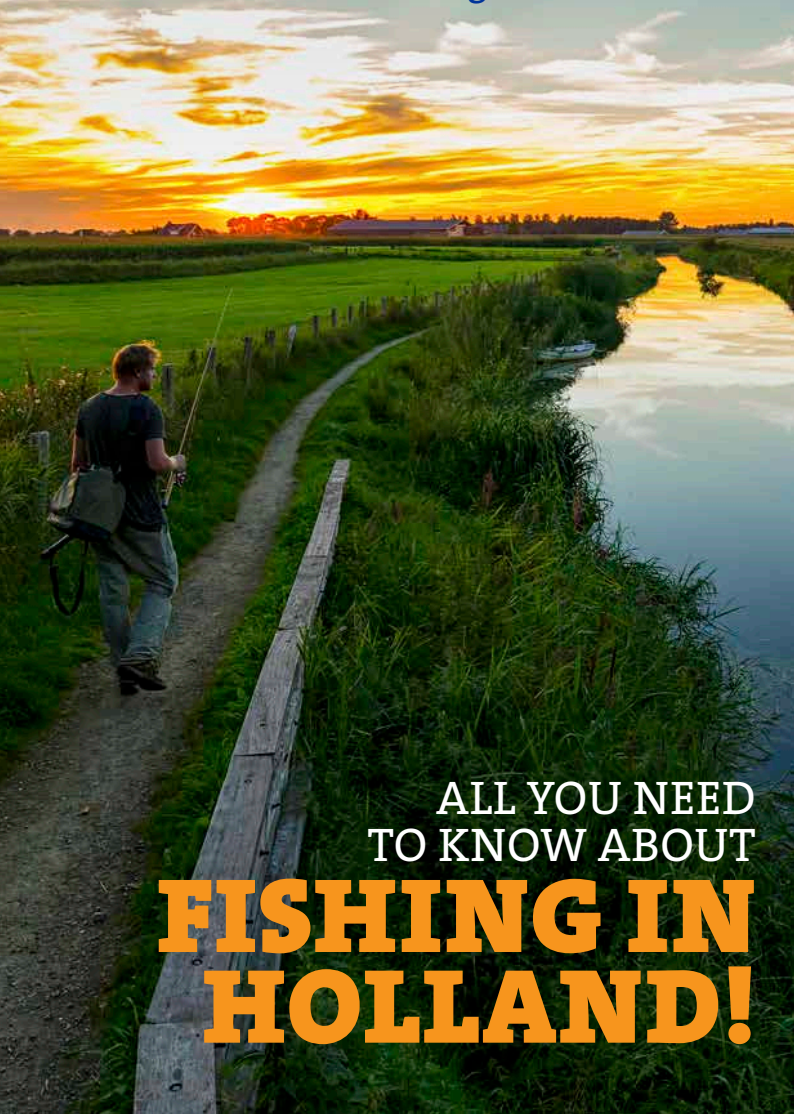




Fishing in
HOLLAND

www.fishinginholland.nl



ALL YOU NEED
TO KNOW ABOUT

**FISHING IN
HOLLAND!**



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GOING FISHING? ALWAYS BRING YOUR VISPAS!

Many fishing waters with the VISpas

The Netherlands is a true paradise for anglers. Compared to other countries, we have many fishing waters, the greater number of which can be fished by VISpas holders.

The VISpas and Lijst van Viswaten (List of Fishing Waters) together form the fishing permit. You need to carry both when fishing. It is also legally valid to have the VISplanner with you instead of the booklet. Take a look at www.visplanner.nl or download the free app for your smartphone!

The VISpas is the proof of membership of a fishing club associated with the Royal Dutch Angling Association, Sortvisserij Nederland. On average, membership amounts from 30 to 40

euros per year. As a member, you are entitled to fish with two rods and all permitted types of bait in all waters included in the Gezamenlijke Lijst van Nederlandse Viswaten (Joint List of Dutch Fishing Waters) and waters of the club list (if included).

