

Fishing in the Lago Maggiore Region

In Ticino, you can obtain your license and statistics booklet in traditional paper format or in digital format via the [Pesca TI](#) mobile app.

Further information on digital licenses (see also flyer):
www.ti.ch/pesca → Sportello → Patente digitale

1. Period

Fishing is permitted as follows (with exception for the protected areas as shown on the attached map:

- a) **on Lake Maggiore from January 1 to December 31** (T1 license for boats and shore-based vessels, T2 license for shore-based vessels only)
- b) In all watercourses, natural and artificial lakes below 1200 m.: **only with T1 fishing license from April 1st to September 27th 2026.**
- c) In alpine and artificial lakes and their tributary rivers above 1200 m: **only with T1 fishing license from June 20th to October 11th 2026.**

2. Time limitations

Fishing in **rivers, artificial and alpine lakes** is permitted during the following times:

March	from 6.00 am to 7.00 pm
April	from 5.00 am to 8.00 pm
May, June, July	from 4.00 am to 9.00 pm
August	from 4.30 am to 8.30 pm
September	from 5.30 am to 7.00 pm
October	from 6.30 am to 6.30 pm

During the summer time the above mentioned times are postponed by an hour.

Fishing time-limitations for Lake Maggiore: refer to section 5.

3. Minimal length and number of captures

Undersized fishes (too small) have to be released with the most care, it is also forbidden to use them as bait, neither dead nor alive.

Crayfish/shrimp fishing is not permitted in the entire Canton Ticino.

In watercourses, alpine and artificial lakes:

Species and minimal length:

Brown trout:	30 cm (main rod sectors BD2, BD3, BN1, BN2) 26 cm (in all watercourses, unless otherwise specified)
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	24 cm (in all alpine and artificial lakes)
	See extract from fishing regulations season 2024 (page 7)
Rainbow trout:	22 cm
Lake trout:	40 cm (please note that regulations for watercourses in the Sottoceneri may differ- see extract from fishing regulations season 2024)
Marble trout:	protected species in all streams
Arctic char:	24 cm in lakes: Cadagno, Gottardo, Gottardo Pompe, Naret Grande, Ritom, Rodont (San Carlo) and Tremorgio. In the other lakes no minimal length is required
Brook trout:	22 cm
Namaycush char (Canadian lake trout):	28 cm
Whitefish:	30 cm
Perch:	18 cm with exception for the Vogorno Lake, where minimal length is 15 cm.
Eel:	protected species
Pike:	45 cm
Grayling:	40 cm (D3 owners only)

In watercourses where the minimum size of 30 cm for brown trout is in force (main rod sectors BD2, BD3, BN1, BN2), a maximum total daily catch of 3 specimens between trout and char is allowed. In all other waterways, a maximum total daily catch of 6 specimens between trout and char is allowed

In alpine and artificial lakes on the reference map, a maximum total daily catch of 12 specimens between trout and char is allowed.

For the lakes Lago Maggiore (Verbano) and Ceresio refer to section 4. For the river Tresa refer to section 3.6 on the license itself.

4. Lago Maggiore (Verbano) – Restrictions

Species	Prohibited period	Minimal length
Trout	26.09-20.12	40 cm
Char	15.11-24.01	25 cm
Whitefish (lavarello)	01.11-31.01	25 cm
Whitefish (bondella)	15.11-24.01	30 cm
Pike	15.03-30.04	45 cm
Perch	01.04-31.05	18 cm
Silurus and other exotic species	none	none
Pike perch	01.04-31.05	40 cm
Carp	01.06-30.06	30 cm
Landlocked Shad	15.05-15.06	20 cm
Tench	01.06-30.06	25 cm
Bleak	protected species	--

Eel	protected species	--
Native crayfish/shrimp	protected species	--
Pigo (Rutilus pigus)	protected species	--
Grayling	protected species	--
Barb	15.05-15.06	none

The following species: silurus, large mouth basses, catfish, rhodeus amarus, grouper, crucian, red fish, farmed carp, bluegill, pseudorasbora and umbridae **must be killed** upon capture.

The prohibited periods begin and end at 12.00 pm of the indicated days. It is permitted to catch a max. of 50 perches, 5 pike perches and 2 pikes per day and a total of 15 salmonid fish of which not more than 5 between trout and char.

