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Fly Fishing - Scotland, North Esk 17.-24.10.2027

Fly fishing trip to one of Scotlands premier salmon rivers - the North Esk. Fishmaster will arrange a hosted fly fishing trip to the Stracathro beat on 17th-24th October 2027. Jouni Rauha will work as a host for this fishing trip. The previous years same period there has been caught a very good number of salmon.





North Esk. The North Esk is one of Scotlands premier salmon rivers and is located in the eastern part of Scotland. It runs through the valley of Glen Esk, over the dramatic gorges at Edzell Loups, then across Morphy Dyke and finally enters the sea just North of Montrose. River North Esk is well known for its early run salmon and the best spring fishing season is from March until May. The North Esk is a very beautiful river which suits well for fly fishing. Overall, the main stem of the river is around 45 km with tributaries like the West Water providing additional fishing.



Stracathro Beat. Our fly fishing group of four persons will fish exclusively the private Stracathro beat. Stracathro is one of the best beats of the North Esk. It is situated about 11 km from the sea, and about 3 km below the Edzell Loups. It can all be fished from the north bank, on which stands a large and comfortable fishing hut. The beat starts at the confluence of the North Esk with its major tributary, the West Water. It is double banked for all but the last 200 metres of its two km and comprises 11 pools.



Fly Fishing. Stracathro beat is superb fly water, with easy access to the pools given the right water height. The beat fishes well throughout the season, and even in low water fish can be taken in the deeper pools. This is especially true of the Junction Pool, where many salmon will collect until conditions are suitable for ascending the West Water. Stracathro is a beautiful beat, with stunning backdrops, excellent fishing and easy access. The spring fishing on the Stracathro beat is fly fishing only and catch and release.

Fly Fishing Tackle. For fly fishing for salmon on the North Esk we recommend 12-13 ' feet double handed rods for lines #8-9 and suitable fly reels with good quality brakes. Floating, sink tip or intermediate shooting heads are most used fly lines but please bring also sinking shooting heads for possible high water conditions.

Flies. Good salmon fly patterns for North Esk are: Dee Sheep, Willie Gunn, Black Sheep, Black & Yellow, Black & Orange, Black & Yellow, Munroe Killer, Cascade, Sunray Shadow, Monkey, Allys Shrimp, Cascade and Garry.



Accomodation. Accomodation for guests will be in a nice Scottish house - Capo Farmhouse close the Stracathro beat. In the house there is a toilet, a shower, a large living room, a well equipped kitchen and 4 bedrooms. We will cook the meals together in the accomodation.

Travel Arrangements. Fishing trips to the North Esk are hosted trips. Anglers will first take flight to Aberdeen. At the airport they will meet the host Jouni Rauha and continue to the North Esk with a rental car, it is only about an hour drive to the destination.



Trip length: 6 fishing days/7 nights

Group size: 1 host + 3 persons

Price includes: Fly fishing, Accomodation, introduction of beat

Price excludes: Flights to Aberdeen, Rental car, Meals



General information. The price includes accomodation, fishing licences, introduction of beat. The price doesn't include flights, rental car, food and drink. Please book the flights for yourself. Try to find and book a flight that will arrive to Aberdeen between 12-16 hours on Sunday early afternoon to avoid too long waiting in the Aberdeen airport. After you have booked your flights, give flight numbers and schedules for host Jouni by e-mail: jouni@fishmaster.fi. Take with the tackle listed. Please pack the luggage into a big soft bag, it's easier to back them into a car.

Insurances. Fishmaster is not responsible for the insurances of participants. Everyone should take his/her own travel insurance well before trip starts. Travel insurance should cover all possible medical treatments, medicines and lost, delayed or damaged luggage and fishing equipment. Travel insurance should cover customers costs in case of cancellation.

Trip Schedule:

17.10. Sunday. Gathering at the Aberdeen airport in the early afternoon. Try to find a flight that will arrive to Aberdeen between 12-16 hours. Meeting the host Jouni Rauha from Fishmaster and other fishermen at the airport. Car transport from Aberdeen to North Esk valley. Arrival to the North Esk destination in the afternoon/evening. Showing the Capo Farmhouse and Stracathro beat. Dinner in the accomodation.

