We pride ourselves on offering some of the finest and most affordable coarse and trout fishing in the country.

Discover our intimate waters at Hawkridge or visit our vast reservoirs at Sutton Bingham and Clatworthy. Coarse anglers can encounter stunning fish at Durleigh reservoir.

Anglers with disabilities can take advantage of free fishing at Tucking Mill or use the specially designed wheelie boats at Sutton Bingham and Clatworthy.

Whether it is wet or dry fly, carp, match, pike or pleasure fishing you are after, we have a venue for you.

Day or evening tickets for fishing and boat hire are available on a self-serve basis from the public fisheries at each lodge. Anglers must purchase a permit and read the rules of the fishery before fishing.

To ensure that stocks are maintained, it is essential all returns are made before leaving the site, stating size and number caught. Further information is displayed at all our fishing lodges.

Get in touch

Our rangers are always on hand to offer assistance, you can either contact them in person or by phone in the fishing lodge between 8am and 9.30am or 4pm and 5pm for evening tickets and boats.

Sometimes the ranger may be around the reservoir site – just leave a message on the office answer machine and we’ll get back to you as soon as possible.

Alternatively you can call our customer service team on 0345 600 4 600 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) send us a message at www.facebook.com/castingoff or email fishing@wessexwater.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to our reservoirs soon.

The Wessex Water fisheries team

Remember it’s a legal requirement to have an Environment Agency (EA) rod licence to fish at our reservoirs and Environment Agency bailiffs do carry out checks from time to time. The rod licence is a national licence valid for 12 months and is available from most post offices.
With depths of up to 26ft, you can fish from both banks, although there is no fishing from the dam wall itself. The reservoir is renowned as a superb carp water and while there are a lot of common carp, there are also a good number of mirror carp there to be caught. Between 10 and 20 doubles can be taken in the right conditions.

Durleigh carp love boilies and will respond to accurate baiting, with many fish coming at longer range. In spring and early summer the shallow end can be very good, but as the season progresses and the levels drop they move into the deeper water towards the dam.

Pike fishing also attracts a lot of interest at Durleigh. We have continued with the restocking programme started in 2016 with the aim of introducing fish as they become available. Last season Ken Bradbeer caught 38 pike from the bank including three twenties – the best of these being a 21lb 12oz fish taken from the lodge swim. In the winter, pike are usually found in the deeper water but they often move to the far end in February.

The reservoir is well regarded for its bream fishing with good average-sized fish. Although most bream fall into the 2lb to 5lb range, there are many larger specimens with 7lb and 8lb fish landed on a regular basis. There is also an abundance of skimmers and vast shoals of roach which can make up bags of 50lb to 80lb on their own.

Durleigh fished very well last year with excellent returns from both carp and match anglers. The carp fishing still attracts the most interest, with anglers catching up to a dozen fish per sitting, with the expectation of landing a couple of twenties. Seven thirties were caught last spring including the big mirror that came in at 34lb 8oz!

Steve Kedge held a couple of matches last year on Wednesdays that fished very well. Mark Bartlett won one of them netting a very impressive 112lb of bream. Steve also ran the ever popular Durleigh Festival, a four-day open match held every year in the autumn. Andy Batstone took the honours with 134lb with Adam Palmer coming in second place with 139lb of silvers.

Match bookings are welcomed and the nature of the fishing at Durleigh makes it an ideal venue. However, please be aware we require at least four weeks’ notification in order to let other anglers know about bank closures.

Day tickets are available from the self-service kiosk in the fishing lodge.

Dedicated ranger Paul Martin has more than 20 years’ experience at Durleigh. He is a good source of up to date information and the person to speak to for match or pike boat bookings.

2017 catches
Best mirror carp - 34lb 8oz
Best pike - 21lb 12oz
Best bag (net) of bream - 112lbs

Did you know we offer placements to local schools and colleges? For more information, contact the ranger
Sutton Bingham reservoir

Sutton Bingham reservoir, near Yeovil, Somerset
Sat nav BA22 9QL
Rangers Ivan Tinsley and Jake Belgium
Contact 01935 872389
Season Wednesday 21 February to Sunday 7 October 2018

Super trout fishing Bingham style
Sutton Bingham reservoir is set in the rolling hills of the Somerset and Dorset border, where the lay of the land and the geography of the reservoir conceal the extent of the reservoir's reach.

