



THE EANYWATER FISHERY

The Eanywater Fishery is a spate river fishery and forms a part of the 125 km<sup>2</sup> Eany catchment area comprising the Eany River, the lower reaches of the Eanymore River and the lower reaches of the Eanybeg River.

The Eany River itself is a 5km stretch of water beginning at the confluence of the Eanymore and Eanybeg rivers just upstream of Ballymacahil Bridge and flows into Inver Bay.

The Eanymore is a 10km stretch of river starting at the confluence of the Sruell and Eglis Rivers. It is generally fished on the 7km stretch of the lower reaches developed by Inland Fisheries Ireland, from Ballymacahil to Drumboarty (Dummies) Bridge.

The Eanybeg is a 16km stretch of river that rises in the west of the Blue Stack Hills and is usually fished along the 3km stretch of developed river on the lower reaches.

Access to the fishery is good with numerous stiles, walkways and footbridges having been installed along the rivers.

EANY FACT FILE	
Species	Salmon & Sea Trout
Season	1 <sup>st</sup> April - 30 <sup>th</sup> September
Best Time	Salmon – June Grilse – July to September Sea Trout – July to September
Permit	Daily or weekly permit required (see below for details)
Licence	State licence required for Salmon & Sea Trout
Methods	Catch & Release fishing – Single barbless fly or spinner (no bait fishing) Open fishery or angler in possession of a Brown Tag – Fly, Spinner or Worm No natural Shrimp or Prawn baits allowed
Contact	In season contact – Owenea Angling Centre: Tel: +353 (0)74 9551141 April & May – 9am to 1pm 7 days a week June to September – 7am to 1pm 7 days a week Out of season – Inland Fisheries Ireland, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal. Tel: +353 (0)71 9851435 email: <a href="mailto:ballyshannon@fisheriesireland.ie">ballyshannon@fisheriesireland.ie</a> Website: <a href="http://www.fishinginireland.info/salmon/north/eany.htm">www.fishinginireland.info/salmon/north/eany.htm</a>

PERMITS & LICENCES

A permit is required to fish the Eany River. These are available as Adult Day Permits, Juvenile (under 18 years old) Day Permits, Weekly Adult Permits and Juvenile Weekly Permits.

Permits can be purchased from: The Village Shop, Main Street, Frosses, Co. Donegal.  
Permits for the Eany Fishery can also be purchased through [www.donegalanglingholidays.com](http://www.donegalanglingholidays.com)

Anglers must possess a valid State Licence to fish the Eany River. This can be a Full National State Licence, a Ballyshannon District Licence, a Juvenile State Licence (under 18 years of age), a 21 Day State Licence or a 1 day State Licence.

Anglers should make themselves aware of any current legislation pertaining to the Eany Fishery.

BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION

For information in season (April to September inclusive) contact the Owenea Angling Centre, Glenties Hatchery, Glenties, Co. Donegal. Tel: +353 (0)74 9551141.  
Email: [glenties@fisheriesireland.ie](mailto:glenties@fisheriesireland.ie)

For out of season information contact: Inland Fisheries Ireland, Station Road, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal. Tel: +353 (0)71 9851435. Email: [ballyshannon@fisheriesireland.ie](mailto:ballyshannon@fisheriesireland.ie)

For further information see our website: [www.fishinginireland.info](http://www.fishinginireland.info)

ACCOMMODATION

There are various accommodation providers in the area. For accommodation information/bookings, the following websites may be of use:

- [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)
- [www.bandbireland.com](http://www.bandbireland.com)
- [www.irelandhotels.com](http://www.irelandhotels.com)

COUNTRY CODE

Anglers should ensure that gates are closed and that fences are not broken or damaged. Care should be taken with crops and livestock. Litter must not be discarded and no fires are allowed. Vehicles should be parked in designated areas and in such a manner that they do not cause obstruction.

BIOSECURITY

Aquatic Invasive Species and fish pathogens are readily transferred from one watercourse to another on angling tackle, boats and protective clothing. These can be very damaging to resident fish stocks, the aquatic habitat and the general environment. We would ask that all anglers inspect and clean their gear prior to fishing on the Eany if that gear has previously been used on another fishery.

