



*In partnership with*

Loch Tay Highland Lodges have 2 types of power boat available to hire on the Loch.

The **Pebble Boats** (orange boats) only have a 4hp outboard engine and are tiller-steered from the engine itself. These have a max. carrying capacity of 4 people and are fine for a slow potter around the loch. These boats can be used for pleasure or fishing trips.

The **Cruisers** (white boats) have 10hp engines, a max. capacity of 6 people and have a steering console at the cabin, so much more intuitive for folks with no experience to drive. Given the bigger engine, these are a better bet for really exploring Loch Tay for picnics and sightseeing.

### **Fishing and Pleasure Boats FAQ's**

#### **Q: How can I check availability and make a booking?**

A: Checking availability and making a booking is easiest online here: Fishing Boats: <https://lochtay-vacations.co.uk/local-activities/site-activities/fishing> and Loch Cruisers: <https://lochtay-vacations.co.uk/local-activities/site-activities/self-drive> The booking system is "live" so will always show the current position – if there is no availability online then there are no boats available. Face to face enquiries can be made at the IYE Activity Office at the bottom of the Loch Tay Highland Lodges site if you are having difficulty booking, however boats are **NOT** kept in reserve for last minute hires!

#### **Q: What is included in the price?**

A: Boat rental, fuel, buoyancy aids and a salmon fishing permit (if a permit is selected when booking the boat).

#### **Q: How long can I book a boat for?**

A: Boats can be booked for a full day – from 9am to 4pm.

Please arrive 10 minutes before the start of your hire so we can issue buoyancy aids and provide an introduction to the boat's features.

#### **Q: Can I vary the pick-up/hire times?**

A: Unfortunately, during the busy parts of the season we cannot guarantee that staff will be available to issue boats out with the standard hire times. IYE staff have other duties which usually take them away from the Activity Office. If you are running late please **text** IYE on: 07496 436192 and we will get back to you as soon as possible. The Duty staff member may NOT respond to texts or phone calls if he/she is already instructing other clients. We will endeavour to do our absolute best to be flexible but we make no guarantees to be able to issue hires late.

You are welcome to return the boat at anytime within the hire period.

#### **Q: Are boats available all year round?**

A: No, the boats are only available April to October

**Q: Do I have to wear a buoyancy aid?**

A: Yes, buoyancy aids must be worn at all times when on the boat.

**Q: How many people can go on the boat?**

A: Our Pebble boats are licensed to carry up to 4 people. Our Loch Cruisers are licensed to carry up to 6 people.

Every person on board regardless of age counts towards this maximum. Customers are however permitted to return to the pontoon and swap members of their party into and out of the boat during the hire period provided all persons that will be driving the boat are present for the initial safety brief when the boat is handed over by our staff.

**Q: Is there a minimum age for people going on the boat?**

A: No, but everyone going on the boat must be able to fit into a buoyancy aid. Our smallest buoyancy aids are Peak Sprogs which fit children weighing 20-40kg with a chest size of 55-65cm (22-26 inches).

**Q: Do I need a licence to hire a boat?**

A: No, but we reserve the right to refuse the issue of the boat if we are not happy with the level of competency displayed leaving the shoreline.

**Q: Can I take my dog on the boat?**

A: Yes, but the dog is at your own risk. We would recommend that the dog wears a lifejacket, we do not have suitable lifejackets so please take your own. You will also need to ensure any dog hair is removed from the boat before returning it.

**Q: Am I allowed to bring food and alcohol onto the boat?**

A: Customers are permitted to bring food and soft drinks onto the boat provided all rubbish is removed before the boat is returned.

Alcohol is not permitted on any of our boats. If our staff see or suspect alcohol is being brought onto the boat you will be asked to leave it ashore. Failure to do so will result in your hire being cancelled without refund.

## **WHERE CAN WE GO ON THE LOCH**

**Q: Am I allowed to go ashore on other parts of the Loch?**

A: No, the vessel must not be beached or grounded anywhere else on the loch, nor is it permitted to moor up on any jetties or pontoons other than at Loch Tay Highland Lodges.

**Q: Are there any other restrictions on where I can go on the loch**

A: The water levels at Loch Tay can fluctuate dramatically and there are many hidden shallow/rocky areas along the banks as well as the remains of numerous Iron Age dwellings (crannogs). To avoid grounding or damaging the boat customers must remain at least 50m from the banks at all times. Under no circumstances should boats be taken up any rivers attached to the Loch.

**Q: Can you travel the length of the Loch?**

A: The boats only do 2/3 miles per hour and the Loch is 20 miles in length so it is unlikely you would get to the end. Customers need to keep an eye on distance and time to make sure they do not go

too far. In addition, the harder the boat is driven the faster it will burn fuel and you may risk using up your allocated fuel before the end of your hire period.

**Q: What do I do if the boat breaks down or in an emergency?**

A: Emergency contact numbers are located inside the cabins of the boats.

## **FISHING**

**Q: What are the rules and advise around fishing for salmon?**

A: Please refer to the latest leaflet provided by Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board on our website. The traditional method of fishing for salmon is “trolling” with the boat moving and using a rapala on the fishing line.

**Q: What if I want to fish for trout – what are the rules and any advise?**

A: You would need to purchase a trout fishing permit from the LTHL Reception office. The cost is £10.00 per adult. Boat fishing on Loch Tay is fly only and rods must be hand-held. Spinning and/or trolling (fish by trailing a baited line along behind a boat) from boats is NOT permitted. Catch is limited to five fish at all times. Full details can be found on the fishing permit issued by LTHL Reception and you can refer to the Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board leaflet on our website.

**Q: Where can I fish?**

A: If you select a fishing boat with a Salmon fishing permit you will be allocated a licence number. This number (for example W4 - “West 4”) indicates where you can fish. On this basis W4 would be the West end of the Loch. Trout fishing is only permitted from the Lawyers Burn (North shore) and the Manse Burn (South shore) to the West end of the loch. When you hire your boat, you will be informed where your rights are and boundaries.

**Q: Can I fish from the banks?**

A: For residents of Loch Tay Highland Lodges you can fish off the bank without a permit as you are a guest onsite. Non-residents/visitors to the site are not permitted to fish from the shoreline. Please ask main reception about our boundaries.

**Q: What kind of fishing rods or equipment do you provide?**

A: We do not provide fishing rods; customers would need to bring their own fishing equipment.

**Q: Do you provide fishing rod holders?**

A: Fishing rod holders are not fitted to the boats as standard. We recommend that you take your own holders to ensure it meets your requirements. We do have a limited number available, but they may not fit your rod as well as you may want.

**Q: Do I need to provide a record of any fish caught and released?**

A: Yes, we require the number, weight and sex of each fish caught. To record this, please use the post hire feedback survey that will be sent to you by email after your hire.