Fly fishing for rainbow and brown trout, either from the boat or the bank is available at this site. It offers some excellent top water trout fishing both early and late season and is one reservoir where anglers have the option of fishing most of the season with a floating line.

The venue is stocked with 12,500-15,000 trout averaging 2lb each with some fish weighing double figures.

Early season the main body of water at the dam end of the reservoir fishes very well, while mid-season onwards loch style boat fishing is good, particularly in the southern arm.

The facilities include a spacious fishing lodge, complete with a large veranda overlooking the water. A unique feature of the lodge is the fish preparation room, where anglers can gut and clean their catch before setting off for home.

Among the most popular flies are damsels, gold ribbed hare's ears and montanas, fished on the point, with smaller nymphs such as crunchers, pheasant tails, buzzers and diawl bachs and the itsa nymph fished as droppers. There's also a selection of the most popular fly patterns and leader for sale on site.

2017 catches
Rod average - 2.52
Best rainbow trout - 5lb 8oz
Best brown trout - 7lb 2oz
Best bag - 5 fish, 18lb 3oz

Rangers’ top ten tips
1 At the start of the season fish around the lodge - it's generally the most productive.
2 Try weighted patterns montana's, blue flash damsel and hare's ear on the point with a pheasant tail or crunchers about three to four feet down.
3 Change the droppers from time to time in case of a change in the early hatches, but keep the weighted pattern on, to act as an anchor.
4 Think about fishing from a boat from the end of March onwards - fish move out from the pressure of bank anglers.
5 Try Loch-style fishing from the boat rather than dropping the anchor down, so much good sport can be missed by just holding up in the same spot.
6 Don't be fixated with the dam end - both bank and boat do well in the arm towards Halstock at all times.
7 Try new ideas and different smaller patterns.
8 If you want to find new places to fish then travel light, don’t stick to one spot.
9 Fish with smaller flies - it’s always been a small fly water.
10 Always fish the upper level of water first - too many anglers go with sunk lines and fish down below.

In good hands
The rangers are accomplished fly tiers and casting tutor and during the winter months holds regular fly tying sessions to help both beginner and experienced anglers tie their own flies.

Tuition is an important part of the activity at this site and there is a special package for beginners, which provides lessons on casting as well as advice on the best flies to use.

The Sutton Bingham Fly Fishing Club also hold several competitions at the reservoir throughout the season and are always looking for new members to participate in casual monthly events.

For information about West Pond please see page 6.
Popular patterns are black tadpole, blue flash damsel, buzzer, crunchers, pheasant tails and diawl bachs.

A 7 to 10lb fluorocarbon fishing line is recommended as this seems to take control of the large doubles.

The West Pond can also be booked for group and corporate days. Details of this can be obtained from the Wessex Water website or the ranger.

West Pond

Sutton Bingham reservoir, near Yeovil, Somerset
Sat nav BA22 9QL
Rangers Ivan Tinsley and Jake Belgium
Contact 01935 872389
Season Wednesday 21 February to Sunday 7 October 2018 and Thursday 1 November to Sunday 2 December 2018.

A hidden secret in the south west

The West Pond is a seven acre part of the reservoir at Sutton Bingham, on the right hand side as you drive towards the village of Halstock.

Many people who have fished here keep coming back to catch those large double rainbows and browns that are frequently stocked.

The lake itself puts you in one of the quietest parts of the reservoir where you can wander around with ease without seeing another angler.

The bank fishing is superb and there’s also a boat to reach those rising monsters in the middle. Most of your fishing will be with a floating line except on windier days where an intermediate will suffice.

Popular flies are generally similar to what you would use at Sutton Bingham but there’s always a ranger around to give you good advice.

Be prepared for those long fast runs as the fish shoot towards the middle taking you down to your backing more so than on your average smaller water.

2017 catches
Fish caught - 878
Best rainbow trout - 13lb 8oz
Best brown trout - 11lb 2oz

Popular patterns are black tadpole, blue flash damsel, buzzer, crunchers, pheasant tails and diawl bachs.

