



River Nore Angling Guide

River Nore – Trout fishing

The River Nore is one the 'Three Sisters' (Rivers Barrow, Nore & Suir) which drain south eastern Ireland and come to a common estuary in the city of Waterford. The source of the Nore is in the Devil's Bit mountain north of Templemore in Co. Tipperary which, according to legend, got its name when the Devil took a bite from the mountain. But, the legend continues, he bit off more than he could chew and broke his tooth, which he then spat out to form the famous landmark: the Rock of Cashel. From its source, the Nore meanders for 140km through rich pasture land in counties Tipperary, Laois and Kilkenny before joining the River Barrow near the town of New Ross.

Anglers visiting the area will be delighted to discover that the Nore holds excellent stocks of wild brown trout. The river contains a very high density of small brown trout (12 - 25 cm), and these are complemented by good stocks of medium-sized fish (up to 35 cm) as well as an occasional large trout (>35cm). The Nore has a number of tributaries along its route, including the King's River, Erkina, Dinan and the Goul, all of which are limestone based and well worth fishing in their own right.

Trout fishing on the River Nore is mainly accessed via the various Angling Clubs/Associations along its course and details of these are listed on the following pages. Fishing is normally restricted to fly fishing only, but spinning may also be accommodated on some stretches. Catch & Release is practised and encouraged by many of the clubs/associations on the River Nore and its tributaries.

Anglers fishing the Nore will find that it is a varied watercourse, with lots of wadeable runs and riffles, interspersed with deeper, slower flowing flats that are more easily fished from the bank. The runs are generally shallow and fast-flowing due to the steep gradient of the river, and these are the prime areas for fly anglers to concentrate. Wading is usually easy on good ground, but as always, caution is required as large boulders and deep holes are a feature in places. Access along the banks is generally good, but some stretches have dense vegetation and can become overgrown, especially in summer. Banks can also be high in places, so anglers should check out entry and exit points before fishing.

At the start of the season, wet fly, nymph and streamer fishing are the most productive methods, but as the weather starts to warm up, particularly from June onwards, the dry fly comes into its own. Some of the most popular patterns used by fly anglers on the Nore include Olive nymphs, Partridge and Orange & other spider patterns and a selection of Hare's Ears tied on size 14 hooks. Early in the year, there can be a hatch of Light Olives and Iron Blue Duns. From May onwards the Nore has a very small and sporadic hatch of Mayfly (*Ephemera danica*) in some areas and the trout will readily take a Mayfly spinner/spent gnat. Later in May and on into June, as the temperature rises, anglers can change over to Pale



Waterys, Blue Winged Olives (BWO), Ginger Quills, the Greenwell's Glory and Hare's Ear in smaller sizes of 16 and 18.

As the season progresses, sedge (caddis) hatches in the late evening often find the trout gulping down these meaty mouthfuls as the sun is setting, and this is often when the fishing is at its most exciting. Sedge patterns including Brown, Cinnamon and Silver Sedges and their emergers will all work well, and should be tied in sizes 10 and 12 to start with the size dropping to 12's and 14's later on in the season. Anglers should also carry a good supply of small black gnats for fishing during the day. Terrestrials such as the hawthorn fly are readily taken by trout in the early part of the season, and daddy long legs, beetles and other terrestrials can produce fish in the late season.

We all need to fish sustainably, so that our fisheries can be enjoyed by future generations. Please practice **Catch & Release** for the majority of the fish you catch. When moving between fisheries, always make sure to **Check**, **Clean** and **Dry** your equipment, to help stop the spread of invasive species. For more information see: <https://www.fisheriesireland.ie/what-we-do/research/research-theme-biosecurity>



Wild Brown Trout Fishing on the River Nore

Inistioge Anglers' Association

Permits & Info:	O'Donnell's Public House, Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny.
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Inistioge Anglers' Association controls approximately 2km of trout fishing on the Nore around Inistioge in County Kilkenny. This part of the river is affected by the tide and is regarded as good salmon and sea trout water.

