

# Island's streams and rivers abound with plenty of lively, fighting trout

Prince Edward Island, nestled in that arm of the Atlantic Ocean known as the Gulf of St. Lawrence, has many deeply incised bays and tidal rivers. For inland, many of these tidal rivers merge with fresh water streams which derive their origin from hundreds of fresh water streams. Some of these fresh water streams have been dammed up for years to provide power for saw and grist mills. All of the rivers in the Province are fresh or salt, and all of the mill dams, and the few small lakes which exist, are well populated with trout.

Surveys made in recent years have shown that inland streams are among the most prolific trout breeding grounds to be found anywhere on the Atlantic coast. But it must be remembered that trout have been fished in the Province for a half a century at least, and that the Island has no virgin fishing streams or lakes such as exist in northern Quebec or Ontario. But, for the skilled angler, there are plenty of sea trout to be had in some parts of the Province, the sporty rainbow trout.

Although the Province does not offer the fisherman the variety or quantity of fish to be obtained in the more remote parts of Canada, it is not necessary to make an expensive expedition into wild country to have a day's sport. It takes little more preparation to have a day's fishing in Prince Edward Island than it does to have a game of golf or a swim on one of the excellent Island beaches.

**FISHING NEAR**  
No matter where the tourist decides to stay, he will find a fishing pond or stream not more than an hour's drive from the resort. There are salt water rivers where a fisherman can pick up a half-dozen sea trout, have a swim and return to his hotel or cabin well before bed-time. All that he needs is a lunch and his fishing gear. The fishing spots are easily accessible, and no matter where the visitor goes he will find the people friendly and co-operative.

The Prince Edward Island Travel Bureau has organized a volunteer Fishing Guides' Association and will supply visitors with guides. These guides are business and professional men, as well as men of all trades and occupations, who have one thing in common—the love of fishing. They are giving their services free as a gesture of hospitality towards those summer visitors who, like themselves, believe that one of the greatest joys of life is trout fishing.

Ordinarily, the summer visitor never sees some of the Island's better fishing streams or gets more than a glimpse of the beauty spots which are hidden along the many tidal rivers. Such rivers as the Brudenell, Montague, Vernon River, Murray River, the Mill and Kildore rivers are unsurpassed for summer scenery, and, to the keen sportsman, provide good sea trout fishing.

The Prince Edward Island Travel Bureau hopes that visitors to the Province will take advantage of the opportunity to obtain a volunteer fishing guide when contemplating a fishing trip. It is hoped by this means that tourists will see more of the out-of-the-way places on the Island and meet some of our skilled fishermen. All requests for volunteer guides will be made to the Travel Bureau in Charlottetown.

**TIDAL RIVERS**  
Some of the tidal rivers, when the sea trout are "running", lend themselves ideally to family parties. The men folk can fish, and the children can play on a quiet beach or bathe and swim in safe and sheltered waters.

In fact, perhaps no where else in Canada can the same package deal be had at so many uncrowded spots as in Prince Edward Island. Fishing for the grown-ups, safe bathing for the children and unsurpassed scenery—a combined outing for the whole family.

The fisherman must acquaint himself, of course, with the best rivers and flies or bait to be used on the Island to achieve the best results. The accumulated experience of many anglers down through the years is, of course, available to all visiting fishermen. It is generally acknowledged that bait fishing, for instance, is at its best in the spring and early summer months. The old reliable angle worm is still as popular as ever, but many fishermen use live shrimp, crayfish or other small live species. The more sporty fishermen seldom resort to bait fishing after the first of July; they depend on the fly exclusively.

**POPULAR FLIES**  
By far the most popular flies in inland waters are the Parnassus Belle and the Dark Montreal. Scarcely less popular are the Orange Shrimp and the Iris. Until ten years or so ago, these old stand-bys, in sizes from 8 to 12, were top heavy favorites. However, since the advent of the streamer type of fly, these same flies have appeared in a streamer design and size as back-tails. Although the Belle and Montreal and the Shrimp are "musts" for any fishing trip, they do not have any monopoly in trout fishing. The Silver Doctor, the White Miller, the Dusty Miller, the Jack Boat, the Cow Pond, the Stone Fly, the Cow



VARIETY IS LIMITED, BUT EXCITEMENT IS PLENTIFUL



ALL ISLAND STREAMS, PONDS WITHIN HOUR'S DRIVE OF RESORT

quillo and others have found a place in the local fisherman's fly box. Many fishermen, in fact, prefer these last named flies to some of the better known ones.