A 7 to 10lb fluorocarbon fishing line is recommended as this seems to take control of the large doubles.

The West Pond can also be booked for group and corporate days. Details of this can be obtained from the Wessex Water website or the ranger.
Hawkridge reservoir

Variety is the spice of life
Despite its smaller size Hawkridge reservoir provides a level and variety of sport to rival the best in the UK. If you favour smaller waters then this place is for you.

This trout reservoir, situated on the edge of the Quantock Hills, offers depths of up to 70ft. The lodge bank slopes steeply towards the water line and a short distance out is a weed bank with a lot of fish located just beyond it.

The venue responds well to floating lines and intermediates, with a variety of flies successful, including damsels, hare’s ears and montana, plus nymphs including buzzers and diawl bach.

The trout stocked in this reservoir provide a cosmopolitan variety of rainbows, browns, tigers, golden and blue trout so you really do not know what you will catch next.

2017 catches
Rod average - 2.4
Best rainbow - 10lb 4oz
Best brown - 10lb 10oz
Best arctic char - 6lb 2oz
Best bag of five fish - 27lbs 6oz

Ranger Gary Howe oversees the stocking programme, which provides some stunning home-grown doubles as well as regular deliveries from local fish farms.

The ticket office and returns facilities are also housed within the lodge and just outside are the scales to weigh your catch.

Brimming with fish
During 2017 the size and numbers of fish stocked in Hawkridge were increased, with arctic char being stocked to give even more variety.

We will again be stocking good quality trout and surprise doubles to maintain the incredibly high standards this fishery sets itself.

Hawkridge is the very first reservoir in the United Kingdom to stock the sparctic trout. This new and exciting species of trout is being stocked at an average weight of 2lbs and we expect them to grow on really well in the very high quality water found in the reservoir. For more information see page 18.

South West Fishing for Life
an organisation which provides fly fishing sessions for people with or who have had breast cancer, will be holding monthly meetings throughout 2018 and welcome new members to join them.

Hawkridge reservoir
Sat nav TA5 1AL
Ranger Gary Howe
Contact 01278 671840
Season Wednesday 28 February to Sunday 14 October 2018
Premier trout fishing in the West Country

Situated on the edge of Exmoor National Park, Clatworthy reservoir lies in the Brendon Hills, west Somerset. Undulating hills surround the water, which offers some of the best fly-fishing the west country has to offer.

The steeply sloping landscape guides the headwaters of the infant River Tone into the 1,180-million gallon capacity reservoir where there are plenty of hidden bays, arms and coves waiting to be explored. Anglers, walkers and wildlife watchers can enjoy the 5.5 mile perimeter path. Known as the Clatworthy Round, it has plenty of resting areas where you can take in the beautiful scenery along the way.

Clatworthy is surrounded by steep bracken banks and ancient woodland, perfect habitat for the coch-y-bonddu, hawthorn, wood beetle and red ant which hatch through the season. The trout at Clatworthy are always looking up and most of the time can be found cruising just under the surface. A well presented dry fly is often enough to produce a take.

Fishing from a boat is by far the most productive method on Clatworthy, which is ideal to cover the fish and explore the many bays and arms on offer. A tactic to try during the summer months is to fish one of the many inlets that feed Clatworthy. Some of the best fish have come out of no more than 3ft of water. As the season draws to a close, resident rainbows will start to feed on the stickleback and crayfish that line the banks.

Clatworthy Fly Fishing Club holds regular competitions and social events throughout the year, which promote fly fishing to all ages and abilities. For more information on the club, please visit www.clatworthyffc.co.uk

2017 catches
Fish caught – 7040
Rod average – 2.2
Best rainbow trout – 12lb
Best brown trout – 6lb 8oz

I simply know of no better place than Clatworthy: the jewel of the Quantocks and a place of outstanding fly fishing, convivial company and countryside to match. Amazing.

Charles Jardine
Free coarse fishing is offered to disabled anglers at Tucking Mill, a small water storage lake near Bath stocked with roach, rudd, bream, perch, carp, tench and gudgeon.

There are 24 swims on site and six of them have specially designed wheelchair accessible platforms, large enough to provide space for two wheelchairs. Each disabled angler may bring along an assistant who can also fish from the same platform.