Buy the VISpas

Order your VISpas easy online at www.vispas.nl. After payment by VISA or Mastercard you'll receive an automatic e-mail with a temporary permit that allows you to go fishing immediately. It is also possible to buy a VISpas in one of the angling shops in The Netherlands.



Welcome TO HOLLAND, SPORTFISHING COUNTRY NUMBER ONE!

The Netherlands is the ideal destination for anglers!, for the weekend or holiday. Let yourself be surprised by the great fishing adventures you can have here!

A large part of the Netherlands is situated below sea level, making it one of the most watery countries in the world. From mighty rivers and the river delta to vast areas of wetland. From the characteristic polders to the canals of Amsterdam; the Netherlands has it all, and all these waters are great for angling. Go on big fishing adventures with monstrous pikes, huge perch, beautiful carps and strong sea bass. Or take it easy, angling for bream, tench or the common roach.

Would you rather go catch some marine fish? That's also possible in the Netherlands. There are plenty of hotspots along our more than 500 kilometres long coastline. Beaches, ports, piers, the famous Zeeland Delta and the Wadden Islands. All these spots offer an opportunity to catch a wide variety of tasty marine fish.



Check the video's
on www.fishinginholland.nl



» UNDER 14 ?

The (cheaper) Jeugd-VISpas < 14 years old

Youngsters under 14 (reference date 1 January) who want to fish with two rods and any permitted bait can obtain the JeugdVISpas (junior fishing pass). When purchasing a JeugdVISpas, you are automatically a member of a fishing club and have all the advantages granted with a VISpas. However, the JeugdVISpas is considerably cheaper as compared to the VISpas, but it has much less possibilities.

If you are not yet 14 and want to fish in the water of a local club with one rod with designated types of bait, it is usually possible to purchase a junior

permit from the fishing club (Jeugdvergunning), in which case a JeugdVISpas is not required.

Order the JeugdVISpas on www.vispas.nl or buy it in the local angling shop!

Youngsters can fish for free

Youth under 14 do not require a junior permit (Jeugdvergunning) or JeugdVISpas if they fish under the supervision of an adult who has a valid VISpas or Kleine VISpas. There is one limitation: youngsters are permitted to fish with no more than one rod and under the same conditions as the supervisor.




Know where you are allowed to fish with

THE VISPLANNER!

With your VISpas you're allowed to cast a line in over 90% of the Dutch waters. All of these waters are listed in the accompanying "Gezamenlijke lijst van Nederlandse viswateren" (Joint list of Dutch fishing waters), the booklet. It is also legally valid to have the VISplanner with you instead of the booklet.

The VISplanner was specially developed for you, the angler, so that you can find out in an instant where you're allowed to angle with your VISpas. The VISplanner is freely available as an app for iOS and Android and as a website and a mobile site. By selecting a body of water, you'll be shown information on that particular water. The VISplanner is free, always up-to-date, always at hand and preserves the environment. More information and a short instruction video you will find on www.visplanner.nl.





**“IN HOLLAND YOU CAN BUY
YOUR PERMIT - THE VISPAS -
FOR LESS THEN 40 EUROS.
YOU ARE ALLOWED TO FISH
IN *more than* 90% OF THE
DUTCH WATERS”**



WHAT CAN I CATCH?

The Netherlands has healthy and varied fish stock. This automatically means that we have something to offer for every kind of angler. Go on big fishing adventures with monstrous pikes, huge perch, beautiful carps, strong sea bass and many white fish species.

In our fishing calendar you can see exactly when it's the best period to catch specific species in The Netherlands. It also shows you exactly when there's a closed season.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Perch	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Barbel	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed
Carp	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Wels	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Asp	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed
Pike	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Zander	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Coarse fish	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Twaite shad	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed
Smooth hound	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed
Sole	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Seabass	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Dab/Withing	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best
Garfish	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed
Mackarel	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Bad/Closed	Bad/Closed

Note A year-round release obligation (including carp, pike and eel) applies to a number of waters on the list. This is made known at the relevant federations and/or waters.

LEGAL RULES, CONDITIONS AND CODES OF CONDUCT

(Sport) fishing is regulated in the Fisheries Law of 1963. The most important statutory rules are described below.

