

2018 Fishing Regulations

Our sections

The following rules have been established to create a pleasant experience for those who fish and to protect Åtran river salmon and our other fish stocks. Remember to always treat other anglers and the fish with respect. The regulations include both things that are governed by law and regulations specifically established for our waters. The fishing area extends from the Hertingsforsen rapids to the Söderbron bridge, but regulations and prices differ for the different sections and pools.

Changes or additions to the regulations can be made during the current season and will be announced via notices at Laxstugan (salmon fishing cottage). It is your responsibility to make sure you know what regulations apply.

Fishing area

The fishing area extends from the upper border in Hertingsforsen to the lower border in Hålan and is divided into 3 sections:

Hertingsforsen – New fly fishing section in the old restored stream channel past the power station.

Laxbron-Tullbron – about 100 metres downstream from Tullbron. Classic fly and spin fishing waters divided into 8 pools.

Hålan – popular for fishing for salmon trout, but also for angling with the kids for flounder or chub.

Fishing hours

The fishing season for salmon and salmon trout runs from 1 April to 30 September, and fishing is allowed from 05.00 to 23.00. The fishing cottage normally is open during the same hours. Fishing attendants are available from 07.30 to 09.30 and 17.00 to 19.00.

Fishing licences

To fish in Falkenberg's salmon fishing waters, you need a fishing licence. The price list is readily available at falkenberglaxfiske.se and prices apply throughout the season. The number of fishing licences for sale at Hertingsforsen is limited, and this number generally is subject to change during the season. Fishing licences can be purchased via text message, falkenberglaxfiske.se or Falkenberg's tourist information office. A licence for the season can be purchased only at Falkenberg's tourist information office.

Fishing methods

Only fishing with spinning and fly rods and traditional shrimp angling are allowed. Only one rod per person. Angling with worms or live bait fish is not allowed, nor is the use of artificial lures with scents. You will find regulations about which fishing methods are allowed in each section under the heading *Pools* allocations. Jugging is prohibited under Swedish law. Intentionally or unintentionally snagged fish that are hooked somewhere else other than in the mouth must be unhooked with utmost care and immediately released.

Fly fishing

Fly fishing refers to fishing with a fly rod, fly line, leader and fly.

Spin fishing

Spin fishing refers to fishing with a spinning rod and multiplier or fixed spool reel. The following bait or lures are allowed: spoons, spinners, wobblers, spinner flies, jigs and traditional angling with shrimp. All other baits are prohibited.

Sections and pools

Pool allocations and sections are designated in the terrain with posts that indicate what type of fishing is allowed. See the map with pool allocations.

Fishing is not allowed from the Fajansbron, Tullbron and Söderbron bridges.

Fish caught

Regulations for fish caught and registration is intended mainly to protect the wild stock of Åtran river salmon and salmon trout.

Spawned salmon must be released throughout the season. The daily bag limit (fish kept) is two salmon or salmon trout. The exception is Hertingsforsen where all fish caught are to be released throughout the season. You may release caught fish and continue fishing until you have reached the daily quota. Remember, however, that this must be done with the utmost respect and care for the fish. During the 1 April-30 June period, you may catch (fish kept) a combined maximum of three salmon. When you have caught three salmon, you must discontinue fishing for the rest of the period until June 30. In the month of September, all fish over 75 cm that are caught must be released. We recommend that all anadromous fish (especially adult females) caught during the month of September be released. Intentionally or

unintentionally snagged fish that are hooked somewhere else than in the mouth must be unhooked and immediately released with utmost care.

Registration of fish caught

Anglers are required to register their catch, which also applies to fish caught and released, spawned fish and other species. Registration of fish caught is an essential tool for fishery conservation. Registration is done through a link or through the fishing licence number at iFiske.se or by filling in the appropriate form inside Laxstugan (salmon fishing cottage). Please also make note of your catch of salmon and salmon trout on the external boards at Laxstugan. The length of released fish is estimated, and caught fish are measured and weighed at Laxstugan.

Please note! Special rules may apply for participation in competitions such as salmon angler of the year and the like. Be sure to contact a fishing attendant if you have made a large catch. Check out the contest rules if you want to compete.

Because of the presence of "non-Åtran salmon", we wish to take samples from the salmon that are suspected of being foreign. Some salmon are marked with nose markings and/or clipped adipose fins. The fishing attendant is responsible for species identification and taking specimens. Åtran salmon can also be subject to taking of specimens. We appreciate your understanding of the inconvenience this may cause.