5. Lago Maggiore (Verbano) – Fishing times

Fishing in the Lake Maggiore (Verbano) with fishing rod, Chinese fishing net or trawler fishing is permitted during following times:

January	7.00 am - 6.00 pm
February	6.00 am - 7.00 pm
March	6.00 am - 8.00 pm
April	5.00 am - 8.30 pm
May	4.00 am - 9.00 pm
June	4.00 am - 9.15 pm
July	4.00 am - 9.15 pm
August	4.00 am - 9.15 pm
September	5.00 am - 8.30 pm
October	6.00 am - 7.00 pm
November	6.00 am - 6.00 pm
December	7.00 am - 6.00 pm

During the **Summer time** the above mentioned times are postponed by **an hour**.

Fishing from the Lake Maggiore river shores with fishing rod is always permitted.

6. License revocation

The fishing police officers will proceed with revoking the fishing license and the statistics booklet to who in particular:

- a) Fishes or catches fishes outside the allowed periods and times

- b) Catches undersized fishes or over the allowed quantity
- c) Fishes in protected areas
- d) Opposes against a fishing police authority act established by the law
- e) Uses systems and fishing gears to run through the fish or carries out trolling

7. Protection zone

In the following zones of the Lake Maggiore and Valleys region it is forbidden to fish:

1. **Brima stream in Arcegnò:** from the confluence with the stream "Mulin di Cioss" to the entrance of the village of Arcegnò.
3. **Ribo stream in Vergeletto:** from the bridge in "Custiell" to the iron bridge in "Zardin"
3. **Bavona river in Bignasco-Cavergnò:** from the bridge on the cantonal road in Bignasco to the gangway of Cavergnò.
4. **Maggia River in Mogno:** from the OFIMA intake in Corgello to the cantonal road bridge near the fork leading to the Mogno core.
5. **Ditch of the fish farming in Sonogno:** the entire watercourse until the confluence with the Verzasca river.
6. **Alnasca ditches in Brione Verzasca:** from the confluence with the Verzasca river to the springs.
7. **Fimina stream in Frasco:** from the confluence with the Verzasca river to the springs.
8. **Stream Vadina in Vira Gambarogno:** between the river mouth and the first natural waterfall running under the pedestrian stone bridge.

On the Lake Maggiore it is prohibited to fish directly at the river mouths (Maggia, Ticino e Verzasca).

At the "Bolle di Magadino" and at the River Maggia mouth the protected area is delimited by buoys.

From 01.04-31.05 (prohibited fishing period of the pike-perch) whatever type of fishing is forbidden inside the perimeter of 150 meters around the Brissago islands and from the permanent protected area of the River Maggia mouth until the trampoline of the Lido di Locarno, with a 100m extension from the shore.

The above-listed areas are indicated on the map of the Canton Ticino given together with the fishing license and can be found at www.ti.ch/pesca > MAP.

8. Fishing licence prices available from our tourist offices or digitally via the [Pesca TI](#) mobile APP

	Adults	Youth 14-17 years old (Birth years 2009 up to and including 2012.)	Youth between the ages of 9 and 13 (2013 to 2017 inclusive.) and people in wheelchairs
T1: License lakes and rivers, from the shore and boat			
2 days	CHF. 60.-	CHF. 20.-	Free
7 days	CHF. 120.-	CHF. 30.-	Free
T2: Licence only for the lake (Lago Maggiore and Ceresio) and only from the shore			
2 days	CHF. 30. -	T1 20.- to be released	Free
7 days	CHF. 50. -	T1 30.- to be released	Free

For young people between the ages of 9 and 13 (birth years 2013 to 2017 inclusive) and wheelchair-dependent persons, the fishing licence is free of charge and a 'T1' is issued.

All children up to the age of 8 (2018 and later) are no longer issued a license, they will be able to practice fishing for free (without catch booklet) but only when accompanied by an adult with a regular fishing license.

By the supply of a fishing license a valid ID card is required (it must also be carried while fishing, together with the statistics booklet) and personal data will be recorded.

The statistics booklet (complete with cover) must be sent at the "Ufficio di caccia e pesca, 6501 Bellinzona" no later than January 15th of the following year.

Points 1-8 are just a synthesis of the main rules; we therefore suggest you consult the full text which is provided on the license itself. and the extract from the fishing regulations for the 2026 season. The full version of the current regulations can be found at www.ti.ch/pesca Basi Legali (in Italian) or at www.petriheil.ch (in German).

Shops

Ambrosini (caccia - pesca – coltelleria), Viale Verbano 3, 6600 Muralto, 091 743 46 06

Europesca, Via Varenna 81, 6660 Locarno, 091 752 14 44

The "Organizzazione turistica Lago Maggiore e Valli" does not take any responsibility for the listed information.