VISPAS (FISHING LICENCE)

Every inland water angler requires written permission from the owner of the fishing rights to the water where he/she wishes to fish. In most cases, the holder of the fishing rights is a rod sports club or federation that has hired the rights for its members and makes them available by means of licences.

The written permission describes where and in which conditions may be fished. Together the VISpas and accompanying List(s) of Fishing Waters form the licence that allows you to fish in waters states on the list(s).



The same applies to the Kleine VISpas, which together with the Small List Fishing Waters constitutes the permit. As from 2015 the combination of a VISpas and VISplanner also constitutes valid permission (see www.visplanner.nl or download the free VISplanner app).

Note The Kleine VISpas does not allow fishing for predatory fish (pike and pike perch) and is intended only for fishing during the day and on a limited number (and parts) of large rivers and lakes. These waters are listed in the Kleine Lijst van Viswateren (Small List of Fishing Waters) supplied

Dead bait fish

Special conditions apply to small fish that are caught and which the angler intends to use as bait. These conditions have been listed in the 'Algemene Voorwaarden gebruik VISpas' (General terms of use VISpas). Holders of the Small VISpas (Kleine VISpas) are obliged to release all fish caught into the same water, alive and unharmed!

Types of bait

The designated kinds of bait are: bread, potato, dough, cheese, grains, seeds, worms, prawns, insects and insect larvae and small imitations of these (no larger than 2.5 cm). Only holders of a VISpas are, under strict restrictions, allowed to use animal products, a dead fish or a piece of fish (regardless of size) or any kind of lure. The terms and conditions come with the VISpas in writing, but they can also be viewed in the VISplanner.

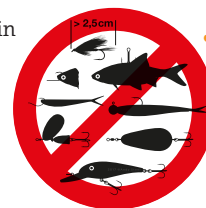


PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF LIVE BAIT

It is forbidden to use vertebrates as bait for fishing (such as live fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds or mammals). Fishing with maggots, worms, etc. is allowed.










CLOSED TIME TYPES OF BAIT

A prohibition of certain types of bait applies from April 1st until the last Saturday in May. During this period, it is forbidden to fish with: slaughter products, a dead fish or a piece of fish (regardless the size), any type of artificial bait with the exception of fishing flies smaller than 2.5 cm.



Note a longer closed time applies to a number of waters in the fishing water lists. This is stated in the federations and/or at the waters concerned. *For the IJsselmeer Lake, this prohibition applies from 16 March through 30 June.*

MINIMUM SIZES OF FISH SPECIES

Tench 25 cm			Chub 30 cm
Flounder 20 cm			River lamprey 20 cm
Perch* 22 cm			Pike 45 cm
Barbel 30 cm			Zander 42 cm
Brown trout 25 cm			

Minimum size species

If you catch a fish that is smaller than the minimum size for the type, you are required to immediately put it back in the same water.

* (With the exception of the IJsselmeer), you are permitted to carry live undersized perch, provided that the fish is kept in a keepnet or bucket and is put back into the same water alive. The number of dead perch under the minimum size someone may carry as bait has been es-

tablished to a maximum of 20 specimens (with the exception of the IJsselmeer).

Protected fish species

The Flora and Fauna Act includes a number of fish species that are not permitted to be fished. These are: eel, schneider, brook lamprey, bitterling, minnow, houting, European weatherfish, spined loach, bullhead and sturgeon.

If one of these species of fish is caught, they must immediately be put back in the same water.

Always put back fish if you do not know what species it is (also check www.nederlandsevisseren.nl or download the free Vissengids App).

Prohibition to take eel

Due to water pollution, dams and overfishing the eel is threatened in its existence. Therefore all sportfishermen in the Netherlands must return every

eel caught directly in the same water.

Report poaching

Always report (suspected) poaching at the concerning fishing federation or go to www.vistroprij.nl (Dutch).

CLOSED TIME FOR FISH SPECIES

A closed time applies to a number of fish species. If you catch one of these species during this period, you are required to handle it with the greatest possible care and immediately throw it back in the same water uninjured.