Full information on prevention of invasive species is available on our website at: <http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Research/invasive-species.html>  
Or via Invasive Species Ireland at <http://invasivespeciesireland.com/cops/water-users/anglers/>

ERRORS OR INACCURACIES

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this guide is accurate, no responsibility will be accepted by Inland Fisheries Ireland for any errors or inaccuracies therein.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Eany River  
Angling Guide



# Eany River Angling Map



- A = Access Point
- P = Parking

## Angling on the Eany River

The season on the Eany runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> (inclusive). The fishery has a small run of summer salmon but is noted for its runs of grilse and sea trout. The summer salmon run from June onwards. The grilse and sea trout runs are at their best from July to September.

The Eany River itself is the most popular part of the fishery and contains 30 pools including the notable Devlin Pool, Luggies, Burn's Falls, Bonnyglen Falls, Hughie's Pool and the Devil's Pool. The bottom of the river is affected by tides with the river backing up as far as Hughie's Pool on a high spring tide. The water remains fresh but the flow on the river slows as high tide is approached.

The Eanymore River contains approximately 45 pools. Access points are at Drumboarty (Dummies) Bridge, Letterbarra, Limm-na-Mhille, Mohan's and downstream of the Eanymore Bridge. Drumboarty is fairly high up the system but offers some lovely pools and this section can be in good order in a flood when the rest of the fishery is still too high

to fish. Access is via the steps at the bridge. Letterbarra has some lovely pools and runs and access here is to the side of the bridge for the downstream section and from the Donegal

Town road for the upstream section. Limm-na-Mhille has some nice streamy sections and deep holding pools. Access is via the forestry path using the stile at the edge of the forestry at the little car park. Mohan's has some lovely runs and pools with tree clad banks for much of the section and is a little more challenging than other sections. The stretch below the Eanymore Bridge is accessed to the right of the bridge and is similar in nature to Mohan's.

The Eanybeg River is normally fished in the

bottom section from the Eanybeg Bridge to the confluence with the Eanymore River. Access is via the Eanybeg Bridge or Ballymacahil Bridge. This is the section that contains the 'Hour Glass Pool' made famous by Kingsmill Moore's renowned book, 'A Man May Fish'. There are some lovely pools further up the Eanybeg though these would only suit the more adventurous rods.



## Methods

**Fly-fishing** is one of the most popular methods on the fishery. Most fly fishermen favour a single handed rod or a small double handed rod. Single handed rods of 10 to 11 foot in length rated AFTM 7 to 8 will suffice or double handed rods of 12 to 13½ foot with an AFTM rating of 8 or 9. The river is not wide and there is rarely a need to throw a very long line on most pools. A floating line covers most of the fishing. A sink-tip or intermediate line is of benefit early in the season to fish the fly a little deeper when the water temperature is low or to prevent the flies fishing too high in the water on some streamy sections or during high water conditions when the river is running faster.

Many patterns of fly work well but most rods nowadays fish shrimp fly patterns. Particular favourites on the Eany fishery are the Bann Special Shrimp, Eany Tailfire, Cascade, Mourne Gold Shrimp and a Derryman. The Eany salmon seem to show a preference for Orange, Yellow and Gold in flies.

Size of fly is dependent on water temperature and water height but size 10 to 14 flies will cover most eventualities. Early and late in the season or during a big flood a size 6 to 8 fly may be more appropriate. If fishing

under 'Fully Open Salmon Fishery' regulations treble hooked flies may be used. If fishing is under 'Brown Tag Regulations' and the angler possesses a Brown Tag, treble hooked flies may be used. If fishing is under 'Catch & Release Regulations' all flies must be tied on single barbless hooks only.

**Spinning** is also popular on the Eany Fishery, especially during high water conditions. Most rods that spin use the ubiquitous Flying 'C' lure. No single colour seems to be more effective than others with most anglers fishing red, black or yellow lures. If fishing under 'Fully Open Salmon Fishery' regulations treble

hooked lures may be used. If fishing is under 'Brown Tag Regulations' and the angler possesses a Brown Tag, treble hooked lures may be used. If fishing is under 'Catch & Release Regulations' all lures must be equipped with single barbless hooks only.

**Bait Fishing:** Worm fishing is allowed if the fishery is a 'Fully Open Salmon Fishery'. If fishing under 'Brown Tag Regulations' and the angler possesses a Brown Tag, worms can also be used. If fishing

under 'Catch and Release Regulations', no bait (hence no worm) fishing is allowed.

**Shrimp and Prawn are prohibited.**