Upstream of Inistioge the river holds large stocks of wild brown trout. The river is wide in this area and has all of the fast-flowing runs, riffles and pools interspersed with slower glides which are a feature of the Nore. The size of trout generally ranges from 12 - 25cm, but larger trout up to 35cm are reasonably common.

The trout fishing season runs from April 1st to September 30th on these waters. Please check locally for the most up to date information. Day permits are available locally.

Thomastown Anglers' Association

Club Contacts:	Tom Moylan and Tess Moylan, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
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Website:	https://thomastownfishing.wordpress.com/
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Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/Thomastown-Anglers-Association-113472832039998/
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Permits & Info:	Thomastown Anglers' Club (see above)
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	Simon Tracey Hardware, Market Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
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	Bridge Brook Arms, Mill Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
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	A PLUS, Marshes Street, Mill Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
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	Peter Driver, Woolengrange, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
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	Tel: +353 87 9787040, Email: piscarify@gmail.com
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	Web: piscari-fly.com
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The Thomastown Anglers' Association controls approximately 10km of both bank fishing. The waters are bordered upstream by Mount Juliet Fishing Club and downstream by Kilkenny Angling Club. The club provides a map covering the extent of the fishery along with the main access points. There are some private fisheries in the area, and signs indicating the club's fishery limits are provided by the club on its waters.

There is excellent wild brown trout fishing in the vicinity of Thomastown and the river here holds large stocks of trout in the 15 - 25cm bracket, with plenty of fish up to 35cm. Larger trout up to 50cm are also present, and there is always the

possibility of hooking into one of these magnificent fish. One of the largest trout recorded on the river some years ago weighed around 3.6kg (8lb).

There are nice combinations of run, riffle and pool as well as deeper slow-flowing glides, all of which are readily fishable. The club hosts a number of competitions annually including the Thomastown Anglers' Association Competition. In the 2019 event, 1,026 trout were caught and released by fly anglers.

Further details on the fishery can be obtained from the club and from the permit retail outlets. Guiding services and tuition are also available locally.

Mount Juliet Estate Fishery and Fishing Club

Fishery Manager:	Dan O'Neill, Mount Juliet Estate, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
Telephone:	+353 85 7652751
Email:	doneill@mountjuliet.ie
Website:	https://www.mountjuliet.ie/fishing-on-the-estate.html

The Mount Juliet Estate Fishery is one of the utmost beauty, located in a picturesque setting with fabulous scenery that acts as a magnificent backdrop for anglers. The fishery is set on a large estate, which offers private fishing on 4km of the middle to lower reaches of the Nore. In addition to fishing for guests, annual membership and day permits are available.

Wild brown trout fishing on the estate is quite spectacular and has to be experienced to understand its true quality. The river is unspoiled, and a unique approach has been taken to the bank maintenance, balancing easy access for anglers with good levels of cover for trout along its numerous runs. The clear waters of the Nore add something special and magical to the fishing experience, and according to fishery records, the trout catch is between 3,000 and 4,000 fish a year. Catch and Release is practised at this fishery.

There is a dedicated fishing room on-site in the Manor House for the anglers' convenience with storage and drying facilities. Both casting tuition and guiding services are available for trout anglers of all levels and Mount Juliet Estate can also provide all of the necessary fishing equipment as required. For further information or to make a booking, please contact the fishery manager.

