

# LOCKDOWN 2

## Advice notes for anglers

Published 05/11/2020



## Fishing in Lockdown in England - Venues and Travel

### **Fishing is a permitted activity:**

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/coronavirus/return-play/frequently-asked-questions-about-national-coronavirus>

Under the November 5th 2020 Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations fishing is deemed a permissible form of outdoor recreation and a 'lawful excuse' to leave home. This has been confirmed by ministers and in subsequent government guidance.

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The regulations allow people *“to visit a public outdoor space for the purposes of open air recreation” and this is defined as an ‘outdoor place to which the public have, or are permitted, access (whether on payment or otherwise).’*

[https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1200/pdfs/ukxi\\_20201200\\_en.pdf](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1200/pdfs/ukxi_20201200_en.pdf)

The Angling Trust has advised that this includes riverbanks, towpaths, beaches and stillwaters that can either be accessed freely or on the payment of a day ticket or subscription levied by the owner or leased to a publicly available fishing association.

Fisheries are not on the published list of businesses that the government has ordered to close and there is no reason that they should do so providing that they operate in accordance with the rules.

However, all indoor or social facilities in any way connected with a fishing venue must close and fishing tackle shops, whether onsite or not, can only operate a ‘click and collect’ service.

### **Travel Advice (England)**

The travel guidance (below) is advisory rather than law but anglers are urged to exercise common sense and act within the spirit of the government’s guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

It states that it is permissible to travel in order to: *“to spend time or exercise outdoors - this should be done locally wherever possible, but you can travel to do so if necessary (for example, to access an open space)” (para 11)*

It is lawful to travel to go fishing but long journeys should be avoided ‘wherever possible’. Sea anglers should focus on their local beaches and fishing marks and freshwater anglers should not be travelling hundreds of miles in search of fishing during lockdown.

**You must not leave home to fish if you have Coronavirus symptoms or are self-isolating.**

# HELP AND SUPPORT

We're here to help you get  
continue fishing safely

## NORTH REGION

**Daniel Williams**

07854 240 368

daniel.williams@anglingtrust.net

**Darren Birch**

07791 164 921

darren.birch@anglingtrust.net

## SOUTH REGION

**Dean Asplin**

07854 239 731

dean.asplin@anglingtrust.net

**Clive Copeland**

07730 765 714

clive.copeland@anglingtrust.net

## EAST REGION

**David Munt**

07854 239 715

david.munt@anglingtrust.net

**James Roche**

07791 786 251

james.roche@anglingtrust.net

## WEST REGION

**Dave Evans**

07854 239 721

dave.evans@anglingtrust.net

**Richard Hadley**

07720 974 811

richard.hadley@anglingtrust.net

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[www.anglingtrust.net/covid-19](http://www.anglingtrust.net/covid-19)

