

Angling in Assynt A Guide for Visitors

www.assyntanglinginfo.org.uk

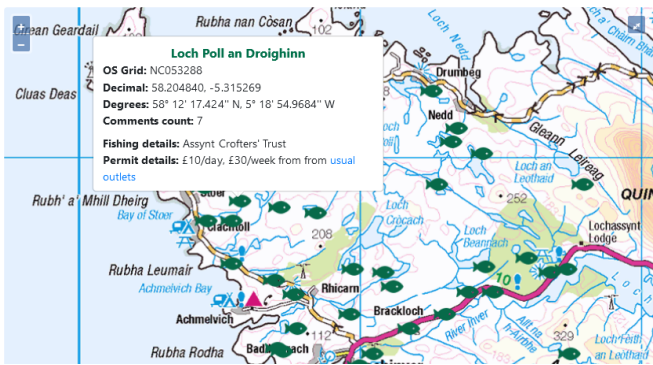


Information on Game, Sea and Salmon Fishing

FULLY UPDATED May 2022

Produced by Adam Brown, Substance

substance.



Anonymous said
 update you with our opening hours. We are now open from 9am...

Float tube
 2 months ago
 Anonymous said
 Hi, can anyone tell me if you can use float tubes on Loch Culaig

September fishing in Assynt
 2 months ago
 Anonymous said
 "...am I wasting my time fishing in September in Assynt?" or words to that effect. There are people who go fishing and...

Interactive maps not working

Introduction An Angler's Paradise

This leaflet provides you with the basic information about where to fish, where to find out more information and where to buy permits, hire boats and buy tackle in Assynt.

Assynt is a goldmine for anglers and there is something for everyone – beginner, experienced, trout, salmon or sea fishing. There is fishing that you will need to climb a mountain to access and fishing you can jump out of your car to do. You can catch everything from small beauties to much larger wild brown trout, haul in some mackerel or pollack or try for the elusive king of fish, salmon.

All of this information and more is also available at:

www.assyantanglinginfo.org.uk

This booklet and the website updated thanks to support from **Assynt Angling Group** and **Assynt Development Trust** for which we are extremely grateful.

Assynt Angling Information

This booklet was originally produced by research company Substance, as part of a research project on Angling in Assynt 2009-12.

The booklet has been updated in May 2022 alongside work to update the Assynt Angling Information website. The original work was funded by the Big Lottery Fund and run by Substance.

The purpose of the original research was to identify ways in which angling can be of benefit to local communities.

The website and this booklet has continued to be a source of easily accessible information for visitors over the last 10 years. Ultimately it seeks to benefit the area of Assynt by encouraging more people to engage in fishing and stay in the area. Details of how angling benefits rural areas like Assynt can be found in the research reports on the website alongside:

- An **interactive map** of places to fish.
- Information about **permits**.
- Links to local **organisations**.
- **Comments** from visiting anglers.

www.assyantanglinginformation.org.uk

Contribute !

Go to www.assyantanglinginformation.org.uk and provide comments, ask advice or report what you caught about your fishing for other visitors.



Wild Brown Trout Fishing in Assynt

There is an abundance of trout angling available in Assynt of a huge variety, suiting all angling and physical abilities. It is genuinely a treasure trove for anglers.

There are over 300 lochs in the area, ranging from small, remote mountain corries to large roadside lochs. This can be a bit daunting for uninitiated but you can find out a lot more information on the Assynt Angling Information website which has plotted over 80 of these, with full details, location, comments and feedback from anglers.

Go to: www.assyntanglinginfo.org.uk

Trout can vary greatly from loch to loch – in size, pattern and colour. Although you will find that most trout are in the 2-or-3-to-the-pound range, many lochs have larger (some much larger) fish – it is just that they are harder to catch! There are also both ferox and char in some of the larger lochs.

The wild nature of the fish mean that they are very hard fighting – often putting in an effort equivalent to twice their weight, which can produce extremely exciting angling, especially on light tackle.