Bennettsbridge Angling Club

Club	John Brady, Bennettsbridge Co. Kilkenny.
Contacts:	Tel: +353 86 1636936 Email: johnjbrady54@gmail.com
Permits:	P.J. Cullens, Centra Shop, Chapel Street, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny, R95 YC81 Tel: +353 56 7727533

Approximately 6.5km of good quality wild brown trout angling is controlled by the Bennettsbridge Angling Club on the part of the Nore mid-way between Thomastown and Kilkenny. The club has fishing upstream of Bennettsbridge from near Ballyredan Weir to Bennettsbridge and downstream for around 5km. There is some very good wild brown trout fishing on the fishery, but some parts of the banks are overgrown, more so in summer, and access to the fishing can be difficult. Once in the river, the fishing is productive, but be warned getting in and out can be somewhat of a challenge. It is a good idea to check out entry and exit points before starting to fish. Permits and information regarding the fishing and extent of the club waters are available locally.

Kilkenny Anglers' Association

Club Contacts:	Christy Young, Kilkenny Anglers, Committee Member, Tel: +353 87 1328775
	Patrick Dunne, Secretary, Kilkenny Anglers' Association, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 87 9822911 Email: paddunn52@gmail.com
	Tom Hoynes, Chairman, Kilkenny Anglers' Association, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 86 2510181
	Luke Boyle, Kilkenny, Tel: +353 86 3477331
Permits & Info:	Club House Hotel, Patricks St., Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 56 7721944
	John Carrigan, Kilkenny Sports Shop, 82 High Street, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 56 7721517 Mobile +353 86 8116517

The Kilkenny Anglers' Association controls about 24km of fishing broken into seven separate stretches, both upstream and downstream of Kilkenny. They have water around Brownsbarn Bridge, two sections below Kilkenny in the Maddockstown area, and three further sections located upstream of Kilkenny. Day permits and memberships are available. Details as to the extent of the fisheries controlled by the association are available from the club and permit outlets.

The Rock Fishing Club, Threecastles

Permits & Info: The Rock Bar, Threecastles, Co. Kilkenny.

The Rock Fishing Club waters are located 8km from Kilkenny along the R693 Freshford Road. The club controls 3km of single bank fishing, and the water is made up of deep stretches as well as run and riffle areas. Wading is possible but should be undertaken with care, and some areas are only suitable for wading in low water conditions.