18-23.10. Monday - Saturday. Fly fishing for salmon at Stracathro beat. Breakfasts, lunches and dinners in the accomodation.

24.10. Sunday. Leaving the accomodation in the morning and heading back to the Aberdeen airport. Flight back home according to everyone's flight schedules. Try to find flight that will departure from Aberdeen airport between 9-14 hours on Sunday morning/ afternoon.

North Esk - Flies

Tube flies with 4-7 cm wing is normal size

Black Sheep
Tag: Red
Butt: Red
Body: Black floss
Rib: Silver
Hackle: Blue
Wing: Black and Yellow arctic fox
Head: Red or black conehead



Willie Gunn
Body: Black floss
Rib: Silver
Front hackle: Blue
Wing: 1/3 yellow arctic fox
1/3 light orange arctic fox
1/3 black arctic fox
Head: Black



Dee Sheep
Tag: Red
Body: Black floss
Rib: Oval Silver
Front hackle: Blue soft hackle
Wing: Bright Yellow and Black arctic fox
Electric Yellow Angel Hair
Head: Red



Black & Yellow
Tube: 1/1 inch brass
Body: Gold
Wing: Yellow and Black arctic fox
Yellow angel hair between yellow and black hair



Cascade
Tag: Red and yellow bucktail, 4 pearly flashabou
Body: 1/2 silver, 1/2 black floss
Rib: Oval Silver
Wing: Black squirrel, 2-4 silver flashabou accent
Front hackle: Yellow and Orange hackle
Head: Black




SEPA Guaging Stations
View current data on
the River Levels page
North Esk
B966
Clova
Water of Saughs
Luther Water
A90
Edzell
Luther
Bridge
B955
Gella Bridge
Dalhousie
Bridge
A937
West
Water
Prosen
Stracathro
Logie Mill
Noran Water
Brechin
Montrose
Prosen Bridge
Brechin
B951
South Esk
A933
Kirriemuir
A90
Lunan
Lunan
Bay
Forfar
A932


Stracathro Fishing - River North Esk
Access
Quarry
North Esk
Capo
North Esk
Upper
Junction
Pool
Lower
Dam
Pool
Access
Mill of
Pert
Fishing
Hut
Upper
Cruick
Pool
Donald's
Pool
Laird's
Run
Pool
Weir
Pool
West Water
Lower
Junction
Pool
Otter
Pool
Lower
Cruick
Pool
Laird's
Pool
Upper
Dam
Pool
A90

North Esk - Tackle List

General

Warm hat with bill
Polarized sunglasses
Long sleeve shirts, sweaters, fleeces
Short sleeve shirts, t-shirts (several)
Underwear
Warm, long underwear to use under waders
Fleece pants, fleece shirt
Long pants
Warm socks, several
Sandals or camp shoes
Raingear or wading jacket
Sunscreen
Camera, memory cards, extra batteries, battery charger
Backpack (to carry camera & other gear)
Small flashlight
Mobile phone
Garbage bags or waterproof bags for laundry and wading boots.
Books, magazines
Passport
Airline tickets and other travel documents
Pre-trip information, maps, Fishmaster phone number (+358-400-824530)
Cash, English pounds for meals, drinks, rental car etc.
Credit card
Notebook and pen
Toiletries, including; tooth brush, shampoo, hand lotion, bandages
Razor
Pain killers, Prescription medications
Adapter for electronic equipment

Fishing Equipment

Fly rods, rod tubes (Rods 12'-13' # 8-9)
Fly reels, reel covers
Spare spools
Fly lines, leaders
Fly boxes, flies
Waders, wading belt, repair kit for waders
Wading boots
Pliers (rustproof)
Hook hone/file
Extra spools monofilament: 0.30, 0.35
Needle clippers
Hemostats
Tape measure