Note VISpas holders are required to return all the carp and eel caught back in the same water alive. Holders of a Kleine VISpas are required to return all the fish caught back in the water alive.

FISH SPECIES	CLOSED PERIOD
Pike	1 march until the last Saturday in may
Zander and perch	1 april until the last Saturday in may
Barbel, chub, ide	1 april until the 1 June
River lamprey	1 november until 1 February
Brown trout	1 october until 1 april
Seatrout, salmon, allis shad, twaite shad, burbot, dace, nose carp, grayling, sea lamprey and European catfish	the entire year



**“ANGLERS WILL HAVE TO
ADHERE TO A *number of*
legal regulations – FOR
FRESHWATER AND SEA
ANGLING – WHICH YOU CAN
FIND IN THE LIST OF FISHING
WATERS AND THE FREE
VISPLANNER APP”**

»» GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR THE VISPAS AND THE KLEINE VISPAS

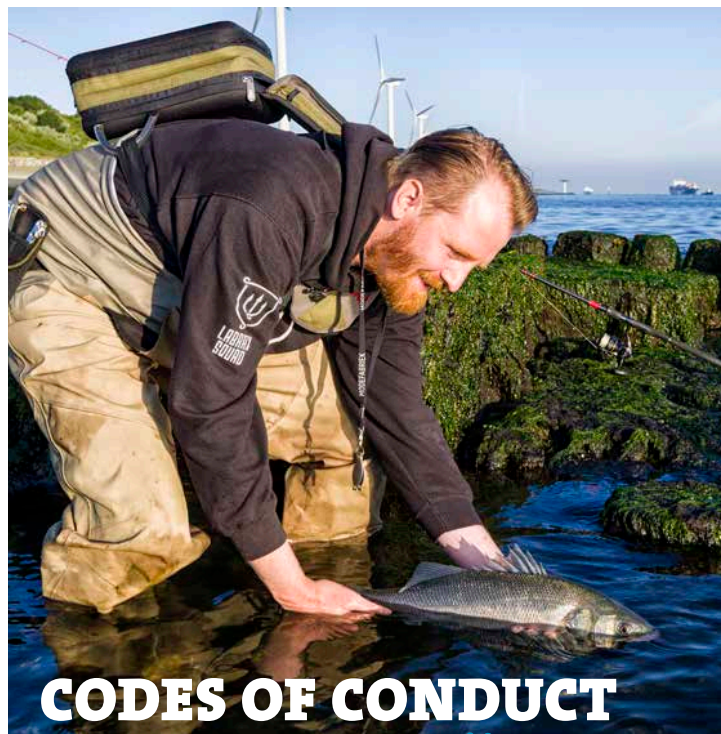
The owner of the VISpas must comply with a number of conditions and legal regulations, which are included in the Lists of Fishing Waters and VISplanner concerned. Failure to heed the conditions and legal regulations means that one is considered as fishing without a licence (written permission) and in breach of the Fisheries Act. These are the main conditions. If you do not comply, you are at risk to receive a fine.

It is forbidden:

- » To sell fish you have caught.
- » To participate and or hold/organise fishing contests, except if a written permission has been provided by the federation or fishing club holding the fishing rights. If a track has been set out along water based upon a permission issued, it is obliged to keep or make the track free.
- » To possess carp, grass carp or eel.
- » To fish or feed using coloured maggots or carry maggots in the proximity of the water.
- » To fish in such a way that

- (water) birds can catch the bait.
- » To leave fishing line and other refuse at the site. When leaving the site, it should be clean!
- » Make a campfire or have a barbecue.
- » To enter private grounds and bank without the owner's consent, even if one is entitled to fish in the adjoining water.
- » To enter land with plants and crops, or grass that is yet to be mowed, unless one has valid walking rights.
- » To bring pets into the vicinity of free-ranging cattle. Gates on farmlands are to be closed at all times..

