

River Coln Bull Hotel Fairford

Rules and Codes of Practice

The River Coln and its surrounding area is a place of extraordinary beauty. Limestone streams like the Coln which contain wild fish and an abundance of invertebrate fly life are a rare commodity and should be afforded the utmost respect in order to preserve the natural habitat and ecology of the river.

What follows are a few rules and recommendations which we would like you to adhere to whilst fishing the river in order to preserve this rare and beautiful place.

1. **Licenses and permits.** All anglers must hold a current Environment Agency rod license and a valid 'Bull Hotel' permit to fish.
2. **Permitted methods.** Fly fishing only with dry fly or nymph. One dropper is permitted. **NO** fishing with lures, fly spoons, fly jigs, spinners or bait is allowed.
3. **Flies and hooks.** All flies must be barbless. Barbed hooks should have the barbs flattened.
4. **All fishing is catch and release.** All fish irrespective of species must be returned carefully to the water. The use of a 'Ketchum Release' or similar tool is strongly recommended. Every effort must be made to keep the handling of fish to a minimum. Wet the hands before touching the fish and return the fish to the water as quickly as possible.
5. **Landing nets.** By law only nets with knotless, fish friendly mesh are permitted.
6. **Wading.** Wading is permitted but due consideration must be given to the river and to the residents whose properties it borders. Wading is undertaken at your own risk.
7. **Consideration for others.** There are residents living along the river, particularly bordering the island at the top of the beat. Please wade on the opposite side of the river when fishing by our neighbours' gardens. There is a footpath along the whole of the beat which is popular with walkers and dogs. Please be courteous to all who are on or close to the river and take care when casting. Also be aware that the farmer and horse riders use the ford in the first meadow and they have right of way.
8. **Litter.** Please do not leave any litter along the riverbank. Please take any litter and any unwanted monofilament or other fishing discards with you and dispose of it safely.
9. If you see anything untoward whilst on the river please advise us by reporting to one of the water bailiffs if possible or by ringing the **Hotel** on **01285 712535**. Please report any pollution incidents to the Environment Agency hotline **0800 807060**.

Throughout the course of your day on the river you may be asked to produce your permit to fish by one of the water bailiffs. You may also be asked to demonstrate that you are using flies with barbless hooks and of legitimate type.

We hope that you will enjoy your time on the River Coln and that the trout and grayling residing therein will be obliging to make your day a memorable one.

Before you leave we would be most grateful if you would take the time to fill in the fisherman's log/returns book which is kept at the Hotel Reception.