Perch approaching 4lb have been caught, although there are quite a few small ones present. There's also a decent number of chub with the better fish weighing 3lb 8oz to 4lb. Common and mirror carp are popular targets with fish well into double figures caught each year. There are also a couple of white and orange coloured koi carp weighing around 5lb.

A recommended bait for good all round results is bread, either in punch or flake form for float fishing, or as surface crust for carp in the warmer months. Maggots are also effective, as is corn. Pellets will work too but it pays to feed them on a little and often basis.

Rod and line tactics are successful while the pole can work exceptionally well at times and you do not have to fish a long way out.

Accessible for all
Fishing is allowed from Bam throughout the year.

There is an automatic gate, which can be operated by holders of a Radar key to provide access to the site. Gate opening times: summer months 7.30am to 7pm (June to the end of British summer time) and winter time 7.30am to 3.30pm. Parking is available with easy access to the wheelchair swims and the accessible toilet facilities.

No keep nets are permitted for pleasure fishing although they are allowed in matches. Landing nets must be dipped and if you are targeting carp unhooking mats are preferred.

The venue is ideal for group angling sessions for people with disabilities. To book or reserve match dates email fishing@wessexwater.co.uk
Parties of inexperienced anglers will require one helper to every two anglers.
For more information please call 0345 600 4 600 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm).

This is a tranquil lake in beautiful surroundings, where people can relax and enjoy a great day’s fishing.

Take the tour
Take a quick video tour around the site, or download the visitor’s guide for more about its history, wildlife and geology at wessexwater.co.uk/fishing

Tucking Mill, near Bath, Bath and North East Somerset
Sat nav BA2 7DB
Bailiff Tony Packer
Season Open all year round in 2018
There is a range of recreational activities available including walking and birdwatching, but watersports are also an important part of our offering. Many of our sites are used by sailing and canoeing clubs, with a few also used for water skiing.

Members of Durleigh Sailing Club are able to sail and windsurf at the reservoir which is also used for training by Somerset Youth and Community Sailing Association. The club offers both beginners and advanced courses for all age ranges.

For more information visit www.durleighsc.org.

While sailing is available to members of Sutton Bingham Sailing Club, members of the public can hire our trio dinghy through the club.

Our Raider 18 is also available free of charge for the use of disabled visitors or people with special needs by arrangement with the Apollo Sailing Club. The club also offers regular canoeing and sailing for disabled members. For more information, contact the clubhouse on 01935 862933.

Yeovil and District Model Boat Club sails model yachts and holds regatta days at Sutton Bingham. For further details, contact Ken Bromley on 01458 250844.

For details about Sutton Bingham and District Canoe Club visit the website at www.sbd.cc

Otterhead fishery is also leased to Taunton Fly Fishing Club.
Environmental information

The environment in our region is exceptionally varied, in terms of landscape, cultural heritage and wildlife habitats.

Our reservoirs are all designated as Local Wildlife Sites, reflecting the range and quality of wildlife habitats. We are committed to conserving and enhancing the wildlife and creating a better environment for all visitors.

**Clatworthy reservoir**, on the edge of Exmoor National Park, offers both a short woodland trail of approximately a mile and a walk of the entire five-mile perimeter. Known as the Clatworthy Round, this takes around three hours and offers fantastic views of the water and surrounding countryside. Both walks are signposted and there is ample parking, with public toilets and picnic benches at the viewing area at the start. There are information panels and picnic benches around the reservoir. You can download the visitor guide from our website for more information. The site is home to bats, over 1,000 species of invertebrate and a range of passage and woodland birds. The remains of an Iron Age hill fort and interesting geological exposures are within a short walk of the car park.

**Durleigh and Hawkridge reservoirs**, near Bridgwater, are of interest for overwintering wildfowl. Wet woodland is a feature for wildlife at both reservoirs.

**Sutton Bingham** offers a range of facilities for all the family, with a public car park, picnic area, children’s play area and toilets. From the car park, visitor information boards direct you on a short, easy walk through traditional hay meadows, giving a stunning display of wild flowers and butterflies during summer. The visitor guide on our website, describes the many plant and animal species you may encounter along the way. The site is visited by passing osprey and other migratory birds in the spring and autumn. Access for groups to non-public areas can be organised by the ranger.