Releasing fish

If you intend to release fish, it's a good idea to use barbless hooks or hooks with a recessed barb. Fish fare best if they are left in the water and not lifted up in the air. Don't forget to wet your hands when handling fish because their mucous membranes are sensitive to the touch. Use long-handled pliers to remove the hook. Remember to play the salmon for as short a time as possible in the current because the fight also stresses the fish. When you release the fish, hold it in the water against the current so that the gills are oxygenated and gently release the tail when the fish revives.

Minimum length

Measured from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail.

Salmon: 45 cm

Salmon trout: 45 cm

Fish shorter than the minimum length must be released immediately.

Supervision – general rules

- Anglers with a season licence must carry it in a way that is easily visible. Fishing licences along with identification must be displayed upon request by the fishing attendant or supervisor.
- Anglers are required to know applicable fishing regulations and follow them.
- Fishing is conducted according to the "rotation principle" – i.e., those fishing move continuously downstream with frequent changes of fishing location. One cast, one step is a good basic rule. If another angler is

already fishing in the pool, you should begin your fishing upstream. The person who catches a fish must leave the fishing spot and start over in the rotation. Reserving a fishing location – for example, with backpacks or fishing rods – is not allowed. Do not "lock" anglers on the other side with casts that are too long and maintain a suitable distance.

- As a sport angler, we assume that you will be considerate of the nature and wildlife of the environment you are in. Bear in mind the damage that a fishing line or hook that is discarded in nature can cause. Trash and rubbish should be taken home with you or discarded in containers along the river or by Laxstugan (salmon fishing cottage).
- Respect and pay attention to cyclists and pedestrians on the pathways around the river.
- Anglers who violate the applicable regulations and fishing rules or who act in a way that disrupts other anglers and non-anglers will be barred from continuing to fish in Falkenberg municipality's salmon fishing waters in the Åtran river.

Pointers for your safety

There is always a danger when you spend time in and around water, although it can seem calm and peaceful. When wading, you should be aware that the water level can rise without warning. Wading poles and life jackets are good safety equipment when you fish. Children who spend time around water should always use a life jacket. Fishing alone is not advisable, and you should call for help from those nearby if you are in danger yourself. Keep your mobile phone secure in a plastic case, and in an emergency ring 112.

Boat fishing

If you wish to rent a boat to fish between the Laxbron bridge and Laet you can book a rental boat at the same place you buy the fishing licence, no later than a day in advance. The boat key is picked up and returned to Laxstugan (salmon fishing cottage). Only two anglers are allowed in each boat. Minors may not rent a boat without being accompanied by an adult.

It is possible to fish with your own boat in Hålan. For a fee, you can launch your boat at Falkenbergs Båtsällskap or Lövsstaven's marina.



POOLS

Hertingsforsen Flies all season, all catches must be released immediately and with care. Fishing from north side.

Laxbron Only for traditional shrimp angling or other permitted baits. Casting is not allowed.

Pool 1 Spin fishing – all season (50 m downstream from Laxbron to buoys). Wading is not permitted between Laxbron and Storön.

Pool 2a Spin/fly fishing entire season (buoys to Fajansbron).

Pool 2b Spin/fly fishing entire season (buoys to Fajansbron).

Pool 3 Spin/fly fishing entire season (Fajansbron to open-air theatre).

Pool 4 Spin/fly fishing entire season. (Open-air theatre to Garvareforsen).

Pool 5 Fly fishing entire season. (Garvareforsen to Sandbanken). The water flow in Åtran river is regulated and extra high water levels can mean wading is not possible. In such cases, fishing from land on the north side is possible. When "the pointed stone" is visible in the rapids, fishing may not take place from land on the north side.

Pool 6 1 June to 31 July, fly fishing; at other times fly/spin fishing. (Sandbanken – Olympia Garden).

Pool 7 1 June to 31 July, fly fishing; at other times fly/spin fishing. (Olympia Garden – 100 m downstream from Tullbron).

Hålan Spin/fly/angling throughout the season. In Hålan fishing with worms also is allowed.

Boat fishing: 50 m downstream from Laxbron – Laet. Boat anglers and other anglers should be considerate of each other. Fishing also is allowed with your own boat in Hålan up to the underwater cable downstream from Tullbron at the pool sign.



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