A still further development has been the advent of the spinning tackle and lure. For many years, and until quite recently, few inland fishermen had any faith in spinning tackle. But, as more and more people bought spinning rods and gave this kind of angling a try-out, it was found that inland trout, both salt water and fresh, responded very well indeed to the right type of lure. Today, many inland fishermen place as much faith in the spinning rod as they do in the traditional fly-rod fishing. Any visitor who has spinning tackle which has worked well in other parts of Canada or other States will find the same lure will work equally well in inland waters.

**EVENING BEST TIME**

The most popular time of the day to fish is in the evening, but there are those who fish in the early hours of daylight. In so far as the inland salt water streams are concerned, good results can be obtained in the daylight hours, preferably on a dark day when there is a good ripple on the water. It must also be kept in mind that many experienced fishermen prefer to fish in salt water when the spring tides are running. These high tides occur three days before the full or new moon and last until three days after these moon phases.

Still another point about sea fishing to be remembered is the fact that the trout follow the river channels and feed on shrimp and other food which is washed off the shore. For this reason, it is advisable to fish just at the edge of the channel, and this can best be done at low tide. Therefore, most fishermen fish the first two or three hours of the rising tide or the last two hours of the dropping tide.

All of the Island's fresh water streams empty into the sea, and every year the sea trout ascend these fresh water streams probably in search of a change of diet. It is the general belief that the fish enter fresh water on the high tides, but fish experts state that this is not a hard and fast rule.

the autumn months. They do not rise readily to the fly, perhaps because we have no very deep streams and very little salt water. There is another theory about the Island salmon's indifference to artificial lures.

Unlike many salmon rivers in other parts of Canada, with their rocky and gravelly bottoms, the streams in Prince Edward Island have mud or sandy beds. In this mixture of sand and mud, vegetable life flourishes, and from the highly productive Island fields, the rain washes down great quantities of grubs and other foods of the land.

It is believed that the salmon ground feed in Island streams and are not so prone to rise to any lure which lights on the surface of the water. It will be well for any visitor who proposes to fish a fresh water stream to inquire whether a "run" has entered that particular stream. A "run" is the expression used to convey the fact that sea trout have entered a stream of fresh water. If no "run" is present, it is a waste of time to fish any of the streams.

**RAINBOW TROUT**  
Rainbow trout are not native to the Province; they were placed in several lakes and ponds on the Island some years ago. They have thrived well in Seale's Pond at Freetown, and at Glenfinnan Lake, about fifteen miles from Charlottetown. They have also been placed in Keefe's Lake, about sixteen miles from Charlottetown. The season does not open on these trout until July 1st.

They grow much bigger than sea or brook trout, quite often reaching a weight of six or seven pounds. Within the past few years, rainbow trout have been caught in some of the tidal rivers, notably in the Cardigan, Seal and Mitchell Rivers. The Mitchell and Seal Rivers, a tributaries of the Cardigan River.

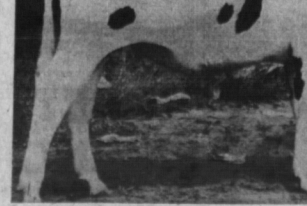
It is altogether likely that the rainbow trout now appearing in these rivers have escaped a fingerings from the Dominion Government rearing pond at the head of the Cardigan River. When rainbow trout are caught in salt water, they are known as "steelheads". They are a very gammy fish in salt water.

**REARING POND**  
The real dyed-in-the-wool fisherman may be interested in visiting the Dominion Government rearing pond just a few miles outside of Cardigan. Here, under the most modern conditions, brook trout and rainbow trout are spawned and raised to fingerling size and larger in hundreds of thousands. From this center, they are distributed all over the Province.

**SALMON NATIVE**

Salmon are native to many of our inland rivers but are not present in any quantities until

whether fishing from the banks of a pond or from a small boat.



**LOBSTER IS KING!**

**SELECT MONTH**  
For some reason, the trout select their own particular month for entering certain streams. They make the change from salt water to fresh water mostly in the fall, but they do not begin the ascent of some rivers until July or even August. They do, however, keep practically the same time-table on each stream each year. Year after year they can be found in certain streams early in June, and the experienced fisherman knows just about the date on which to meet them.

For children the best fishing

**SOME FACTS ON FISHING**

1. You must obtain a fishing license. The fee for non-residents is \$3.00.
2. The best time to fish fresh water ponds and streams is the evening or early morning. However, if the day is cloudy, fishing in fresh water is generally good.
3. You can fish salt water rivers any time of the day when the tide is suitable, but no fish are taken after sundown. Salt water fishing is fly-rod or spinner fishing. Bait does not work very well during the summer months. The tide is only suitable fish during the first two or three hours of the rising tide or the last two or three hours of the lowering tide.
4. In the past few years, it has been found that the spinner method of fishing is very effective both in fresh water and in salt water rivers throughout the Province. Tourists will find that the lures which worked in other parts of Canada and the United States will bring good results in inland waters.

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