

Go Fishing

Featured Locations:
**Parramatta &
Lane Cove Rivers'
Wharves & Parks**



Foreword from NSW DPI



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Throwing a line in at a new spot always makes for a great fishing adventure, whether it's on a family holiday or just somewhere new close to home. No matter your fishing expertise, NSW boasts a wide range of fish species and great places to catch them, including in our many inland rivers, impoundments and streams to the productive estuaries, lakes, beaches and rocky headlands on the NSW coast. There are also many inshore and offshore fishing opportunities from your boat or if using one of the many experienced charter fishing services available.

There are many reasons to go fishing, including to unwind and relax, spend time with family and friends, enjoy nature and of course to catch a tasty meal of fresh fish. Over a million people in NSW enjoy this fantastic lifestyle and the great news is that you are never too old or young to take up fishing so get out there and give it a go! Getting into fishing is easy. If you don't know where to start, just head into your local tackle store where the friendly staff can provide tips on tackle, bait and techniques plus point you to a safe, convenient spot to throw a line in.

NSW DPI has developed these *Go Fishing* guides as a snapshot of popular NSW fishing locations in both fresh and saltwater to help improve your recreational fishing experiences. For more information on other locations, fish species, size and bag limits and permitted gear not listed in these guides, visit the NSW DPI website or download the **FishSmart App** from the App store on your Android or iPhone.



Parramatta & Lane Cove Rivers

Overview

The Parramatta and Lane Cove rivers might not rival Sydney Harbour in terms of prestige and iconic stature, however, the fact is without the former, the latter would not exist.

What these rivers lack in terms of impressive landmarks and tourist appeal, they certainly make up for from a fishing perspective.

Both the Parra and the Lane Cove offer premier shore-based fishing opportunities with a variety of species to target from a multitude of locations including wharves, parks, reserves and rocky outcrops, often minus the crowding common to the Harbour's more well known shore-based locations.

Both rivers are popular with serious anglers and family fishos. And either or both waterways are well worth an exploratory trip if you're visiting the "big smoke".

Common angling targets include dusky flathead, bream, mullet, whiting, luderick, mullet and silver trevally. Australian bass and estuary perch are an option in the upper reaches of both rivers.

Fishing access in both rivers is generally pretty good with more than 60 locations alone highlighted in this handbook. There are doubtless many more spots to be discovered and explored.

While this *Go Fishing* guide provides details on some of the better known locations, take the opportunity to find your own fishy spots. A bit of exploration and discovery can definitely make your fishing experience more satisfying, as little else beats finding a productive location after a little investigative homework.

Before you plan a trip to either of the rivers, make sure you do your homework as several fishing closures are in place. These closures exist to preserve unique environments and a variety of other reasons. Most of these closures are signposted. Be aware that penalties apply for not complying with the relevant rules and regulations.

Along with Sydney Harbour, both the Parramatta and Lane Cove rivers are listed as Intertidal Protected Areas. This means take of any seashore

animals is strictly prohibited, this includes crabs, snails, cunjevoi, octopus, sea urchins, anemones, pipis, cockles, mussels, oysters and nippers (saltwater yabbies).

Another important point to note is that all fishing is prohibited in the Duck River and Homebush Bay (including Haslams and Powells creeks) located in the upper reaches of the Parramatta River.

Fishing is also prohibited in a section of the upper Lane Cove River, from a line drawn between two posts on opposite banks of the river at the junction of Little Blue Gum Creek, approximately 50 metres downstream from the weir, upstream to a line drawn from a post at the boatshed to a post on the opposite bank.

Other closures exist in the Lane Cove River and these are best checked. See www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/info for regional fishing and crabbing guides or download the 'FishSmart' app from the app store for all NSW marine park maps, local weather and tides, bag and size limit information and more.

As anyone who has ever spent time on its foreshores or out on the water will know, the Parramatta River, and to a lesser extent the Lane Cove River, is an extremely busy waterway with significant boat traffic, industry, tourism and recreational/commercial use. The key to enjoying this shared resource is for recreational fishers to fish responsibly and make sure we present a positive image by cleaning up any fishing related mess (even if it's not yours!), keeping the noise down (especially at night) and to show respect and courtesy to other users such as commuters, residents and workers.

Following these commonsense suggestions will help ensure we all enjoy continued access to the fantastic land-based fishing locations on offer along these metropolitan river systems, both now and into the long-term.

This guide to *Parramatta and Lane Cove Rivers' Wharves & Parks* is the second of a three-part series of Sydney-based DPI *Go Fishing* Handbooks.

Parramatta & Lane Cove Rivers: Land-based locations

NOTE: This fishing map is only to be used as a general reference overview.
 See <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/info> for regional fishing and crabbing guides.
 See www.dpi.nsw.gov.au for details on fishing regulations.
 See www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime/using-waterways/public-ferry-wharves/clean-safe-wharf.html on ferry wharf fishing regulations.
 Not for navigation.