More information you will find on <http://www.sportvisserij-nederland.nl/vispas/vispas-english>



CODES OF CONDUCT

Responsible angling

In addition to the legal fishing rules and conditions, codes of conduct have been set up with 'rules of play' concerning the size of fish, use of lead, keepnets. These important rules of play are also described in the Joint List of Dutch Fishing Waters and VISplanner.



Read more about the Dutch sport fishing culture and rules and watch the video

The main rules for handling fish are:

- » Try to prevent the hook from being swallowed.
- » Touch caught fish with wet hands only.
- » Remove the hook with extreme caution.
- » Put fish back in the same water undamaged.
- » Only use a keepnet when absolutely necessary.
- » Try to reduce the use of lead, use an ecofriendly alternative when possible.

NIGHT FISHING AND FISHING WITH THREE RODS

Night fishing is defined as: angling in the time frame from two hours after sundown to one hour before sunrise. Nature reserves may be subject to alternative regulations!

In the Netherlands you're allowed to engage in night fishing all year through. You do however – in addition to your VISpas – need a Night Fishing Permit. If you want to angle with three rods, you need a Third Rod Permit. Both can be ordered here: www.sportvisserijnederland.nl. Note: you need to already own the VISpas.

Both the Night Fishing Permit and the Third Rod Permit consist of a hologram sticker that you stick to the back of the VISpas. If you want to have both permits there is the combi hologram sticker.

The Night Fishing and Third Rod Permit are valid all year through and strictly personal. You only need to buy the permit(s) once if you have more than one personal VIS-

pas. The Gezamenlijke Lijst van Nederlandse Viswateren (Joint List of Dutch Fishing Waters) shows through symbols where both of these permits are valid.

Shelters and tents

The municipality is authorised to regulate the use of tents or shelters and camping gear in the local ordinance ('Algemene Plaatselijke Verordening', APV). You can usually consult this local ordinance on the website of the municipality. If the use of a tent is allowed, then the party granting this permission may state additional restrictions to this use – as is the case with night fishing. In order to find out whether it is allowed to use a tent you should therefore refer to the local ordinance and subsequently refer to the written angling permit.

The spots where the use of a shelter is allowed are included in the Combined list of Angling waters (Gezamenlijke Lijst van Nederlandse Viswateren) and these spots are indicated with the symbol. For waters that do not have this symbol it is either not allowed to use a shelter, or it is unknown whether this is allowed. In order to find out whether or not it is allowed to use a shelter at these spots one should refer to the local ordinance.



Sea fishing IN THE NETHERLANDS



With a coastline of over 500 km long, the sea fisher's possibilities are endless in the Netherlands. Depending on the time of year there are all kinds of fish to be caught along the entire Dutch coastline, such as various kinds of flatfish, young cod, whiting, pouting, seabass, mackerel, horse mackerel, garfish, twaite shad and mullet.

The real hotspots are the piers of IJmuiden and Scheveningen, the Rotterdam port area and the Zeeland Delta. Although you won't go home empty handed

at pretty much any other place. Then there's also the unique Wadden islands with their serene tranquillity, where it's good fishing for seabass – especially in late summer. There are minimum size requirements for the various species of fish that apply in the coastal waters. Also be sure to check the tide table before you go fishing and mind your own safety!

Read more about sea fishing, rules and minimum sizes on www.fishinginholland.nl.

»» MINIMUM SIZES SEA FISH SPECIES

When a fish smaller than the minimum size is caught, it must be immediately put back in the same water; this stipulation applies to fish caught in all waters!

Anchovy	12 cm
Ling	70 cm
Flounder	20 cm
Herring	20 cm
Hake	27 cm
Scad	15 cm
Cod**	35 cm
Ling	63 cm
Mackerel	30 cm
Sardine	11 cm
Megrim	20 cm
Haddock	30 cm
Plaice	27 cm
Sole	24 cm
Whiting	27 cm
Pollack	30 cm
Sea bass**	42 cm
Saithe	35 cm

A legal prohibition applies to anglers all year round for possessing eel, salmon, allis shad, twaite shad, sea lamprey, sturgeon and sea trout in all waters.