Ballyragget and District Anglers' Association

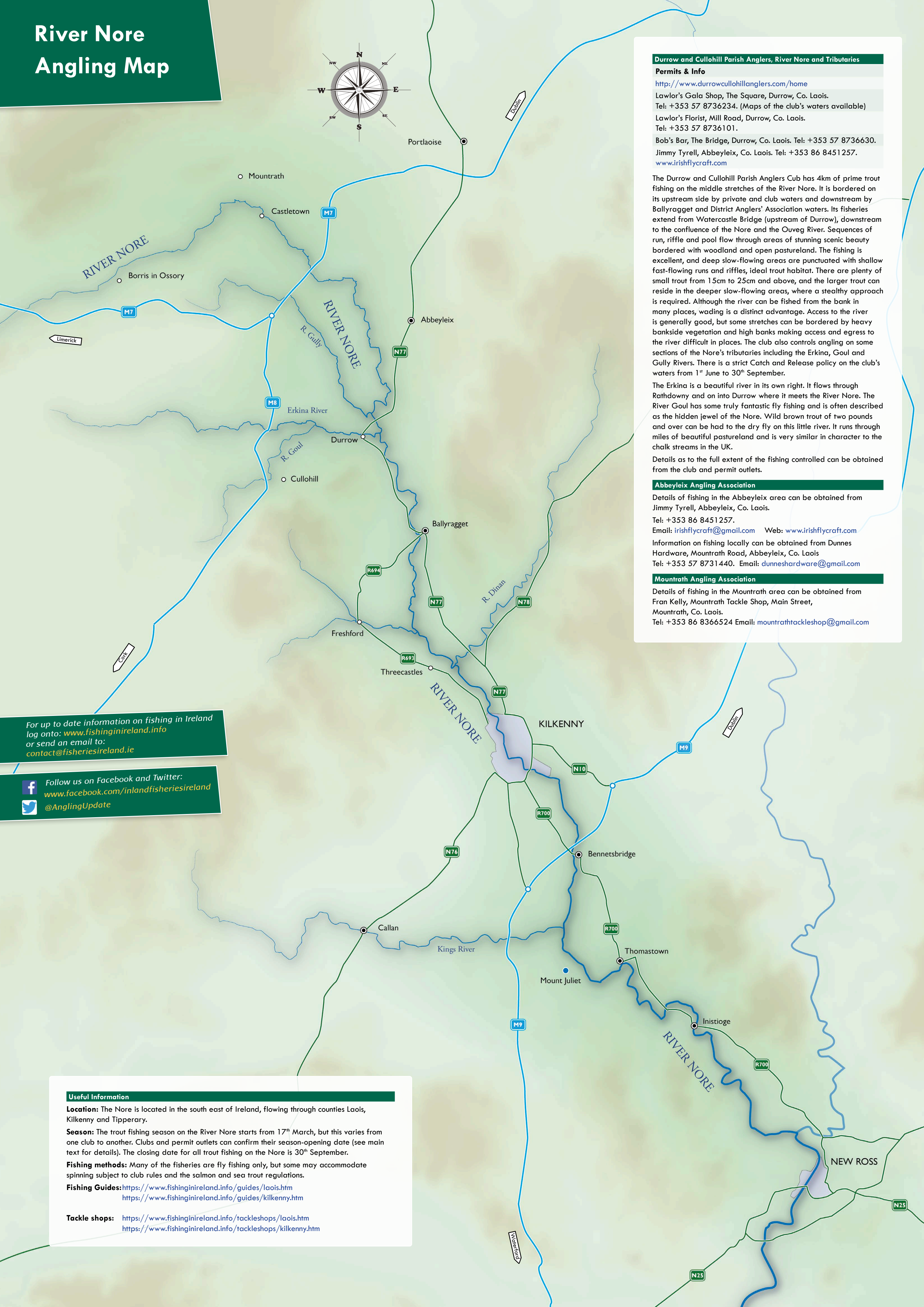
Web: <https://www.facebook.com/ballyraggetdistrictanglers/>

Permits & Info: Mc Grath's News and Chews, The Square, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 56 8833355

Ballyragget and District Anglers' Association is based in south Laois and controls fishing on some prime wild brown trout waters on the middle stretches of the Nore. Some of the stretches controlled cover the waters from the Oueg River confluence close to Tallyho Bridge to Ballyragget, and from Ballyragget to Lismaine Bridge. Details as to the exact extent of the fisheries controlled by the club can be obtained from the club and permit outlets in Ballyragget.



River Nore Angling Map



Durrow and Cullohill Parish Anglers, River Nore and Tributaries

Permits & Info

<http://www.durrowcullohillanglers.com/home>

Lawlor's Gala Shop, The Square, Durrow, Co. Laois.

Tel: +353 57 8736234. (Maps of the club's waters available)

Lawlor's Florist, Mill Road, Durrow, Co. Laois.

Tel: +353 57 8736101.

Bob's Bar, The Bridge, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 57 8736630.

Jimmy Tyrell, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 86 8451257.

www.irishflycraft.com

The Durrow and Cullohill Parish Anglers Cub has 4km of prime trout fishing on the middle stretches of the River Nore. It is bordered on its upstream side by private and club waters and downstream by Ballyragget and District Anglers' Association waters. Its fisheries extend from Watercastle Bridge (upstream of Durrow), downstream to the confluence of the Nore and the Uveg River. Sequences of run, riffle and pool flow through areas of stunning scenic beauty bordered with woodland and open pastureland. The fishing is excellent, and deep slow-flowing areas are punctuated with shallow fast-flowing runs and riffles, ideal trout habitat. There are plenty of small trout from 15cm to 25cm and above, and the larger trout can reside in the deeper slow-flowing areas, where a stealthy approach is required. Although the river can be fished from the bank in many places, wading is a distinct advantage. Access to the river is generally good, but some stretches can be bordered by heavy bankside vegetation and high banks making access and egress to the river difficult in places. The club also controls angling on some sections of the Nore's tributaries including the Erkina, Goul and Gully Rivers. There is a strict Catch and Release policy on the club's waters from 1st June to 30th September.