The best trout angling period is from late May to July, although good fishing can be had at other times and the season stretches from March 15th-October 5th. The area is fly fishing only, although some spinning is allowed on a 4 mile stretch of bank on Loch Assynt.

Permits

Most wild brown trout fishing is provided by two different organisations covering a different area of Assynt:

- **Assynt Crofters Trust:** North Assynt estate
- **Assynt Angling Group :** south, west and east of Assynt.

All the up to date permit information is on the website.

The Lagg Fishery also has fishing for both stocked rainbow and brown trout and wild brown trout fishing.

<https://www.facebook.com/www.laggtroutfishery.co.uk/>

Assynt Angling Group

The Assynt Angling Group is a collection of local landowners who have put all their trout fishing together under one umbrella. This includes the Assynt Foundation, Culaig Community Woodland Trust, Assynt Angling Club and Assynt Estate waters.

The AAG area stretches from Ardroe just north of Lochinver, east past Loch Assynt to the limestone hills behind Inchnadamph and south to include Lochs Cam, Veyatie and Fionn. It includes some fabulous fishing of an enormous variety: huge lochs such as Assynt and Veyatie, limestone corrie lochs and small, remote hill lochans.

Zones

The AAG fishing is split into 3 'zones' - East, South and West – although you can buy a 'roving' weekly or season permit to cover the whole area.

Permits

Permits are extremely good value given the quality of fishing available:

- Day: £7.50 for a Single Zone only
- Weekly: £40 Roving, All Zones
- Season (Bank only): £75 (All Zones)
- Season(Bank and Boat): £150 (All Zones)

Permit sellers for AAG waters are:

- **Mackays Hardware**, Culaig Sq, Lochinver, IV27 4JR.
Tel: 01571 844 442.
Email: david@lochilverchandlery.co.uk
- **Kylesku Hotel**, Kylesku, IV27 4HW.
Tel: 01971 502231.
email: info@kyleskuhotel.co.uk

Boats

Boats are available on 20 lochs. They can be booked in advance for Sundays-Thursdays or the day before for Friday and Saturdays.

Cam Loch	Loch Bad na Murichinn
Fionn Loch	Loch Bad nan Aighean (grilse loch)
Loch a Choin (The Dog Loch)	Loch Beannach
Loch a Ghlinnean	Loch Culaig (The School Loch)
Loch Ailsh	Loch Druim Suardalain (The Glen Loch)
Loch an Arbhair	Loch Feith an Leothaid
Loch an Leothaid	Loch Leitir Easidh
Loch an Ruighean	Loch na h-Innse Fraoich
Loch Assynt	
Loch Awe	
Loch Bad an Sluic	
Loch Lurgainn	

Boat permits are only available from Mackays Hardware, Lochinver. Mackays is usually closed on Saturday afternoon and Sunday so keys for boats on Sundays should be collected on Saturday mornings.

Boat Costs:

- £15 per day
- Loch Assynt with outboard £40pd
- Loch Fionn with outboard £30pd
- Cam Loch optional engine £15pd.

Contact

Mackays Hardware 01571 844 442.

Trout Fishing in Assynt written by expert local angler, Cathel Macleod. A hugely informative guide to 30 of the AAG's lochs.

Available from Inverbank Newsagents, Lochinver
simp.assynt@gmail.com
£10.

All proceeds support local angling provision.



Assynt Crofters' Trust

The Assynt Crofters Trust made history in 1993 when they won the right to buy the land that they worked. The North Assynt estate stretches from Achmelvich in the south west to Nedd on Assynt's northern coast and includes hundreds of lochs and lochans. In some places there is almost more water than land so pitted with lochans is the landscape. It is a real trout angler's paradise.