** The following applies to anglers:

1. It is forbidden to carry over 25 cod or over 20 kilograms of cod at sea, in the sea area, coastal waters, fishing zone or in the immediate vicinity of these waters.
2. It is forbidden to land sea bass or cod that is filleted or with the head removed.
3. In 2018 it is forbidden to possess sea bass from January 1st until December 31st.



Warning The rules with regard to sea bass are changing rapidly on account of European legislation. Visit www.sportvisserij Nederland.nl (click on the sea bass file) for the most recent regulations with regard to sea bass and other species of sea fish.




»» FACILITIES

The Netherlands has excellent facilities for those wanting to cast a line while on holiday. There are plenty of angling shops throughout the Netherlands that will gladly help you get going with tackle and bait, the best local fishing spots and up-to-date information about catches. You can also buy your VISpas at one of these angling shops (which is even easier to do in advance, via www.vispas.nl)

You will find at www.fishinginholland.nl/english/map an overview of commercial fishing ponds, charter boats and professional fishing guides who will gladly facilitate the fishing trip of your life – success is guaranteed! Finally this website provides you with an overview of suitable accommodations!



A man in outdoor gear is sitting on a wooden bench, holding a large pike fish. The fish is long and slender with a patterned body and a long, pointed snout. The man is wearing a brown jacket and pants, and is looking at the camera. The background is a dark, textured wall.

“PIKE CAN BE FOUND IN ALL DUTCH TYPES OF WATER – FROM SMALL PASTURES TO THE LARGER RIVERS AND LAKES – AND CAN GROW TO COLOSSAL SIZES”

THE BEST destinations and fishing spots



On www.fishinginholland.nl the 20 top of fishing destinations in the Netherlands are listed for you. You can go angling anywhere in the Netherlands, but of course there are a few real hotspots. We have something to match everybody's preferences: the top 20 fishing destinations is a varied mix of major cities like Amsterdam and Rotterdam, the best fishing rivers, the most beautiful polders and the greatest sea fishing spots.

Fishing spots and map

You are provided with a short description of what to expect with each destination. Based on your preferences you can choose the spot that fits you best.

The destinations are being supported by professional photo's and video's. Whether you're fishing for predatory fish, coarse fish/silver fish (for instance the roach, rudd or bream), carp or if you're a sea-angler. Be inspired by the wide variety of destinations on www.fishinginholland.nl!





»» HOW TO FISH?

On www.fishinginholland.nl/english/fishing-methods you can read what the Netherlands has to offer you per each fishing technique. Because whether you're after predatory fish, carp, witvis, sea fish or if you're fly fishing: it's all possible in the Netherlands! Fish from the shore, from a boat or use the services of a fishing guide or simply cast a line at the camping place.

The most important information is listed for all types of fishing, so that you know the possibilities. Because they are plenty!



Free duo FISHING PERMIT

The duo fishing permit ("Mee-VIStoestemming") is a free permission for one person to fish along with a holder of the VIS-pas for a single day at a fishing spot that is included in the Combined list of Dutch fishing waters.

This means that you, being a member of an affiliated angling association (VISpas holder), may bring along a family mem-

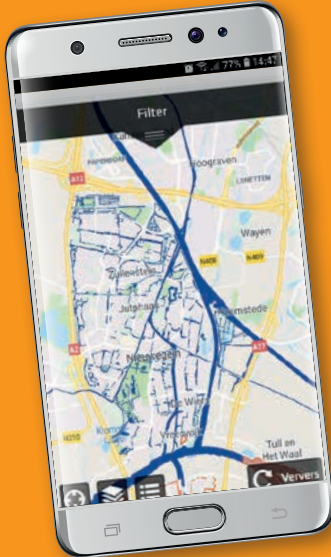
ber, friend or acquaintance for a day for free in order to introduce them to angling. The best ambassador for angling is you! Visit www.meevistoestemming.nl (Dutch), read the conditions and order right away!





Plan your fishing day using
THE VISPLANNER!

Go to www.visplanner.nl or download the free app.



More information



Like us on www.Facebook.com/fishinginholland
and watch on www.fishinginholland.nl
for more information.

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