

SPORT FISHING IN ÅLAND

The Åland archipelago offers great conditions for anglers and sport fishermen all year round. Read about the valid regulations in Åland, get information about the fishing licenses and catch our best tips on fishing-friendly accommodations and local fishing guides who will lift your fishing experience on Åland to a higher level.

Åland archipelago is a varied seascape with many islands and skerries, fine sea bays and long coastlines with short distances between the inner and outer archipelago. In the waters surrounding Åland there are all kinds of fish, from pike, perch, pike-perch and whitefish to sea trout and salmon – this is why sport fishermen enjoy Åland!

Before your fishing trip to Åland, it is useful to get acquainted with valid regulations for reel fishing and angling.

The fishing grounds in Åland are partly privately owned by individuals and companies and partly community owned by villages or groups of fishing ground owners. Additionally there are public, province owned waters that stretch 12 nautical miles outside the village's borders and the province of Åland's private waters.

The water owner's permission or a fishing license is required for sport fishing on privately or community owned waters and in the province of Åland's public and private waters.

There is no common fishing license that covers all of Åland, but there are 56 fishing license areas and 16 areas owned by the province. The fishing license is valid for spin fishing, ice fishing or angling in its respective areas.

Thanks to the short distances in Åland, you don't have to buy a license only for the area that is nearest your accommodation. Instead, you may buy several different licenses and thereby get access to several areas and choose to fish where you think the fishing is best for the day.

When sport fishing in Åland, a recommendation is using the catch & release technique. The basic rule is to not take home more fish than you intend to eat. If the fish doesn't reach minimum landing size you are obligated to release it.

In some cases the bait is hooked in a way that makes it impossible to remove it without seriously injuring the fish. In that case you should kill the fish as soon as possible.

It is important to have the right equipment for Catch & Release fishing. Most simple and humane is the use of barbless hooks. Always bring a pair of pliers, hook releaser or forceps, scale and a camera, in case you catch your dream fish.

In Åland the fisheries management is considered as the prerequisite of good sport fishing experiences. Fishermen in Åland appreciate vital and sound fish populations and the fish's natural propagation is supported by many different projects. At the same time millions of fish fry are released out in the sea every year– almost two million fish fry in

total from pike, sea trout, whitefish and salmon. The replenishment of fish stock is partially financed by revenues from the fishing licenses.

Note: From April 15- June 15, sport fishing from the shore is forbidden to protect breeding seabirds.

MINIMUM LANDING SIZES

Perch 20 cm, max. 10 perches per day per person (Fish under 20 cm must be put back in the water as you can't use it as food)

Bream 42 cm

Pike 55-80 cm, 1 pike per day per person

Pikeperch 40-60 cm, 1 pikeperch per day per person

Sea trout 50 cm, 1 sea trout per day per person

Salmon 60 cm

Whitefish 35 cm

GENERAL RULES FOR SPORT FISHING IN ÅLAND

- Avoid damaging nature or the environment.
- Get acquainted with valid regulations about restricted dates, protected areas, minimum landing sizes and the delicate nature. Respect the rules.
- Never fish without permission or a fishing licence for sport fishing.
- Use methods and equipment that improve the fish's chances for survival if/when it is released.
- Immediately kill caught fish that you intend to keep.
- Never catch more fish than you intend to use.



FISHING AT FÖGLÖ

To be able to fish on Föglö, you who do not own water yourself need to buy a fishing license for the area you want to fish in. The fishing licenses are sold at the tourist information, at the cottage owners and at fishing team representatives. You can also buy your fishing license at kalakortti.com. There are four fishing teams on Föglö that sell fishing licenses for their areas, you can see the allowed areas / cards on the map below.

Unfortunately, there are currently very few places to fish from land on Föglö. Almost all fishing license areas require that you have a boat to fish from.

If you want to fish from land, you can do so at the municipality's pier next to the Degerösund bridge, and at the landscape bridge down by the ferry in Degerby. If you want to fish from a boat, but do not have one of your own, we recommend that you contact a fishing guide!

Fishing guide at Föglö:

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