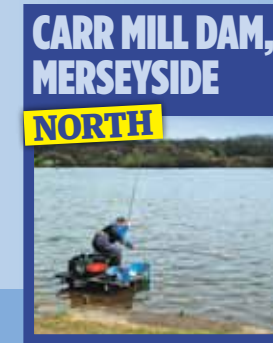


Where to Fish

AnglingTimes

OVER 120 VENUES INSIDE

EIGHT PAGES OF THE BEST PLACES FOR YOU TO FISH THIS WEEKEND



TWO-FOR-ONE FISHERY DEALS OF THE WEEK

Cut out the voucher on the right, take it to one of the fisheries listed and you will receive two day tickets for the price of one

2-for-1 DAY TICKET
This week's venues

Cheshire Fishing, Gudmore Fisheries, Edon Meadows, Elvington Fisheries, Grange Park Fisheries, Heronbrook Fisheries, Pendle View Fishery, Chestnut Pool, Frisby Lakes, Grooby's Pit, Headfen Fishery, Makin's Fishery, Peterstone Fishery, Willowbrook Fisheries, A12 Cuton Lakes, Broadlands Lake, Horam Manor Fishery, Oakfield Fishery, Stonnes Fishery, Todber Manor Fishery

Valid from Tuesday September 17 to Friday September 20 and Monday September 23. Photocopies are not accepted.

Scenery and silverfish - Wallington has it all

FOUR LAKES IN TRANQUIL SURROUNDINGS

IF THERE was a competition to find the UK's most scenic fishery, Wallington Hall would definitely make the final shortlist.

The Norfolk complex is home to four of the most picturesque waters you're ever likely to set eyes on. But rather than being on some exclusive piece of inaccessible land, they're all fishable on a season ticket.

Dense lily pads frame each of the lakes, while a vast array of wildlife on the ground and in the sky complements the huge head of silverfish and the few monster carp and tench they contain.

The Downham Market DAA fishery offers the perfect 'estate-lake' environment for the angler who likes to get away from it all.

Club committee member Alan Gallagher was taken aback by the scene which greeted him on his first visit. Since then he has soaked up the tranquil atmosphere countless times.



The fishery is situated on the same land as the huge Wallington Hall manor. Three of the lakes are established fisheries, while a fourth was opened to angling only this year. Who knows what monsters this one might contain?

Anglers who crave guaranteed fish-a-chuck action might want to look elsewhere, but for those willing to craft out a careful tactical plan, the rewards can be impressive.

Lake Two was Alan's choice for the day, with bream and roach his primary target. Every swim had features that screamed fish, but the wind direction ultimately dictated his final choice.

"The wind has been hammering down to one end of the lake so the fish are likely to be sat down here," he said as he settled on a swim that

offered him both open water and a large bed of lilies.

A lot of tactics will score here, but pole fishing close to the marginal weed and lilies is a sure way of getting bites, over an initial feed of fishmeal groundbait laced with maggots, worms and a few pellets.

During this time, a few chucks on a groundbait feeder towards another

patch of cover kick-started proceedings, with small perch first attacking the bait before the occasional skimmer came to the net.

A few bubbles began to fizz up over the pole line and the rig - which was made up of a hollow No12 elastic, 0.16mm mainline and a 0.14mm hooklength to a size 16 hook - was baited up with half a worm.

"It might seem like a heavy rig for silverfish but if I hook a carp or tench close to the snag I want to be in with a chance of landing it," he said.

From the moment the bait hit the bottom it was clear there were fish in the swim, with subtle lifts and drops on the sensitive 4x14 float every few seconds. Eventually it slid away and a 3oz perch was added to the net.

Several others followed before something much more substantial was hooked. Its initial reaction made it clear what the culprit was, with the slow, dogged fight a sure sign that it was a bream.

Andy revealed he had seen a bream shoal containing over 150 fish basking on the surface before. Moments later, a four-pounder slid gracefully over the rim of the net.

Action remained steady and by the time it came to pack away, he'd taken just over 15lb of roach, bream, rudd and perch.

"If 100lb bags are your thing this is not the place for you but those who want to enjoy sport in a wonderful environment needn't look any further than Wallington Hall," concluded Alan.



A 4lb bream for Alan - the exact stocks are still a bit of a mystery.

All four estate lakes are well suited to a pole approach.

"If I hook a carp or tench close to the snag I want to be in with a chance of landing it"

WALLINGTON HALL - THE LAKES

LAKE ONE - This water was drained and de-silted before thousands of silverfish were stocked. Fish maggots or casters for the roach and perch, with worms or corn in the margins for tench to over 4lb.

LAKE TWO - Use the long pole close to cover with worm to catch a mixed bag, or target the open water and features with a groundbait feeder for bream to 6lb.

LAKE THREE - Baiting heavily with groundbait, corn and small pellets will tempt the bream and the odd big carp into coming out from under the dense cover to feed in patches of open water.

LAKE FOUR - The club gained the lease to this water at the beginning of the year and its stocks are a bit of a mystery. Members that have ventured on to it have taken double-figure nets of rudd and perch on waggler and maggot tactics.



Skimmers and a 'proper' bream.

FISHERY FACTFILE

PRICES: Tickets to fish Wallington are by application only, either through the website or by contacting club secretary Mark Newton

LOCATION: Wallington Hall is situated just off the A10 between the villages of Stow Bardolph and South Runcton. Turn into the Magpie Centre and take the right-hand track when it forks. Continue down the lane and you will come to Lake One first on your right. SatNav: PE33 0EP

CONTACT: Downham Market DAA secretary Mark Newton, tel: 07831 423836

WEBSITE: www.dmdaa.co.uk

FACILITIES: Parking and toilets



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ESTATE LAKE FISHING TIPS

1 Don't be too selective with your feed. Dead maggots, sweetcorn and chopped worms will attract all species.



2 Use a strong float like this. The spring eye will help if you need to pull back as a fish heads for the lilies.



3 For skimmers, a soft hollow elastic is best, but use it with a puller bung so its tension can be increased if need be.