Permits

The sale of permits are an important source of income for the Trust and they are very reasonably priced:

- Day - £10
- Week - £30
- Season - £45

Permits are available from:

- ACT Office, Stoer (Mon-Fri 9am-2pm)
- Drumbeg Stores
- Clachtoll Beach Campsite
- Flossie's Clachtoll
- Mackays Hardware, Lochinver
- Lochinver Landscapes, Lochinver

Boats

There are boats on 9 lochs and boat tickets are available from the ACT Office, Stoer (01571 855 298) priced £15.

Loch a'Braighe

Loch an Tuirc

Loch Crocach

Loch Cul Fraioch

Loch Drumbeg

Loch Leathed a'Bhaile Fhoghair (Lexy's Loch)

The Manse Loch

Loch Poll

Gorm Loch Mor



Contact

Assynt Crofters Trust:

www.assyncrofters.co.uk

01571 855298

admin@assyncrofters.co.uk



Which permit do I need?

The map shows which permit you need for which area. To see a more detailed, online version of this map which you can zoom in, go to www.assynt.anglinginfo.org.uk



Salmon and Sea Trout Fishing

Salmon and sea trout fishing is available on rivers as well as several lochs in the area.

Rivers Inver and Kirkaig

Assynt has two of Scotland's most renowned spate rivers in the Inver and the Kirkaig. Easily accessible, they are available to all anglers on a day permit basis. The fishing is owned by the Assynt Estate but is run by CKD Galbraiths' sporting lets department.

River Inver

The River Inver flows from Loch Assynt to Lochinver. There are five beats each of 2 rods.

Prices vary according to which beat and what time of year you are fishing. Contact Galbraiths' for more information.

River Kirkaig

The River Kirkaig lies in a gorge to the south of Lochinver with a series of rocky pools and runs.

Prices vary according to which beat and what time of year you are fishing. Contact Galbraiths' for more information.

Fishing is fly only, using single or double hooks.

Booking

To book, please contact CKD Galbraith Sporting Lets department:

- Email: sporting@ckdgalbraith.co.uk
- Tel: +44 (0)1738 451600

Loch Fishing

A number of lochs also contain runs of salmon and sea trout and are available from the Assynt Angling Group and the Assynt Crofters Trust.

Assynt Angling Group

5 of the Assynt Angling Group lochs have runs of salmon and sea trout. These are:

- Loch Assynt
- Loch Ailsh
- Loch Awe
- Loch Culag
- Loch Druim Suardalain

These can be fished for on the same permits as for trout fishing.

Assynt Crofters Trust

The Assynt Crofters Trust has two lochs that get runs of sea trout, both on the Manse system, namely the Manse Loch and Loch an Tuirc. These are available on normal permits as described in the trout fishing section. Boats are available and advisable on both lochs.



River Kirkaig, Lower Beat



Other Information

Accessible Angling

Although some fishing in Assynt is strictly for the very fit, there are some very good opportunities for the less fit, less able and if you just fancy something more relaxing.

All Abilities Path

The Culag Community Woodland Trust have built an All Abilities Path at the Little Assynt Estate, leaving from the Leitir Easaidh Car Park near Loch Assynt Lodge (NC 174264). This not only allows you to access the estate where there is a shelter, toilet, and pier, but also fishing on the lochs on it.

- At Loch Leitir Easaidh, the specially adapted boat has an adjustable seat at its centre.
- The boat at Loch Innse Fraoich has the seat at the stern.
- Both boats are accessible via the all abilities path. Disabled fishers have priority over other anglers in using these boats so please mention this when booking the boats.

Loch Drumbeg

The Assynt Crofters Trust has a Wheely Boat for wheelchair anglers on Loch Dumbeg. Contact the ACT for more details.



There are also a number of lochs that are easier to access than others. These include roadside lochs: Loch Drumbeg, Loch An Aigeil, Loch Assynt, Loch Awe and Cam Loch.

