



FISHING GUIDE

Emån north of Högsby

Blankaström to Snuggan

Published by Oscar Nordahl and Dennis Holmgren

WELCOME TO EMÅN

Emån is 220 kilometres long and southeast Sweden's largest watercourse. Large parts of Emån are of national interest for nature conservation, cultural preservation and outdoor life. Fishing is one of many activities that attract people to the area. North of Högsby is a remote area offering healthy fish strains and adventure.

FISH SPECIES

Emån has more than 30 species of fish. Apart from sturgeon all are listed in EU's Directive of species in Emån. North of Högsby Emån is home to four main species that are of interest to anglers.



Perch

Perch are usually willing to bite, curious and a commonly occurring fish that anglers regularly meet. It's easily recognized by its characteristic black stripes, red fins and jagged dorsal fin. The best method to catch perch in Emån is by jig fishing or angling.



Pike

Pike is one of Sweden's largest freshwater fish and can be seen in stormy waters but prefers calm waters. Pike has an oblong body shape, big head and a dorsal fin towards the end of the back. The sides are green with white or yellow spots. To fish for pike is best during autumn-winter-spring if you want to catch the big ones. Best methods to catch pike in Emån are by floated trolling, floated angling

and jig fishing.



Chub

Chub is a carp fish that thrive in stormy waters. The colours changes throw-out seasons and age and are normally light grey with dark olive green on the back. On older species the abdomen and rear fins are beautifully crimson red with a yellow base. Younger chubs have pale grey fins. They gladly take bait but are a bit of a connoisseur, for example good baits are cheese, shrimp, bread and beer sausage. Emån is nationally known for its largely grown chubs, a very thankful sport fish with a large fighting spirit. It can be fished all year round, day or night and doesn't need any special equipment. The best methods to catch chub in Emån are by free lined angling or bottom fishing.



Tench

Tench is a carp fish with Rubin red eyes on an olive green background. It eats mosquito larvae, mussels, shells and other things it finds in the vegetation on the bottom. Tench are by many seen as a delicacy with an antibacterial mucus layer. It is also an appreciated sports fish because it's hard to catch and offers a great resistance. You mostly find it close to vegetation in calm or still waters. The best methods to catch Tench in Emån are by bottom fishing with mesh, corn or maggots.

FISHING CARD

Fishing cards are bought at Föreningssport, tourist information in Högsby or Emåturism. The fishing cards are divided in north Högsby. See 1,2 and 3 on the map.

FISHING TECHNIC

Emån has a varied depth and the key to success is to follow the bottom structure, for example fish in deep holes or along steep hills. The easiest methods include bottom fishing and jig fishing where you have contact with the bottom all the time.

Choosing a fishing spot

The fish normally gather where the food is. You can liken this to the dust in a room, it's not in the middle of the floor, it gathers in corners, under things, in indentations and so on. This is exactly what you should look for when searching for a fishing spot, under trees, behind islands, behind stormy capes, in reeds, in holes and backwater. For many of the best fishing places you will need a boat to reach them.

Angling

Three methods of angling are recommended for the part of Emån located up stream of Högsby. Floated trolling, bottom angling and floated angling. Floated trolling is easiest and requires only a hook and a line with bait, for example bread. The bait is put into the water and follows the stream to the natural fishing spot. It is very exiting to see a large chub come and take the piece of bread at the surface. To find places where the chub lay, you first throw out some pieces of bread and see where they disappear, you the sneak there quietly, put out our bait and hold your breath.

Bottom angling is extremely effective and very exciting. With an ordinary bottom angling with mesh you will have good chances of a catch. Pull the bait slowly with even intervals and you will increase your chances of catching a perch. For pike this part of Emån works well with floated trolling. Move slowly through the water towing baited fish behind the boat. Stop over deep holes and let the bait slowly get all the way down. If you don't have enough baitfish you can also use wobblers.

Jigg

Jig fishing is one of the best and exciting methods to catch perch and pike in Emån. The jig is made of two parts, a head with a weight and single hook and a rubber body. You throw the jig and let it sink all the way to the bottom, then you pull the jig so it swims up from the bottom and the sinks back. Repeat the procedure and the jig dances up and down on the bottom. With this method you can fish holes and steeps very good. Use smaller shad-, grub- or split tail jigs for perch and larger shad jigs for pike.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Always think about the safety and that you don't interrupt wildlife in water or on land.

Safety

To be out fishing includes a lot of risks. Therefore always think about safety. Carry life vests not only in the boat but also when fishing from land. There can be currents even though it looks calm. Avoid fishing alone; always be two when you go to unknown places.

Allemansrätten and nature protection

Allemansrätten is a privilege in Sweden where nature is allowed for everyone to enjoy but it demands that you show respect for nature. Bring all garbage and don't throw anything into the nature. Don't bring up more fish than you can eat and put the rest back into the water. Think about to put back the largest and the smallest fishes so everyone can enjoy fishing in the future.