Site No. & name	Site No. & name
1. Parramatta Ferry Wharf	15. Cabarita Park
2. Allambie Street Boardwalk	16. Prince Edward Park
3. Wilson Park Silverwater Boat Ramp	17. Bayview Park
4. Wharf Road Boat Ramp	18. Lyons Road Park
5. Wentworth Point Foreshore	19. Friend Avenue
6. Memorial Reserve	20. Wymston Parade
7. Rhodes Boat Ramp	21. Henry Lawson Park
8. Meadow Bank Ferry Wharf	22. Quarantine Reserve
9. Ryde Wharf/Anderson Park	23. Battersea Park
10. Uhrs Point Reserve	24. Wharf Road
11. Brays Bay Reserve	25. Abbotsford Ferry Wharf*
12. Waterview Street Rocky Foreshore	26. Banjo Patterson Park
13. Kissing Point Ferry Wharf*	27. Werrell Reserve
14. Mortlake Point Park	28. Parramatta Regional Park

Park / Reserve
 Wharf
 Ferry Wharf
 Closed to all fishing methods

* Fishing prohibited from 5am – 10am daily.
 Council, leased and private land is subject to its own regulations and management and it is advisable to always check if fishing is permissible at that location.

FISH RESPONSIBLY!

- Leave no litter
- Be respectful
- Minimise noise (especially at night)
- Promote safe and responsible fishing



Parramatta & Lane Cove Rivers: Land-based locations

Site No. & name
29. Dick Street Point
30. Figtree Bay Reserve
31. Borterfeld Drive Chiswick
32. Chiswick Ferry Wharf*
33. William Street Rocks
34. Gladesville Reserve
35. Riverglade Reserve
36. Boronia Park Reserve
37. Princess St Lookout
38. Cunninghams Reach
39. Hunters Hill Park
40. Huntleys Point Ferry Wharf
41. Betts Park
42. Huntleys Point Road Gladesville Bridge
43. Drummoyne Park
44. Russell Park
45. Rodd Park

Site No. & name
46. Robson Park
47. Leichardt Park
48. King George Park
49. Drummoyne Ferry Wharf
50. Ferry Street Rocks
51. The Great North Walk/Mount St
52. Ferdinand Street Reserve
53. Burns Bay Reserve
54. Viret Street Reserve
55. Hunters Hill Ferry Wharf
56. Pulpit Point Reserve
57. Kellys Bush Reserve
58. Longueville Wharf
59. Gale Street
60. Angelo Street
61. Woolwich Ferry Wharf
62. Clarkes Point Reserve

Park/Reserve
 Wharf
 Ferry Wharf

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Fish responsibly!

Do the right thing on Sydney's ferry wharves



While most anglers fishing the wharves do so responsibly, a minority continue to do the wrong thing. It is vital all fishers do the right thing as these wharves are simply too good to lose!

If you enjoy fishing from Sydney's ferry wharves, make sure you:

- ✓ Be considerate of nearby residents and keep the noise to a minimum, especially after 10pm.
- ✓ Be considerate of nearby businesses.
- ✓ Remember vessels and passengers have priority, clear your lines and tackle when they approach and move aside.
- ✓ Do not block access or leave tackle on commuter seating and be respectful to passengers.
- ✓ Always dispose of all rubbish, bait and unwanted tackle responsibly even if it is not yours.
- ✓ Always clean up any fishing mess like scales, blood, ink or bait with a bucket of water before you leave.
- ✓ Follow recreational fishing rules.

Report suspicious fishing activity to the **Fishers Watch Phonenumber on 1800 043 536** and contact NSW Police to report any anti-social behaviour.



NSW DPI has produced an educational video providing more info and handy tips about safely and responsibly fishing the ferry wharf network.

Check it out on the **DPI YouTube channel!**

Help maintain your access to the Sydney ferry wharves network by always doing the right thing. **Encourage your fishing mates to behave responsibly.**



Key target species



Bream

PEAK SEASON: Year round.

TECHNIQUE: Bait fishing with fresh prawns, fish strips (i.e., mullet, striped tuna), marine worms; lure fishing with soft plastics, vibes and small hard-bodied divers.

TACKLE: 2-4kg spin outfits, 2kg braid or mono and 2-5kg leader. For bait fishing, use size 2-1/0 non-offset circle hooks unweighted or with a small running "00" ball sinker. Circle hooks are preferred for catch & release. The use of berley is effective when targeting bream on bait. Use 1-2 gram jig heads on size 1-2 hooks teamed with 3-8cm "wiggler" style tails when targeting bream on plastics. Use a slow "lift and drop" retrieve.

HOT SPOTS: Leichardt Park, Mortlake Point Park, Putney Ferry, Clarkes Point Reserve.

BAG & SIZE LIMITS: 10 per day 25cm and over.



Mulloway

PEAK SEASON: Year round.

TECHNIQUE: Bait fishing with fresh squid and live bait such as yellowtail around the many deeper edges throughout the Parramatta and Lane Cove rivers close to a tide change is a proven way to target mulloway. Low light periods – dawn, dusk and at night – can be especially productive. Using soft plastic lures and vibes is extremely popular and proven to be as effective as using fresh bait, especially along the Parramatta River from Gladesville Bridge up to the Ryde Bridge.