Tuition and Guiding

Assynt Fly Fishing is run by local expert Stewart Yates. He offers guiding, tuition and even angling safaris into the hills of Assynt for people of all abilities/experience. Contact Stewart on:

Tel: 01571 844094 or 07876 236462

<https://assyn-flyfishing.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/assyn-flyfishing/>



Fish Responsibly

The fish stocks in Assynt are wild and as such care must be taken to ensure the area's sustainability. Although there are many lochs teeming with trout, others are more sensitive and anglers must be responsible. A local code of conduct is:

- No fish taken if under 9 inches in length – this is a rule of the ACT and AAG.
- Whilst people often take 'one for the table' only do this where there are plentiful stocks, do not take more fish than you need and do not take larger fish. Our survey work suggests over 90% of trout caught are returned.
- Return all larger trout with care, ideally not removing them from the water. Practice catch and release at remoter, hill lochs and especially those where breeding will be harder.

Tackle

There are two main outlets for fishing tackle.

- Mackays Hardware in Culag Sq, Lochinver has an excellent selection of fishing flies for both trout and salmon fishing at very reasonable prices. It also stocks other tackle for both sea and freshwater fishing.
- Inverbank Newsagents, Lochinver also sells a range of tackle for all kinds of fishing.

Tourist Information

There is now no tourist information centre in Lochinver (nearest is Ullapool). However, the Discover Assynt website has lots of information.

Rangers Service Guided Walks

The High Life, Highland Countryside Rangers Service put on Guided Walks for visitors throughout the season.

<https://www.discoverassynt.co.uk/ranger-guided-walks>

Assynt Tourism and Community

Discover Assynt has stacks of visitor information:

www.discoverassynt.co.uk

Assynt Foundation
www.assyntfoundation.org

Culag Community Woodland Trust
www.culagwoods.org.uk

Historic Assynt
www.historicassynt.co.uk

Assynt Leisure Centre
www.assyntleisure.org

John Muir Trust
www.jmt.org/cuineag-quinag-estate.asp

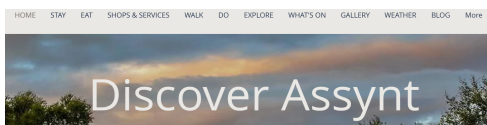
Inverbank Newsagents: <https://www.facebook.com/Inverbank/>

Drumbeg Stores
www.drumbegstores.co.uk

North West Sea Kayaking
www.norwestseakayaking.com

More local links are provided on our website

www.assyntanglinginfo.org.uk/links



Assynt Angling Information Website

The Assynt Angling Information Website has unique interactive maps of freshwater and sea angling in Assynt that:

- Provide information on dozens of lochs as well as rivers and sea fishing.
- Give up to date information on where to fish, which permit to buy and how to buy them.
- Allow anglers to feed back information and comments.
- Allow anglers to send us details of lochs and sea fishing locations.

It also has lots of **historical information**, such as old angling records, film footage from the 1950s, and angling literature about Assynt dating back to the 19th century.

You can also read all the Research Reports from the original research project.

Comment and Contribute!

Please leave comments about your visit to Assynt, your fishing experience and ask and get advice from others.

www.assynt.anglingresearch.org.uk

Assynt Angling Information

substance.

[Overview](#) [Places to Fish](#) [Freshwater Fishing](#) [Sea Fishing](#) [Links](#) [Historical](#) [Comments](#) [Contact](#)

All you need to know about fishing in Assynt







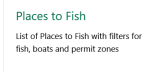

Contact

Adam Brown, Substance

Tel: 0161 244 5457

Email: adam.brown@substance.net

Web: www.substance.net

 <p>Interactive Map of Lochs Interactive map with angling information on loads of lochs</p>	 <p>Places to Fish List of Places to Fish with filters for fish, boats and permit zones</p>	 <p>Post a Comment Let other anglers know how you got on</p>
 <p>Angling in Assynt A Guide for Visitors www.assynt.anglingresearch.org.uk</p>	 <p>Which Permit? Access a map showing which permit you should have</p>	 <p>Sea Fishing Find places to fish and boat trips</p>