Sheatfish and eel are totally protected. If you catch one put it back immediately.



Chub with bait

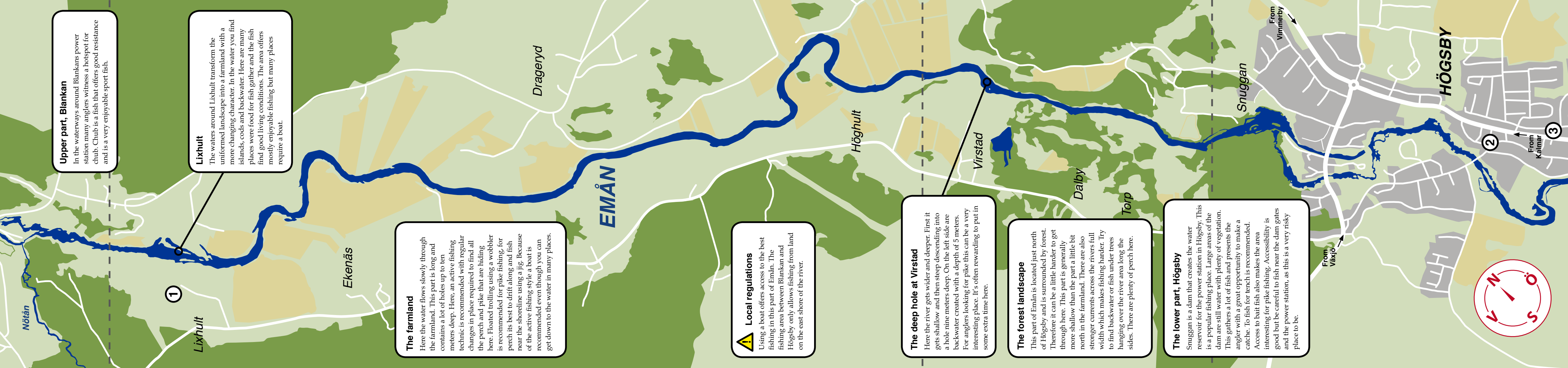
Contacts

- EMÅTURISM:** Sells fishing card, boat, canoe and cabin rentals. For more information, phone: + 46 70-248 60 28 or www.ematurism.se
- HÖGSBY TURISTBYRÅ.** Sells fishing card, interchange accommodations' and answers common visitor questions and or requests. For more information, phone: +46 491-291 64 or <http://www.hogsby.se/Besokare/Turism>
- FÖRENINGSSPORT:** Sells fishing card, fishing gear and cloths. For more information, phone: +46 491-210 70 or www.foreningssport.se

HANDBÖRDS FISKEVÅRDSOMRÅDE: Sells fishing card, Thomas Ivarsson, phone: +46 70 344 3716

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Upper part, Blankan
In the waterways around Blankans power station many anglers witness a hotspot for chub. Chub is a fish that offers good resistance and is a very enjoyable sport fish.

Lixhult
The waters around Lixhult transform the uniformed landscape into a farmland with a more changing character. In the water you find islands, cods and backwater. Here are many places were food for fish gather and the fish find good living conditions. The area offers mostly enjoyable fishing but many places require a boat.

The farmland
Here the water flows slowly through the farmland. This part is long and contains a lot of holes up to ten meters deep. Here, an active fishing technic is recommended with regular changes in place required to find all the perch and pike that are hiding here. Floated trolling using a wobblers is recommended for pike fishing, for perch its best to drift along and fish near the shoreline using a jig. Because of the active fishing style a boat is recommended even though you can get down to the water in many places.

Local regulations
Using a boat offers access to the best fishing in this part of Emån. The fishing area between Blankan and Högsby only allows fishing from land on the east shore of the river.

The deep hole at Virstad
Here the river gets wider and deeper. First it gets shallow and then steep descending into a hole nine meters deep. On the left side are backwater created with a depth of 5 meters. For anglers looking for pike this can be a very interesting place. It's often rewarding to put in some extra time here.

The forest landscape
This part of Emån is located just north of Högsby and is surrounded by forest. Therefore it can be a little harder to get through here. This part is generally more shallow than the part a little bit north in the farmland. There are also stronger currents across the rivers full width which makes fishing harder. Try to find backwater or fish under trees hanging over the river area long the sides. There are plenty of perch here.

The lower part, Högsby
Snuggan is a dam that creates the water reservoir for the power station in Högsby. This is a popular fishing place. Large areas of the dam are still water with plenty of vegetation. This gathers a lot of fish and presents the angler with a great opportunity to make a catche. To fish for tench is recommended. Access to bait fish also makes the area interesting for pike fishing. Accessibility is good but be careful to fish near the dam gates and the power station, as this is a very risky place to be.