TACKLE: When bait fishing, go for an outfit involving a rod around 2.7m rated at 4-8kg matched to a 3000-6000 sized spinning or baitrunner-style reel loaded with 8-15kg braid or mono. Use a running sinker rig to a swivel and a metre of 15-25kg fluorocarbon leader with a 5/0 to 8/0 circle hook.

For lure fishing, a 2.1m graphite rod rated to 3-5kg with a 2500-4000 size reel loaded with 4-8kg braid and at least a rod length of fluorocarbon leader in 6-10kg size should cover most bases.

HOT SPOTS: Huntleys Point, Drummoyne, Putney Ferry, Clarkes Point Reserve.

BAG & SIZE LIMITS: 1 per day 70cm and over. Boat limit of 2 per boat per day (if 2 or more fishers onboard). Charter boat limit of 3 per boat per day.





Whiting



PEAK SEASON: November to April.

TECHNIQUE: Bait fishing with live saltwater yabbies or marine worms; lure fishing with small blades, surface poppers and small stickbaits.

TACKLE: 1-3kg 2.1m graphite spin outfits with 2-3kg braid and 2-5kg mono or fluorocarbon leader. When bait fishing, use a size 1-1/0 non-offset circle or long shank hook, making sure it matches the bait size and shape. Try a running sinker rig with a metre of 2-5kg trace. Cast small blades, surface poppers and stickbaits around sandflats and shallow weed-beds for some exciting action on hard fighting whiting!

A GUN TIP: Keep your surface lure retrieve brisk and consistent.

HOT SPOTS: Iron Cove, Hen and Chicken Bay, Five Dock Bay.

SIZE & BAG LIMITS: 20 per day 27cm and over.



Other species

Other common species including **dusky flathead, Australian salmon, tailor, flounder, mullet, garfish, luderick** and **silver trevally** can be encountered in both the Parramatta and Lane Cove rivers. Silver trevally can be prolific at times and provide excellent sport with their dogged fighting qualities. If you'd like to catch a few "trevors", try casting small blades and curl tail style plastics on a light outfit and enjoy what these great little sportfish have to offer.

Australian bass are available in the upper reaches of both rivers. If you'd like to experience a "wild bass", head up into the Lane Cove National Park. This location offers a unique "big city" fishing experience as you'll find yourself casting lures amongst towering eucalypts, water dragons and prolific bird life. You'll find it hard to believe you're not far from the skyscrapers and traffic jams of Sydney!

Kayaks and canoes are the best way to access these waters, a leisurely paddle on a summer evening with a few cicada imitation surface lures is a great way to unwind after a busy day in the office.

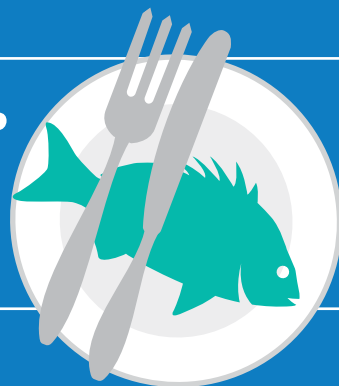


Australian bass



Trevally

Eating your catch: dietary advice



Previous test results have revealed elevated levels of dioxins in fish and crustaceans across Sydney Harbour, including the Parramatta River and other connected tidal waterways. A ban was consequently placed on commercial fishing in 2006 as a precautionary measure.

Recreational fishing in these waterways has not been banned, but fishers are urged to follow dietary advice on the consumption of seafood from Sydney Harbour, the Parramatta River and other connected tidal waterways. Fishers can also continue to practice catch and release.

Based on advice from an expert panel, the Government is recommending that:

- No fish or crustaceans caught west of the Sydney Harbour Bridge should be eaten. You should release your catch.
- For fish caught east of the Sydney Harbour Bridge generally no more than 150 grams per month should be consumed.

Recommended maximum intake based on eating a single species caught east of the Sydney Harbour Bridge

Species	No. of 150 gram serves per month	Amounts per month	Species	No. of 150 gram serves per month	Amounts per month
Fanbellied leatherjacket	24	3600 g	Crab	5	750 g
Dusky flathead	12	1800 g	Silver trevally	5	750 g
Flounder	12	1800 g	Prawns	4	600 g
Kingfish	12	1800 g	Squid	4	600 g
Luderick	12	1800 g	Bream	1	150 g
Trumpeter whiting	12	1800 g	Silver biddie	1	150 g
Sand whiting	8	1200 g	Tailor	1	150 g
Yellowtail	8	1200 g	Sea mullet	1 every 3 months	50 g

Testing of popular species has allowed for more accurate dietary advice.

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/fishing-skills/fishing-in-sydney-harbour>

Sydney's wharves, piers and parks are too good to lose!



- ✓ Leave no litter
- ✓ Minimise noise
- ✓ Be respectful
- ✓ Follow fisheries rules and regulations
- ✓ Promote safe and responsible fishing