, Fiskeriverkets föreskrifter (FIFS 2004:37).

Local stores that sell fishing permits

Abisko Turiststation STF AB	Abisko	0980-402 00
Godisfabriken	Abisko	0980-400 50
Bäverholmens Wärdshus & Stugby	Adolfström	070-635 92 65
Johansson Fjällstugor	Adolfström	0961-230 40
Adolfström Camping	Adolfström	070-236 75 10
Adolfström Fjällgård	Adolfström	0961-230 41
Arjeplogs turistbyrå	Arjeplog	0961-145 20
Nya GK:s Fiske	Arjeplog	070-511 16 81
Heli i Arjeplog/Miekak Fiskecamp	Arjeplog	0961-612 40
OKQ8 Norrbotten	Arjeplog	0961-102 35
OKQ8 Norrbotten	Arvidsjaur	0960-65 45 40
Camp Gauto	Gautosjö	0961-280 30
Gällivare turistcenter	Gällivare	0970-81 81 00
Jaktia Gällivare	Gällivare	0970-699 200
Jokkmokks Jakt & Fiske	Jokkmokk	0971-122 00
Turistinformationen i Jokkmokk	Jokkmokk	0971-222 50
Ica Nära	Jäckvik	0961-210 50
Karesuando Bensin	Karesuando	0981-200 78
Arctic Heli	Kiruna	070-381 11 62
Jaktia/Outdoorshoppen i Norr AB	Kiruna	0980-202 00
Kallax Flyg/Kiruna Flyg AB	Kiruna	0980-202 50
Kiruna Lappland Ek. för.	Kiruna	0980-188 80
OKQ8 Norrbotten	Kiruna	0980-123 05
Vildmarkshörnan AB	Kiruna	0980-822 15
STF Kvikkjokk Fjällstation	Kvikkjokk	0971-210 22
Br. Sundström AB	Laisvall	070-691 73 73
Wildmarks & Fiskeshopen	Luleå	0920-100 52
Fritid & Vildmarksliv i Norr AB	Piteå	0911-342 03
AB Fiskflyg	Porjus	0973-400 32
STF Ritsem	Ritsem	0973-420 30
Lainiovuoma Jakt & Fiske	Bara Råstojaurekortet	0981-230 63
Sandvikens Fjällgård AB	Sandviken	070-694 06 70
Livs nära dig	Skaulo	0970-500 66
Naturum Laponia	Stora Sjöfallet	0971-555 00
Tjuonajokk Vildmarkscamp AB	Tjuonajokk	0970-136 30
Tjärnbergs stugby	Tjärnberg	0961-615 35
Vuoggatjålme Frans Helamb	Vuoggatjålme	0961-107 15
AB Gårdings Järnaffär	Älvsbyn	0929-557 50
Blinds Bensin & Kiosk	Övre Soppero	0981-300 42

Purchase your fishing permit online

Fishing permits are now available at **www.natureit.se**

Fishing permits and costs

• 1 day: 70 SEK • 3 days: 125 SEK • 7 days: 220 SEK
• 1 year: 440 SEK + 125 SEK per family member

Children under 16 are not required to buy a fishing permit.

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FISHING MAP

Gällivare municipality above the cultivation limit
Fishing rules 2026

Map legend

- Girjas Sami Village - Permits administered by the County Administrative Board are not valid.
- Recreational fishing allowed all year.
- Recreational fishing allowed during two time periods: Jan 1-May 2 and Jun 1-Dec 31.
- Site-specific fishing restrictions (see supplementary info next to map).
- Limited number of fishing permits available (see supplementary info next to map).
- Private property – Permits administered by the County Administrative Board are not valid. Local permits are sometimes sold by the owners
- Fishing forbidden.
- National park/Nature reserve – fishing forbidden.
- (T) Trolling allowed. Number of fishing rods per person: max. 3. Number of baits/lures per fishing rod: max. 1. Number of fishing rods per boat: max. 6. Bag limit: 3 salmonids (grayling, trout or arctic char) per angler and day. Trolling with downriggers, planer boards, side planers, diving planes, and paravanes is only allowed in Stora Lulevatten. In Stora Lulevatten, you are only allowed to kill and keep trout if their adipose fin has been removed.

Skala 1:400 000
0 5 10 20 km
1 cm = 4 km

Site-specific fishing restrictions

1. Fishing is only allowed from the southern shore of the Taivek Rapids, i.e. Taivekströmmarna. Special fishing permit required. Information and special fishing permits are provided by Tjuonajokk Fishing Camp, free of charge
2. The Tuvva Lakes, i.e. Tuvvasjöarna. Bag-limit: 2 graylings per angler and day, but only 1 grayling is allowed to exceed 0.45 m.
3. The Porjus and Pilto Creek, i.e. Porjus- and Piltobäcken. Live baits are allowed. No size limits.
4. Saltoluokta to Pielnenjarka. Fishing is not allowed from boats.
5. Aluokta. Fishing is not allowed from boats.
6. Boat engines must be turned off during fishing.
7. Boat engines must be turned off during fishing.

Fishing forbidden

1. Autajaure to Suorkejaure.
2. Stora Sjöfallet National Park.
3. Sjaunja Nature Reserve. Observe that fishing is allowed in the Tuvva Lakes, i.e. Tuvvasjöarna, and in the Sjaunja River, i.e. Sjaunjaälven, from Riteljaure.
4. Sårkåjaure
5. Kalajaure.

Recreational fishing in nature reserves

Many streams, rivers, and lakes belong to nature reserves in Norrbotten County. In Sweden, nature reserves are open to the public, and recreational fishing is often allowed, but not at the expense of viable fish populations and their habitats. To learn more about nature protection in Norrbotten County, please visit our website: www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrbotten
Tourist Information Centres will also be able to provide brochures with extensive information.

Limited number of fishing permits available

The County Administrative Board of Norrbotten will sometimes administer special permits to allow limited fishing in restricted areas. This year there are three such areas in Gällivare Municipality:

1. The Kaitum River from Lieteksavo to the confluence with Tertojåkkå. Fishing is only allowed from the southern shore.
2. Svartijåkkå from Skuokejaure to Sårkåjaure.
3. Suorkejåkkå between Suorkejaure and Teusajaure.

To apply for a permit please contact the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten before March 30.
Address: Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, SE-971 86 Luleå, Sweden
+46 (0) 10 225 50 00
norrbotten@lansstyrelsen.se
www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrbotten

Camping

In Sweden, camping rules are generous in accordance with the Right of Public Access. Camps comprised of more than three tents, however, are advised to seek permission from the landowners before staying in an area for more than two nights. The rules have been enforced to prevent local sanitation problems and damage to the vegetation. Fishing camps might also deter and obstruct other visitors with reserved fishing rights.

For more information about the Right of Public Access please visit the following website:
https://www.naturvardsverket.se/en/topics/the-right-of-public-access/#E409713778

Help us save the Arctic fox! Do not leave food or waste from fishing and hunting in the mountains – it will attract the problematic red fox. For more info visit: fellesfjellrev.se