The Erkina is a beautiful river in its own right. It flows through Rathdowny and on into Durrow where it meets the River Nore. The River Goul has some truly fantastic fly fishing and is often described as the hidden jewel of the Nore. Wild brown trout of two pounds and over can be had to the dry fly on this little river. It runs through miles of beautiful pastureland and is very similar in character to the chalk streams in the UK.

Details as to the full extent of the fishing controlled can be obtained from the club and permit outlets.

Abbeyleix Angling Association

Details of fishing in the Abbeyleix area can be obtained from Jimmy Tyrell, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.

Tel: +353 86 8451257.

Email: irishflycraft@gmail.com Web: www.irishflycraft.com

Information on fishing locally can be obtained from Dunnes Hardware, Mountrath Road, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois

Tel: +353 57 8731440. Email: dunneshardware@gmail.com

Mountrath Angling Association

Details of fishing in the Mountrath area can be obtained from Fran Kelly, Mountrath Tackle Shop, Main Street, Mountrath, Co. Laois.

Tel: +353 86 8366524 Email: mountrathtackleshop@gmail.com

For up to date information on fishing in Ireland log onto: www.fishinginireland.info or send an email to: contact@fisheriesireland.ie

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Useful Information

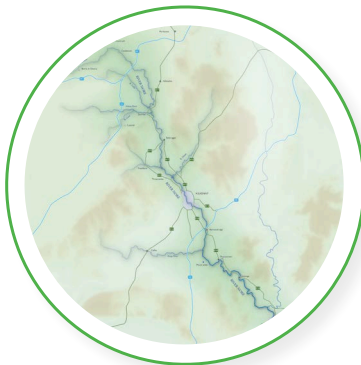
Location: The Nore is located in the south east of Ireland, flowing through counties Laois, Kilkenny and Tipperary.

Season: The trout fishing season on the River Nore starts from 17th March, but this varies from one club to another. Clubs and permit outlets can confirm their season-opening date (see main text for details). The closing date for all trout fishing on the Nore is 30th September.

Fishing methods: Many of the fisheries are fly fishing only, but some may accommodate spinning subject to club rules and the salmon and sea trout regulations.

Fishing Guides: <https://www.fishinginireland.info/guides/laois.htm>
<https://www.fishinginireland.info/guides/kilkenny.htm>

Tackle shops: <https://www.fishinginireland.info/tackleshops/laois.htm>
<https://www.fishinginireland.info/tackleshops/kilkenny.htm>



Driving times to Kilkenny

Galway	2hrs 45 min
Dublin	1.5hrs
Belfast	3hrs
Cork	2hrs
Rosslare	1.5hrs
Shannon	2hrs



Getting to the River Nore

The Nore (Kilkenny) can be accessed by taking the M9 from Dublin (1.5 hrs); taking the M6 from Galway (2hrs 45 mins) via Birr; taking the M1 and M9 from Belfast (3 hrs); taking the M8 and R639 from Cork (2hrs) or taking the N25 and R700 from Rosslare (1.5hrs), via New Ross.

Disclaimer

Every effort has been taken to ensure accuracy in the compilation of this publication and associated maps and web pages. Inland Fisheries Ireland cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions

therein. Some sporting activities may by their nature be hazardous and involve risk. It is recommended in such cases to take out personal accident insurance. While many operators would have public liability insurance it is always advisable to check with the establishment or operator concerned as to the level of cover carried.

Acknowledgements

© Published by Inland Fisheries Ireland 2021. P/N: IFI/2021/1-0451 - 004

Photos courtesy of: IFI

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