Although **Tucking Mill** is a small site, it is rich in wildlife and history with a notable geological heritage. Visitor information panels on site and our downloadable visitor guide will take you on a tour of the features. The lake is surrounded by woodland, accessible through several footpaths and home to speciality woodland flowers such as Bath asparagus, bluebell and yellow archangel.

**Blashford Lakes**, on the Dorset and Hampshire borders, is an important site for wildlife and recreation, supporting thousands of wildfowl on the lakes in winter. Much of the site is accessible as a nature reserve managed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust with six bird hides accessible via ramps, together with 8km of rolled gravel paths (mobility scooters can also be borrowed by arrangement with the Wildlife Trust). The lakes are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest and protected as part of the Avon Valley Special Protection Area. Information about the site is available in the education centre.

**You can find out more about Wessex Water’s environmental work and the wildlife at our sites at wessexwater.co.uk**
The sparctic trout

We're pleased to introduce sparctic trout into Hawkridge reservoir for the 2018 season. Sparctic trout are the hybrid of a brook trout and an arctic char (Salvelinus alpinus, Jansson, 2013). These hybrids grow faster and are more robust than either of the parent species.

Hawkridge is the first reservoir in the United Kingdom to stock this new and exciting species of trout. They are being stocked at an average weight of 2lbs and we expect them to grow on really well in the very high quality water found in Hawkridge.

As well as the sparctics and arctic char, Hawkridge provides a very wide variety of trout including rainbows, browns, tigers, goldens and blues so you really do not know what you will catch next.

Invasive species

Some of our reservoirs contain non-native invasive plant and animal species. We want to prevent the spread of these invaders and avoid other non-native invasive species being introduced to our sites. We would ask all visitors to our sites to ensure that all equipment and clothing (including waders and nets) are checked, cleaned and dried before visiting our sites and are thoroughly cleaned before being used elsewhere.

There is an increased threat from a range of non-native invasive species which live and breed in water and which are already present in the UK. Angling is a key introduction route for such species as anglers may have recently (and unknowingly) visited other contaminated sites before visiting our sites and non-native invasive species can become attached to equipment and clothing.

Please follow the Check, Clean and Dry guidance before and after visiting our sites. For further information, please visit www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry

The entry fee is £60 and includes the fishing permit and refreshments following the event.

First prize £1,000

For more information and to enter, please contact Daniel Ford: Daniel.ford@Wessexwater.co.uk
tel: 01984 624658

Wessex Open 2018

Clatworthy reservoir Saturday 28 April
2018 price guide

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<th>Season Ticket</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult season ticket</td>
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Season tickets are available through Wessex Water customer services on 0345 600 4 600 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) or from the ranger at the reservoir.

Day ticket                   | £23.00  |
Day concession                | £20.00  |
Evening ticket                | £14.00  |
Book of six tickets           | £120.00 |
Book of six concession tickets| £105.00 |

Boat hire

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Wheelchair accessible (wheelie) boat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electric boat motor hire per day</td>
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Book tickets are valid at all our reservoirs.

Bag limit – season tickets four, day permit five, evening permit two.
For beginners, a reduced ticket and tuition are available at the discretion of the ranger (maximum three visits).
Rods and tackle may also be available for introductory sessions or for hire.

Life for a Life

The scheme has been specifically designed to benefit individuals and families who are grieving over the loss of a loved one, regardless of their age, status or religious beliefs.

Wessex Water has donated land in Somerset to create three memorial forests which will in turn help benefit St Margaret’s Somerset Hospices in Taunton and Yeovil. The picturesque settings of Clatworthy, Durleigh and Sutton Bingham reservoirs provide beautiful sites for those wishing both to plant a living memorial to someone they have lost and to contribute to the conservation of wildlife.

Every tree has its own individual plaque and name plate and is recorded as an individual plot number in the Life for a Life record register.

A proportion of the money generated by the scheme will go to the hospices.

Life for a Life has also established memorial gardens in north east England. The scheme can be contacted on 0161 624 2299.